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Distinguished Faculty Awards
Three from College recognized by University

Welcome
Introducing our newest faculty members

Alumni Achievement Awards
20 from College recognized for careers and service

Caution! Service learning ahead
Department of Spanish students in action

Brown Hall reopens for fall 08 semester, page 23
Dear Friends:

Welcome! I am once again delighted to greet you and introduce the spring 2009 issue of the College of Arts and Sciences Insider magazine.

Since our last issue, there have been many new and inspiring developments in the College, and I am pleased to share them with you.

At the start of the academic year we welcomed 11 new full-time faculty in areas such as Comparative Religion, English, Anthropology, Chemistry, and Foreign Languages. In addition, the College welcomed four administrative or support staff this year.

The honors and awards for our faculty continue.

A professor in our Department of History, has been awarded a prestigious J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship for 2008-2009, and another—a Canadian studies scholar—received the prestigious Fulbright Distinguished Chair, a six-month residency at York University in Toronto. Another professor, in our Department of Geography, has received a grant of $1,180,115 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and our Bronco Biodeisel project has been awarded a nearly $1 million Department of Energy Grant to design the conversion of two Kalamazoo liquid waste streams into transportation fuels.

Three from our College received awards for distinguished teaching and service; a Mallinson Institute for Science Education faculty member received a National Science Foundation research grant; a professor in our School of Communication was awarded WMU’s Emerging Scholar Award; and, in our Anthropology Department, a faculty member has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant to study violence and health in Kenya. Learn more about these motivated and inspiring educators starting on page 7.

We are very proud, as well, of our students, many of whom have been recognized for their achievements in research, writing, and scholarly activity, including three School of Communication students who were invited to attend the Cannes Film Festival in the south of France as part of The Adobe Reel Ideas Studio Student Filmmaking Program.

I could go on…but the news is well represented on the pages that follow.

Finally, I want the thank all of you who help our college through your gifts and your good advice, and I want especially to thank our many Distinguished Alumni who return periodically to campus to interact with our students and faculty. Of course, I also greatly appreciate our faithful readers who take the time to send us news and notes about their careers. We love to hear from you.

Our college truly represents the keystone college at WMU, and of course the success of our college embodies the success of the entire university. Together our students and faculty, along with our dedicated alumni who support them, make our college and university a marvelous place to learn and a place that changes the world for the better.

So, thank you all, and keep in touch.

Thomas Kent
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Three from College Honored with Distinguished Awards

An internationally known mathematician and a science education expert who has explored the cultural component of improving science literacy have been honored by Western Michigan University as Distinguished Faculty Scholars.

Dr. William W. Cobern, professor of biological sciences and director of the Mallinson Institute for Science Education, and Dr. Yuri S. Ledyaev, professor of mathematics, were honored as Distinguished Faculty Scholars during WMU’s fall 2008 Academic Convocation ceremonies.

Cobern holds a joint appointment as a professor of biological sciences and science education. He came to WMU in 1996 as associate professor of science education and coordinator of the elementary school master's program. Since then, he has been a principal researcher in a number of science education initiatives funded by the National Science Foundation and the Michigan Department of Education.

Mathematician Dr. Yuri S. Ledyaev was praised by those nominating him for his “great influence in the areas of control theory and nonsmooth analysis, distinguished record of publication and his consistent spirit of generosity.” His wide-ranging research, supporters say, includes significant contributions in such areas as nonlinear control systems and global optimization problems.

Ledyaev, who has held visiting professorships at universities in five nations, has been a WMU faculty member since 1997. Letters of support for his work also came from around the world and reflect Ledyaev’s stature in the international mathematics community as well as his ability to communicate the essence of his work and inspire others.

Ledyaev is the author or co-author of more than 60 journal articles, the co-author of a book published by the world’s premier publisher in the field of mathematics, and a member of the editorial board of three journals. He also is the recipient of a number of rare National Science Foundation grants for pure research in mathematics.

Dr. Sisay Asefa was named a recipient of the University’s 2008-09 Distinguished Service Award. Asefa is a professor of economics and director of the Center for African Development Policy in the Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

Asefa’s areas of academic interest include economic development; applied microeconomics, and agricultural economics. His current research involves studies in economic development policy with a focus on Africa; as well as agriculture, environment, poverty, and food security linkages.

Asefa previously has been honored as a Fulbright-Hays Senior Lecturer at the University of Botswana, 1987-88; an honorary member, Alpha Kappa Mu Academic Honor Society (2001); a Fulbright Faculty Research Fellow, a US Department of Education; Global Who’s Who of Economists; and as a visiting scholar to Michigan State University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Oxford University, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, and the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Asefa also is involved as a board member of the African Finance and Economic Development Association and the Ethiopian American Foundation. He received the NAACP Public Sector Service Award in 1988.

