DeRight, Erickson earn University service awards

Joyce L. DeRight and Robert L. Erickson are the recipients of this year's WMU Distinguished Service Awards. DeRight is the director of the Office of Admissions and Advising in the College of Education and Erickson is a professor of speech pathology and audiology. Each will be presented with a plaque and a $1,500 honorarium at the 11th annual Academic Convocation on Tuesday, Oct. 23, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. In addition, $1,000 will be added to their base salaries in July 1991.

DeRight and Erickson were selected from campuswide nominations. Criteria included: service through the design and implementation of innovative and effective programs; service in areas that contribute to the growth of the University; and service that extends the impact of the University to the larger community.

DeRight joined the WMU staff in 1972 as supervisor of the scholarship office. She went on to serve as office manager and as assistant director of the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships, director of the Sara Swickard and associate director of the Sindecuse Health Center. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from WMU, and also holds continuing teacher certification and continuing vocational education certification.

DeRight was named to her present position in 1988. She is responsible for directing the College of Education's admissions operation for the upper level professional education program and for providing academic advising to undergraduate education students. For the last year, she also has directed the college's Student Select Support Services, a program aimed at retaining more minority students.

A common theme that emerged in letters nominating DeRight for the Distinguished Service Award was her concern for helping students. She is a caring, dedicated person who always places the student first and goes "the extra mile for them and her employees," said one letter.

"She has a real ability to cut through the bureaucratic red tape, a flexibility and assertiveness in problem solving, and a genuine commitment to students, all of which make her a pleasure to work with," said another person in nominating her for the award.

Since 1981, DeRight has been involved as a mentor in WMU's Minority Mentor-Mentee Program, which pairs minority students with faculty members and administrators.

DeRight's ability to generate new ideas and streamline operations also were mentioned as contributing to her outstanding service. In her work with the preschool, she designed a program to better keep track of scheduling and increased enrollment through marketing efforts. In the College of Education, she has developed several new guides for students, and has implemented a schedule of advising activities that helps her as a mentor.

Board gives Haenicke 5.25 salary increase, he once again donates it to WMU Foundation

President Haenicke has announced that the Board of Trustees has increased his salary. The Board also increased his annual vacation from 22 to 30 days and insisted that he take them.

"He said he was 'very grateful' by the Board's vote of confidence. He added, 'This is the best job I've ever had. I love what I'm doing. You can be very easy for me to do this job, and the relationship between the Board and me is as good as it possibly can be. I want to go public on the record as being very grateful to each one of you for your support.'"

The title of Mawby's remarks is "The Greatest Opportunity." The President's Club Awards, established in 1974, includes as its member organizations that give the University $15,000 or more over 10 years or less.

Kellogg Foundation chief to address contributors

Russell G. Mawby, chairperson of the board and chief executive officer of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, will be the featured speaker at a luncheon meeting of the WMU President's Club Associates Monday, Oct. 1, in the Fetzer Center.

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"We're delighted to have Dr. Mawby as this year's speaker," said L. Michael Schrag, president of the WMU Foundation.

"He is a world class scholar and a world class philanthropist. He is a world class business man. He is an ideal person to comment on significant trends in philanthropy."

Kellogg has degrees in history and agricultural economics from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, his master's degree from the University of Oxford and Louvain universities and the 1969 book, "Experience and Being."
Bafta to oversee off-campus engineering programs

Expanding services to meet the continuing education needs in the technical area, Western Michigan University and industry is the goal of a new position created in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Kailash M. Bafna has been named assistant dean for technical services for the off-campus credit programs and all non-credit programs. His appointment, effective Sept. 21, was approved Sept. 21 by the Board of Trustees at its meeting at the new Grand Rapids Regional Conference Center.

WMU currently offers bachelor's degree programs throughout its regional centers in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Grand Rapids and Muskegon. It also offers technical programs in engineering management and industrial engineering in Grand Rapids, electrical engineering in Benton Harbor and in mechanical engineering in both of those cities. All courses offered at those sites are offered after 5 p.m. and typically meet once a week.

With offices located in Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Bafta will be responsible for overseeing all technical programs at the off-campus sites. He will focus on recruitment and will be available for coordination of all activities of these programs. He also will visit the other regional centers regularly.

In addition, Bafta will be taking WMU's continuing education technical programs in new directions by facilitating the development of non-credit professional seminars and short courses at WMU for business and industry in West Michigan. The programs will be offered at various times during the week on or off campus.

