Senate approves recommendations on computing: Dennison reports on searches and task forces

The Faculty Senate Sept. 7 approved with relatively little change a series of recommendations on academic computing at Western Michigan University, the report stated in its conclusion. “In spite of these positive changes, several problems still exist.”

The committee sought to identify some of those problems and recommended solutions to them, said Kalash M. Baltia, chairperson of industrial engineering and chairperson of the committee.

When implemented, these recommendations should help to increase the use of computers by students and faculty, Baltia said.

“The committee understands that implementing most of the recommendations requires financial resources which are always in short supply,” the report concluded. “Nevertheless, it hopes that the resolution of the identified problems will be assigned a higher level of priority and appropriate funding made available.”

Among the report's recommendations was for “all faculty” to have “reasonable access to computer resources” for teaching and research. “Previous University actions have primarily been concerned with providing a homogeneous computer environment for students,” the report stated.

In addition, the committee recommended that the faculty computer laboratory be “effectively integrated into the curriculum until faculty have sufficient access and technical support to do so,” the report stated.

The focus, according to the report, is on computing, a day-long “Leadership Conference on Academic Computing” has been scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the Fetzer Center for up to five representatives of each college. Provost George M. Dennison is to speak on “The Future of Academic Computing at WMU” at noon that day.

In his remarks to the Senate earlier in the meeting, Dennison noted that searches for two deans have been completed successfully -- in engineering and applied sciences, and in health-related human services -- but that the search for a dean of arts and sciences has not.

“Searches have been conducted,” Dennison said, adding that he expected the name of the new dean to be announced this month. Meanwhile, David Lyon will continue to serve as interim dean.

The position has been vacant since A. Bruce Clarke became associate vice president for academic affairs last year. Lyon, previously chairperson of psychology, has been associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences since 1988.

Dennison told the Senate that two task forces were expected to report results of their work this fall -- one on tuition and the other on facilities. The former includes Werner Sichel, chairperson of economics, as chairperson; Clarke; and Dean K. Hoosberger, budget and financial planning. It is to report in October.

Stanley E. Henderson, admissions and financial aid director, said the Senate is to receive a report on an enrollment ceiling, Dennison said. His members include Clarke, John E. Kangas, dean of business; and Vinny Pozo, economics. It is to report by Nov. 15 or earlier, if possible.

“It’s time to consider a ceiling on enrollment in the absence of increased resources. It seems to be a better match between the two,” Dennison said, pointing to record enrollment of more than 25,000 students.

“I very much appreciate the way everyone has watched this,” he added. “Students appear to be receiving the attention they need, room is being made for them and there is a good feeling throughout the campus.”

Dennison observed that credit hours have increased, but this growth is greater than enrollment. “This makes it clear,” he said, “that the apparent growth is due, in part, to the courses the way they are taught.”

He noted increases in both new freshman and graduate enrollment, and said the Senate that despite a decrease in the number of students attending college, WMU appears to have a greater share of those who do.

In a Senate election, George Robeck, communications, was elected to a term on the Campus Planning Council that expires this year. Albert F. American M. G. Jill, chairperson of military science, who has retired.

Fire in Waldo Library causes no damage

A fire Tuesday afternoon on insulation of Michigan Bell telephone wires in the basement of the Waldo Library caused no damage to the library or its contents, University officials said. No one was injured.

The library was evacuated and closed for the remainder of the day. The wires are no longer in use because of the installation last year of the University’s own telecommunications system.

“We don’t yet have a cause for the fire,” said Ralph W. Allen, maintenance service. “It’s a hazing of some sort, probably throughout most of the library by the telephone system, beginning with the third floor.”

The fire was reported to the University’s police at 2:59 p.m. Tuesday. Members of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety also responded.