The Distinguished Faculty Scholar award is the highest honor the University bestows on its faculty members. Established in 1978, it recognizes those whose work is widely recognized beyond the University and constitutes a significant body of achievement, most of which has been accomplished while a faculty member at WMU.

—Courtesy, WMU News

Dr. William W. Cobern, professor of biological sciences and director of the Mallinson Institute for Science Education

Dr. Yuri S. Ledyaev, professor of mathematics

Dr. Sisay Asefa

professor of economics and director of the Center for African Development Policy in the Haenicke Institute for Global Education

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Religion department chair and long-time professor passes away

David Ede, professor of Islamic studies and departmental chair, passed away suddenly on Sept. 13, 2008. In 1970, Ede took a teaching position at Western Michigan University as a professor of Islamic Studies. After traveling so much throughout his young life, Ede soon fell in love with the University and the town of Kalamazoo. Here he would put down roots and remain for the rest of his life.

Ede loved teaching, and loved the difference he could make to his students. He was truly more than a professor, however, he also was a mentor to his students and to other faculty—at ease around their generous, gregarious colleague. Ede often entertained students and colleagues at his home, and could break into song and dance at the drop of a hat!

Ede’s teaching career at Western was one of many peaks and valleys. He was a man of deep conviction and beliefs, which were sometimes at odds with the administration. Still, he remained a valued and respected member of the faculty, and eventually assumed the position of chair of the Department of Comparative Religion.

His friends, family and colleagues remember him with these words:

• David was a man of principle and passion, of character and conviction, and most importantly a man with an open heart.
• David was a teacher and a mentor, a man who made a difference to the minds and views of so many. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, teacher and friend, but more than anything, he taught us to see the world from a different point of view, and to challenge what we know as true.
• David was a man who taught us that the world is far too big a place for small minds. Today Ed’s life, and his lessons, live on in all who knew him (selection from lifestory.net).

In the last weeks of his life, Ede was working on an exciting new project to digitize the warehouse of information in the Department of Comparative Religion—audio-visual materials collected over the years for class and faculty use. More about the project can be seen below.

Digital age requires updated teaching resources

The Department of Comparative Religion has, for many years, used audio-visual resources in its classes. Today, undergraduate students expect upgraded multi-media materials in electronic formats with quick and easy access. Research on adult learning and student comprehension and retention of material shows these tasks improve when a variety of multi-media approaches are used in the classroom and lecture hall. To address these issues, the department has begun to collect, digitize, and archive a wide variety of audio-visual materials for class and web use. And, thanks to seed money generated by the department’s on-line teaching, it already has made substantial progress.

Integrating film and video within PowerPoint lectures is a key component to efforts for the 2008-09 academic year. Contemporary culture often is best captured and showcased in video images, so the influence of religion on culture and society often is reflected in the visual medium as well. Symbolism, cultural images, and individual stories help students integrate how important religion is throughout the world.

The new video library already has amassed a large collection of video clips, personal videos, and public domain television footage that will be digitized, modified, and archived in an easily accessible data file.
Welcome New Faculty!

Cathryn Bailey, Professor and Director of Gender & Women’s Studies
Ph.D.—Philosophy
University of Missouri
Research Interests: Feminist Philosophy, Epistemology, Ethics

Jacqueline T. Eng, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Anthropology
University of California, Santa Barbara
Research Interests: Bioarchaeology, Paleopathology, Interregional Interaction, Pastoralism, China, Inner Asian Frontier, California, Iceland, Romania

Kirsty Eisenhart, Faculty Specialist I
Ph.D.—Applied Mathematics
Western Michigan University
Research Interests: Nonsmooth Analysis; Variational Analysis; Optimization

Sharon Gill, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Biology
York University
Research Interests: Ecology and Evolution of Family Living, with a Focus on Delayed Dispersal; Endocrine Regulation of Social Behavior; Communication Within and Between Family Groups; Interactions Between Brood Parasites and Hosts

Jue Guo, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Comparative Religion
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Research Interests: Chinese Religions

Lucius Hallett, IV, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Geography
University of Kansas
Research Interests: Geography of Foods

Don Lee, Associate Professor
M.F.A.—Creative Writing and Literature
Emerson College
Research Interests: Creative Writing; Literary Publishing

Rajib Paul, Instructor
Ph.D. pending 2008—Statistics
Indian Institute of Technology
Research Interests: Diffusion based Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methods; Markov Chains and Renewal Theory; Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling; Spatial and Environmental Statistics; Interdisciplinary research in Glacial Dynamics, Climate Change Issues, and Environmental Health