"We want to better satisfy the needs of industry, and industry wants to promote education, particularly of engineering and technical people, at a site close to the workplace," said Dean Leonard R. Lamberg, engineering and applied sciences.

"Some of Dr. Bafta's duties will be to facilitate education at off-campus locations."

"A second important task," he continued, "will be to develop continuing education for industry. Each year, industry spends more on educating its own employees. This is a major industry, and it is competitive. We need to do a better job of serving that industry."

Bafta also will be working as a liaison with member companies of both WMU and with other universities and with professional and technical societies. A WMU faculty member since 1979, Bafna has served as chairperson of the Department of Industrial Engineering since 1986. He has been a consultant to several area firms and has received grants from industries for developing and presenting seminars and for conducting research.

The author of many papers on such topics as facilities design and ergonomics, Bafta has been a member of several professional groups, including the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveys, the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers, the Institute of Industrial Engineers, the American Society for Engineering Education and the College-Industry Council on Material Handling.

Peterson offers facilities to Red Cross

The University has agreed to make its buildings, grounds and equipment available for use by the Kalamazoo County chapter Red Cross for a mass shelter for the victims of disasters. Approval was granted by the WMU Board of Trustees during its meeting Sept. 21 in Grand Rapids.

WMU offers its buildings, grounds and equipment to public agencies under the terms of a mutually binding agreement signed in 1987 by the Board of Trustees. Under the agreement, WMU will make its facilities available upon the request of the local Red Cross chapter after WMU meets its responsibilities to members of the University community. WMU has already agreed to replace or reimburse WMU for any food or supplies that may be used.

In other action, the Board of Trustees approved the purchase of property at 1129 Sutherland Ave. in Kalamazoo for the University for $47,300, using parking system funds. It also authorized the administration to begin contracting for the completed parking facilities at the Harvey College of Business.

And the Board has authorized the administration to enter into an easement agreement with the city of Kalamazoo for a water main east of Howard Street between a University parking lot and Galley Submarine Sandwiches.

Atwell begins third term as PRIMA board member

Richard P. Atwell, WUMK-FM, has been elected to a third term on the board of directors of Public Radio in Mid-America. PRIMA is the second largest regional public radio organization in the United States, representing more than 100 public radio stations to the major national organizations of National Public Radio and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

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"Express lane" admission works for 511 students

A total of 511 prospective students took advantage of "express lane" admission during Brown and Gold Day Sept. 22 and were admitted to the University, according to Stanley E. Henderson, admissions and orientation.

That means they brought completed applications to the event and met with an admissions counselor. It was the first time such "on-the-spot" admissions were undertaken at the University.

"It was a strong group of students," Henderson said. "There were a lot of Medallion-type students who participated. They came in a day and a half, they gave us a good feel about them, and we believe that most students did too." Henderson was referring to the Medallion Scholarship Program, which includes among its criteria for participation a minimum 3.7 grade point average or a GPA of 3.5 and an American College Test score of at least 30.

The 511 prospective students who were admitted were among 668 students who sought admission, bringing the number of students applying between the first and second days of the event to 157 students even if they denied admission or required further consideration.

Henderson emphasized that counselors used regular WMU admission standards. "Students who are accepted during the on-site process should know they have more than enough qualifications," he said. "We are not even processing them any further."

"Some 3,000 persons, including prospective students and their parents, participated in Brown and Gold Day this year," Henderson said.

Printing open house set

The University community is invited to attend an open house from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2, at Brink Printing Services. Staff members will be demonstrating the latest printing technology, including a high-speed duplicating system. Refreshments will be served.

"Who's Who" names due

The Office of Student Life is accepting nominations for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" through Monday, Oct. 1. Faculty and staff members are invited to nominate outstanding seniors or graduate students for this award. Forms are available in 2420 Faunce Student Services Building.

Wolpe donates raise -- U.S. Rep. Howard Wolpe, left, Sept. 24 presented a check for $7,100 to President Haenick at the University of Western Michigan's Institute for Race and Ethnic Relations. The check represents his 1990 congressional pay raise. Wolpe, who taught political science at WMU from 1967 to 1972, has made a pledge never to accept a congressional pay raise unless his Washington office has intervened. This is the third time Wolpe has donated his entire raise to WMU. The first two donations in 1987 and 1988 amounted to more than $20,000 and created a special endowment for the Study of Politics. The fund, which also received monetary support from Haenick, provides a $1,000 scholarship each year to an undergraduate in the Department of Political Science. During the presentation, Haenick announced that he hopes to conclude a national search for a director for the institute this year and next fall. In the meantime, he welcomed to a cotton WMU faculty member to lead the institute until a permanent director is named.