An investigation is being conducted under the direction of Kimberly K. Querry, environmental health and safety, who was assigned to monitor the building Tuesday to be sure no further fire occurred.
Providing Personal Contact—The Minority Mentor/Peer Program, in its second year, aims to bridge the gap between high school and college. The program pairs students with faculty and staff mentors in order to increase the retention rate of minority freshmen. New this year is a "peer mentor" component, in which an upperclassman who previously was a mentor pairing is a mentor. "The program pairs students with mentors," says Emily P. Lockett, the program coordinator this year. Lockett says she is looking for more faculty and staff mentors to participate. Interested persons should call her at 7-3320.

Lazar to Begin Economics Lecture Series

The first of seven scholars who will present their views on the economy of discrimination will speak at the University on Wednesday, Sept. 20.

Edward P. Lazar, the Isadore Brown and Gladys Lazar J. Brown Professor of Urban and Labor Economics at the University of Chicago, will kick off the Department of Economics' 26th annual lecture-series seminar. He will present a free public lecture on "Laws and Policies Concerning Discrimination," at 8 p.m. in 3750 Knauss Hall. He also will lead a seminar for faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduates.

Philoer to speak on Israel's nuclear agenda

"Israel's Not-So-Hidden Nuclear Agenda" is the title of a speech to be presented at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, in 205 Bernhard Center.

Avner Cohen, a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at Tel Aviv University, will deliver the free address. Cohen, who published a book on moral issues related to nuclear weapons, Cohen currently is a guest professor at Kalamazoo College. He co-edited "Nuclear Weapons and the Future of Humanity.

The lecture is being sponsored by the Lee Honors College, in conjunction with the student-level course cluster offers on "Philosophy, Science and Society."

WMU Students May Match Their Interests With the Volunteer Needs of Kalamazoo Area Organizations

WMU students can match their interests with the volunteer needs of Kalamazoo area organizations at the College Volunteer Opportunities Fair set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.

The Adult Literacy Coalition, the Habitat for Humanity office, the Kellogg Biological Station, the YWCA de Kuyper YMCA and the Kalamazoo County Prosecutors' Victim Assistance Program are just a few of the programs or agencies that will be represented at the fair. The agencies will be prepared to outline their volunteer needs and to enlist interested students. "We're going to make it easier for students to match their interests with the agencies," says Dean Faith Gabelnick, Lee Honors College, who is coordinating the event with the Voluntary Action Center of Greater Kalamazoo. "We're trying to make it easier for students to learn about opportunities they can use to further their professional development, to expand their personal skills, to sensitize themselves to local issues or simply to help out."

Student volunteer opportunities featured at the fair will range from internships that can be matched with college credit to one-time volunteer slots at events like the Kalamazoo County Air Show. In addition to the 64 agencies represented at the fair, students will find books titled "Alloca tion of Income within the Household," "Microeconomic Theory" and "Issues in Contemporary Retirement." His research is currently supported by the National Science Foundation.

The lecture-series seminar is supported by a grant from the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in Kalamazoo. It is directed by Emily P. Hoffman, economics.

Native American powwow set for Sept. 23-24

Native American performers from throughout the Midwest and Canada will sing and dance in a powwow Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23-24, at Fieldhouse.

The powwow will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and from 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday. More than 2,000 observers are expected to attend the event, which is being sponsored by the WMU Native American Student Organization and Division of Minority Affairs Retention Unit. Organizers hope the powwow will become an annual event.

The powwow is organized to expose the West Michigan community to a part of the Native American culture. It is designed to give American Indians and other people to gain an understanding and appreciation of Native American heritage and culture. It also will demonstrate artistic ability with a display of many arts and crafts created by Native American artists.

The powwow will begin with a grand entry each day. It will feature dancers, singers, drummers and flag bearers dressed in Native American ceremonial costumes.

The participants will perform in "indian" and "powwow dance" categories according to age group. Cash prizes will be awarded for the dance competitions. The powwow is open to the public. Admission is $1 for adults and $1 for students and $1 for children under 12.