RamaKrishna Guda, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Chemistry
University of Mumbai, India
Research Interests: Ultrafast Spectroscopy on Metal and Semiconductor Nanomaterials; Interfacial Electron and Electron and Energy Transfer Phenomena for The Design Of Efficient Photovoltaics

Brandy Skjold, Faculty Specialist I
Ph.D. pending—Science Education
Western Michigan University
Research Interests: Plant Ecology/Microbiology

Vivian Steemers, Assistant Professor,
Ph.D.—French Language and Literature
Michigan State University
Research Interests: French Literature And Language

Andre Venter, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Chemistry
University of Pretoria, South Africa
Research Interests: Mass Spectrometry and Gas Chromatography

Yuan-Kang Wang, Assistant Professor
Ph.D.—Political Science
University of Chicago
Research Interests: International Relations Theory; Security Studies; Chinese Foreign Policy; International Relations of East Asia
I arrived on campus in January 2008 to become Director of the Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations and also joined the faculty of the Department of Anthropology. Having grown up in Michigan, I spent most of my career in Washington, D.C. before returning to the Midwest several years ago. Kalamazoo is a familiar and comfortable place for me.

I was trained as a medical anthropologist at Michigan State University and my dissertation was about social and biological influences on the blood pressures of Mexican-American and Anglo (non-Latino white) adolescents in four South Texas high schools during the late 1970s. As the study progressed, I became increasingly interested in how schools functioned to differentially allocate educational and economic opportunities by race, ethnicity and class—in sharp contrast to their “official” egalitarian purposes. My interest in this topic continues.

After completing my dissertation, I moved to Washington, D.C. where my first job was to teach anthropology at Catholic University. While there, I wrote a book called Latino Immigrant Youth: Passages from Adolescence to Adulthood. This was a six-year study of 200 de facto refugee youth from El Salvador, and the unusually successful high school that they attended. My next stop was at the Association of American Medical Colleges where as assistant vice president for community and minority programs I designed and directed Project 3000 by 2000—the national diversity campaign for the nation’s 126 medical schools. The project increased minority enrollment by 36 percent and led to the creation of dozens of partnerships linking health professional schools with minority serving high schools and community organizations throughout the country. Many of these partnerships are still working today.

When Project 3000 by 2000 ended, I moved on to the National Research Council. There, I directed three studies on the education of minority and economically disadvantaged students that resulted in books published by National Academies Press. My final stop before arriving at Western was at Notre Dame, my undergraduate alma mater. There, I worked as research director for the Institute for Latino Studies and worked on issues such as education, Mexican immigrants in Chicago, housing, and Border Kids Count—a project that examined the health and well-being of children along the U.S.-Mexico border.

I am excited by the opportunities that exist here at Western and look forward to developing the Walker Institute’s programming related to race and ethnic relations and a research agenda that I hope will inform efforts to make our community and state more equitable, just, and respectful of diversity.

I am starting to pursue new research questions on how racial and religious identities and identifications interact, using Cuba as a case study. I also hope to develop a comparative angle closer to home, by looking at discourses of race in southwest Michigan. I am always looking to mentor undergraduate and graduate students with overlapping interests!

—Tim Ready

By collaborating with scholars throughout the University, the Walker Institute has the following goals for 2008-09:

- Engage in applied research in Kalamazoo in support of community efforts to enable all students to benefit from the Kalamazoo Promise—especially students from disadvantaged backgrounds
- Launch a series of policy briefs on racial, ethnic and economic equity in the Great Lakes region, with a focus on (a) disparate effects of the economic dislocations that have occurred, and (b) innovative responses to changing economic circumstances that result in more stable and inclusive communities
- Develop an interdisciplinary course of studies at the undergraduate level examining racial and ethnic group relations in cross-cultural perspective.
New Issues Poetry & Prose, a literary publisher at Western Michigan University, has been awarded a $9,000 grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs to support the publication of three new titles in the Inland Seas Poetry Series. The three titles, each by poets who currently live in Michigan or who have strong Michigan connections, will be published in 2008-09.

The National Endowment for the Arts has awarded Jeffrey Angles (Foreign Languages) a $20,000 grant to translate the memoirs of one of the most prominent poets in Japan. This is the second grant for Angles, assistant professor of foreign languages and director of WMU’s Japanese language program, to translate “Twelve Perspectives,” the 1970 memoir of Mutsuo Takahashi.