"This institute is an extension of what I am Government, and I believe that most students did too too much conflict so we can forge together as one in America."
Robert Russell to celebrate 100th birthday

On campus

Robert Russell

Say the name Robert R. Russell among historians around the country and especially those of the pre-Civil War South, and you would find immediate recognition. His work has been cited in virtually all serious studies of the period -- even though they were written many years ago.

The 80-year-old will be spared one more Saturday, Sept. 29, when Russell will be honored as a part of the dedication of a banquet at the Kalamazoo Center sponsored by the Department of History, from whom he received the Ph.D. in 1960.

"Robert Russell is the best pure scholar I have ever known," said Albert E. Castel, history, who retired as chairperson in 1980.

"What is remarkable is that he remains an active member of the profession. Beyond that, he still drives and wears glasses only to read, ones he bought in 1939."

The featured speaker at the banquet will be W. Johannsen, the James R. Garrett Professor of History at the University of Illinois. Russel earned his doctoral degree there in 1922, the year he came to WMU. He was named to the Department in 1956 and retired four years later.

Russell's scholarly career truly began in 1915 with his master's thesis, "Early Porphyratic Civil War Railroad to the Pacific," and it has never ended, Castel said in remarks today.

"If 'The Economic Aspects of Southern Sectionalism,' first published in 1939, is a standard, and his other work has also been excellent," Castel said.

Russell grew up on a farm in McPherson, Kansas, and entered Kalamazoo College, a one-room school house and a high school, and then served in World War I. In 1943, during World War II, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps at the age of 52. "I felt very strongly about the stakes involved," he said of his service.

He earned his bachelor's degree from McPherson College in Kansas in 1914 and his master's degree from the University of Kansas in 1915. James M. Dodson, vice president for finance and administration at McPherson College, will speak during the banquet.

Other speakers will be: Ronald W. Davis, chairperson of history; Philip Denenberg, provost of Holy Cross College; and academic deans from WMU, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Business Administration.

Dr. Russell's writings are as valid and relevant today as when they first appeared in print," Castel said. "Nothing has surpassed them, none has been rendered obsolete. There are very few historians whose work, like the man himself, has weathered the passage of time so well."

Russell and his wife, Ethel, live in Kalamazoo.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS -- For most prospective students, their first contact with the University is through the Office of Admissions and Orientation. And for the thousands who take the opportunity to view campus, their first personal contact may be through Dorene L. Scheffers. A part-time representative for the University, she spends two days a week greating people at the front entrance, helps prospective students and their families. She gets to come for tours or for appointments with counselors, and also directs them to other offices on campus, such as the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

"Recently, I went out on my own walking tour so I could get a better feel for how things look on campus today," she says. "A lot has changed with all the construction, and I want to be able to give people accurate directions." Scheffers, who has been at WMU for nearly six years, also spends some time answering the office telephones and word processing. But her primary focus and her favorite part of the job is greeting visitors. "I love helping students and meeting their parents," she says. "I also like the people who work in admissions and orientation, and have a lot of fun together."
**Series to explore new hearing aid technology**

The principles and effectiveness of signal processing hearing aids will be the focus of a WMU lecture series set for Thursday and Friday, Oct. 4-5.

The 10th annual Van Riper Lectures in Pathology and Audiology are sponsored by the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. They will be given by G. Van Riper, distinguished professor of Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

The guest speakers will be: Wayne O. Olsen, professor of audiology at the Mayo Medical School and a practicing clinical audiologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.; and Dianne V. Van Tasell, editor of the Journal of Speech and Hearing Research.

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Erickson has played a key role in securing and maintaining national accreditation of the graduate programs in pathology and graduate audiology programs by the Educational Standards Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

In 1965, WMU was the first university in Michigan and one of the first six in the country to be so accredited.

As an accreditation site visitor and as a program development adviser, Erickson has served frequently as a consultant to universities and service providers across the county. In 1985, he was one of three departmental faculty members invited to lecture for two weeks in the People’s Republic of China.

Also recognized for his service in professional organizations, he has been president of the Michigan Speech-Language-Hearing Association and chaired the national convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 1977. He was designated a "fellow" of the ASHA in 1976. In 1985, he received the Distinguished Service Award of the Council of Graduate Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

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