For more information, persons may contact the Division of Minority Affairs Retention Unit at 7-3320.

Learn to manage time

The Women's Center is offering a workshop on "Time Management" from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in 205 Bernhard Center.

"Managing Time: A Personal Responsibility," by Patricia D. Bihrman, human resources, will discuss techniques for managing time more effectively. The model used will be the book "Time Management for Women" by Patricia Lakin. In her book, "How to Get Control of Your Time and Your Life," she offers advice for managing time.

The workshop is free for WMU faculty, staff and students. To register, call the Women's Center at 7-2990.

WMU^s Hispanic Heritage Month activities feature speech by Denver executive

Alicia V. Cuaron, president of Applied Data Inc. of Denver, will be the featured speaker during Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 15 at WMU.

The national observance is being celebrated as a month-long event for the first time this year. Previously, it was celebrated for one week each September. The observance recognizes Hispanic heritage, contributions to American society, this year's theme at WMU is "The Changing American Hispanic Youth = Hispanic Future," is tied to the state's theme, "literacy: the key to success.

In addition to Cuaron's speech, activities will include a performance by a dance troupe, a discussion with students, a viewing of a film and a special breakfast to be given to a WMU faculty or staff member, a member of the corporate community and an individual designed to bring the community in recognition of their support for Hispanic programs in the area.

Cuaron's company specializes in electric and magnetic measurement systems and human resource development. In addition to Colorado, the company has offices in Washington, D.C., Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Cuaron is active in numerous local, regional and national business and civic organizations. She has served on the national board of the League of United Latin American Citizens as director of education, leadership and economic development. She presently is on the executive advisory board of the National Hispanic Political, and recently was appointed to the U.S. Senate 1001 Hispanic Caucus, a Bi-Partisan Congressional caucus.

Hispanic Heritage Month festivities in Kalamazoo will begin with a city celebration from noon to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Portage Point, the WMU Division of Minority Affairs Retention Unit and the University's Hispanic Student Organization will set up information booths and pass out pamphlets and literature about the culture and the roles of the organizations.

Park activities will include food and crafts, traditional Mexican dance groups and bands and speakers. The event is coordinated by the Hispanic American Council.

Observances at WMU will begin with an open forum, a reading on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. in Waldo Library. The event is coordinated by the WMU Native American Student Organization and Division of Minority Affairs Retention Unit. Organizers hope the powwow will become an annual event.

For more information, persons may call the women's center at 7-3320.
Dennison to launch ninth annual series of mechanical engineering seminars

A talk on professional ethics will be presented on Sept. 19 by Provost George M. Dennison to mark the opening of a five-part fall series of seminars to be conducted on the campus.

Dennison will host the five-part annual series of biweekly seminars, sponsored by the Department of Mechanical Engineering, with a discussion of "Professional Ethics: Professor/Professor and Faculty/Administration Relationships." His talk is scheduled for 1 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 19, in 2040 John's in the Forum.

Seats are limited to 70 persons. To reserve a seat, call the Zest for Life office at 7-3620.

WMU-Zest team wins first in festival parade

The WMU-Zest for Life Corporate Olympics team took first place in the novel team competition at the 1989 YMCA Corporate Olympics, which was held on WMU's campus in the spring of 1989.

The WMU-Zest for Life team consisted of 160 employees on the WMU-Zest for Life team, which spanned the campus from West Michigan Avenue to Read Hall.

The Zest team also won first place in the annual series of team competitions, which included swimming, biking and spirit events.

The Zest team's success was due in part to the team's commitment to health and fitness, as well as the support of management.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, there will be a ceremony and closing party.

On Thursday, Sept. 21; and 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22. It will also air on Channel 32 at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23.