Heather Petcovic (Mallinson Institute for Science Education) has been awarded a National Science Foundation research grant titled, “Collaborative Research: Learning across the Expert-Novice Continuum: Cognition in the Geosciences.” The grant is for $500,000 over 3 years. Her co-researcher on the grant is Kathleen M. Baker (Geography), along with external collaborators Dr. Julie Libarkin and Dr. Zach Hambrick of Michigan State University.

Cathryn Bailey has been named chair of the Gender and Women’s Studies program.

Ann Miles (Anthropology) has been named interim departmental chair for a term of one year, in the Department of Anthropology.

Jennifer Machiorlatti (Communication) was awarded WMU’s Emerging Scholar Award during the Academic Convocation. The Emerging Scholar Award program acknowledges the accomplishments of WMU faculty members who are among the rising stars in U.S. higher education.

Gwen Tarbox (English) has begun work on a blog that covers topics related to child and adolescent literature. Although the blog is currently used to supplement her teaching, Tarbox hopes to have her students involved in the project over the next year.

Debasri Mukherjee (Economics) was promoted to associate professor of Economics.

Michael Nassesney (Anthropology) has been re-elected to the position of Society for Historical Archaeology secretary for the 2009-2011 term.

Magdalena Niewiadomska-Bugaj (Statistics) has been named as chair of the Department of Statistics.
“performance” will be presented at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, San Diego, Calif.

Three members of the history faculty were recognized for their accomplishments in the areas of research, teaching, and service:

José António Brandão was recognized with the Faculty Achievement Award in Research and Creative Activity. Brandão is author or coauthor of five books and dozens of articles and book reviews on the history and ethnohistory of Native-European interactions in the 17th and 18th centuries. His work has been hailed for its originality and meticulous research. No one—more than one reviewer has observed—has a better command of the primary sources used to write the story of this period.

Lynne Heasley, associate professor, was named in the category of Professional and Community Service. Heasley has contributed significantly to the Department of History, the Environmental Studies program, the Canadian Studies program, Western Michigan University, the teaching profession and the field of environmental history.

Takashi Yoshida, associate professor, joined the department only a few years ago, but he already has made his mark as an exemplary researcher and teacher. Among his most innovative courses are his Japanese History Through Film and Literature and From Rickshaw to Lexus: Japanese History Through Cars and Motorcycles. Both of these delight students, the former because it made a distant history accessible and introduced them to a world of aesthetics and narrative that was new, and the latter because of its unique perspectives on history. The Faculty Award in Teaching recognizes his enthusiasm for teaching and his success in the classroom.

Lisa Minnick (English) has been invited to contribute a chapter on “African American English to the forthcoming volume Historical Linguistics of English: An International Handbook,” edited by Laurel Brinton (University of British Columbia) and Alexander Bergs (Universität Osnabrück). Minnick also is completing an invited chapter, “Dialect Literature and Language in the U.S.A.,” for “Varieties in Writing: The Written Word as Linguistic Evidence,” a collection focusing on the use of written texts in tracing the historical development of the English language, which is scheduled for 2009 release.

Robert Berkhofer (History) has been awarded a Friedrich and Lieselotte Solmsen Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Bilinda Straight (Anthropology) is continuing her research with the Samburu in Kenya and was recently awarded an NSF grant to study violence and health in Kenya.

Wilson J. Warren (History) has been awarded a prestigious J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship for 2008-2009. Warren will serve as a faculty member of the Graduate School of American Studies at Doshisha University in Kyoto.

Nora Faires (History) professor of American history and gender and women’s studies at Western Michigan University, has been awarded the prestigious Fulbright Distinguished Chair, a six-month residency at York University in Toronto to study clubs founded by American women living abroad. Faires will examine the relationship of gender, migration, American national identity and internationalism.

Laurie Spielvogel (Anthropology) spent her sabbatical developing role-play simulation software to enhance her undergraduate and graduate teaching on Japan.

Jon Holtzman (Anthropology) was awarded a Fellowship with the American Council of Learned Societies to work on interethnic violence in Kenya.

Allen Zagarell (Anthropology) continues his work on establishing a network of scholars interested in Central Asia studies. He brought Tajik scholars and businessmen from to campus this year.
In the News...

Karen Vocke (English) has been recognized for her work with migrant and bilingual students and will be the keynote speaker at the 2009 RSN conference.

Kathleen Baker (Geography) has received a grant of $1,180,115 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for her project titled “Synoptic weather forecasting and web-based information delivery systems for managing crop disease risk in multiple regions of the U.S.”

Steven Mackey (Mathematics) was granted honorable mention at the 17th Householder Symposium on Numerical Linear Algebra in Seuthen, Germany. The award recognizes the best dissertation in numerical linear algebra from a recent Ph.D.