"Newsviews: Legislative Report," a 30-minute radio and television program featuring WMUK-FM news director Tony Griffin and area state legislators, will be aired during the week of Sept. 18-23. Produced by media services in cooperation with WMUK-FM, the program will be aired on WMUK-FM (101.1) at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, and on WMUK-FM Access Television Channel 32 at 8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, 9:17 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 21; 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22; and 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23. Participating in the "Newsviews" program will be Rep. Donald Gilmer and Paul Warriner and Lim. Harmon Croyce and Jack Herbert.

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If you’re a reporter investigating a political “slush fund,” a nervous头脑 breaking the ice to get a party rolling or a parent trying to get a child to eat or be “driven up a wall” by energetic schoolmates, there is certain. Sports metaphors are an important part of your everyday language.

In fact, sports terms are enjoying growing respectability in American culture, say two WMU professors who have published the country’s first definitive look at how the language of sporting events has shaped the English language.

“Breakfast of A Dictionary of Sports Metaphors,” by Robert R. Palmatier, languages and linguistics, and Harold L. Ray, sociology, psychology, and recreation, was published earlier this year by Greenwood Press of Westport, Conn. The book explains the origins of more than 1,700 popular words and expressions in American English that derive from or are associated with sports, games and recreation. Many have been around as part of the language for 100 years or more.

The book lists the terms in alphabetical order. Each listing includes an example of the term’s popular use, its origin, original meaning or use, a quotation to illustrate the term, a discussion of its evolution into popular use, a citation of reference sources and cross references to other entries.

Entries range from single words such as “chicanery” (golf) and “rapture” (falconry) to popular expressions such as “Who’s on first?” (baseball). The book also includes a list of the sports metaphors classified according to their sport of origin.

The project began in 1981 when Palmatier was playing pool and his opponent announced that he now had Palmatier “behind the eight ball.”

“T really realized that the phrase was more than a technical pool term — it was a phrase that had the more general meaning of being in an awkward or difficult position,” Palmatier says.

Following that incident, Palmatier began collecting such terms and phrases as a hobby. He began with pool and gradually expanded into other sports. In fact, he says, “in the beginning we didn’t even know what a cocktail party was; we just had the book and Brad (Ray) and I were sitting down the origins of many of the entries.”

There are a lot of surprises and that is part of the fun of the book,” he says.

His personal favorites include many of the metaphors that originated with the sport of cockfighting. Such terms as “cockfight,” “hen and rooster” and “cock-eyed” make his list. So does the term “cockpit,” which has evolved into a common term in aviation and is also used in a fairly new sport — auto racing.

“When they refer to the cockpits of the cars at the Indianapolis 500,” Palmatier says, “I can’t help but think how far that term has come from when it was used to describe a place of a couple of birds fighting.”

Ray, a long-time devotee of baseball, counts many of the terms originating in that sport as among his favorites. One, in particular, “to have a lot of moxie,” has a background he found particularly interesting. The phrase derived from breeders of cayenners of a popular soft drink called Mosie that was sold in eastern ballparks in the late 1800s.

Generally speaking, Palmatier says, the older the sport, the more likely it is that its terms have seeped into the language. The sport that served as origin for the most entries in the book is boxing. The book lists 168 terms of boxing, compared to just 14 terms for the sport of tennis.

“Next is baseball with 92 terms credited to it,” Palmatier says.

The project was the subject of a news release about their work written by Cheryl P. Roland, new services, sparked media interest and resulted in a number of interviews for Palmatier and Ray.

“The media interviews got better and better as I went along,” Palmatier says. “My radio experiences were live,” Palmatier says. “I quickly learned to keep a copy of the book and some notes by the phone because so many of the interviews were live,” Palmatier says.

“It was a learning experience and the interviews gave me a broader base for the book,” he said.

The pair was the subject of interviews with reporters in places like Washington, D.C., New York City, Ventura, Calif., Atlanta, Chicago, and Kalamazoo. They also received an excited call from a former student who spotted similar piece in the San Luis Obispo (Calif.) Telegram-Tribune.

For Kalamazoo Community Access Television.

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