Peter Krawutschke (Foreign Languages) has been presented the Alexander Gode Medal by the American Translators Association. Krawutschke served as the Association’s president from 1995-1997.

Publications:

Kristina Wirtz (Anthropology) 
Ritual, Discourse, and Community in Cuban Santeria: Speaking a Sacred World.

Vin Lyon-Callo (Anthropology) edited two special journal issues, “Rethinking Marxism” and “Urban Anthropology.” Lyon-Callo also is organizing “Rethinking Marxism’s” next international conference.


Catherine Julien (History) et al. Cuzco: Del Mito a la Historia. Lima: Banco Crédito Peru, 2007. (History)


Nora Faires (History), guest ed. Michigan History, special Borderlands issues, Vol. 34, Nos. 1-2 (Spring and Fall, 2008).


WMU Students tour Japan

Stephen G. Covell, professor of Japanese religions, led a group of WMU students on a two-week tour of religious and cultural sites in and around Tokyo, Japan. The summer program is designed to provide students with an experience with Japanese culture, history and religious expression.

Relationships that Covell built in his 10 years of study in Japan allow his students access to areas that may not be generally open to the public. Students enjoy behind-the-scenes views of the day-to-day life of Buddhist monks and temple operations. In addition to their exposure to Buddhism and its role in cultural and political life in Japan, students visited Shinto Shrines in Nikko. This day trip exposed students to an additional understanding of the role religion plays in the operation of the state.

Students experienced sitting and mandala meditation, worked alongside Buddhist monks, observed temple ceremonies, and visited history museums and a famous hot spring.

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In the News...


René Schwartz (Mallinson Institute for Science Education) has a new publication in the October 2007 issue of the journal Science Scope. The title is, “What’s in a Word? How Word Choice Can Develop (Mis)conceptions About the Nature of Science.”

David W. Rudge, (Mallinson Institute for Science Education) will have an article published in the next issue of History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences, “H.B.D. Kettlewell’s Research 1937-1953: The Influence of E.B. Ford, E.A. Cockayne and P.M. Sheppard.”

An article by Robert Anemone (Anthropology) was the second-most viewed article from April to June on the Journal of Human Evolution Web site. The article, titled “Google Earth, GIS, and the Great Divide: A new and simple method for sharing paleontological data,” shows how paleontological data can be displayed in innovative ways, easily accessible to anyone, by using Google Earth and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

S.L. Borden (Communication) and Bowers, P. (2008). Ethical tensions in journalism: “What the press has in common with other professions.” In Wilkins, L., and Christians, C.G. (Eds.), The Handbook of Mass Media Ethics (pp. 353-365). New York: Routledge. Borden also has won the 2008 Clifford G. Christians Ethics Research Award for her book Journalism as Practice: MacIntyre, Virtue Ethics and the Press.” The book also recently was named as one of three finalists for the 2008 Tankard Book Award.

Autumn Edwards and Chad Edwards (Communication) have had an article accepted for publication in ICA’s Journal of Computer Mediated Communication. The article examines, “Computer-Mediated Word-of-Mouth Communication on RateMyProfessors.com: Expectancy Effects on Student Cognitive and Behavioral Learning” by Edwards, A., Edwards, C., Shaver, C., and Oaks, M.

Udaya Wagle (Public Affairs) has had the book Multidimensional Poverty Measurement: Concepts and Applications, published by Springer. The book discusses the theoretical and operational framework of multidimensional concept of poverty including economic well-being, capability, and social inclusion and applies it in Nepal and the United States. This research was partly funded by the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

Leigh Ford (Communication) has had a paper “Hope is a fragile and fierce thing: Uncovering the dialectical tensions in coping with adverse life events” recognized as a Top Three Paper from the Health Communication Interest Group of the Western States Communication Association.

The Distinguished Teaching Award committee is collecting letters of nomination for the 2009 Teacher of the Year. Please consider writing a letter for your favorite professor that explains, in specific details, why you think this person deserves WMU’s highest honor for teaching.

You can write the nomination letter on line at: www.wmich.edu/provost/announcements/pdf/nomination.html

And see the award policies at: www.wmich.edu/provost/announcements/pdf/2009-Distinguished-Teaching.pdf

The deadline for nomination letters is April 1, 2009.
Alumni

--- 1970 ---
Dick Cookman (Geosciences) is retired but still involved in the operation of Enerdyne Inc., a science-nature store in Suttons Bay, Mich. owned by his wife.

--- 1973 ---
Brian Shaw (Public Affairs and Administration) recently took a new job in academia. Shaw has joined the National Defense Intelligence College and will be developing new programs in research and education, focusing on the analysis of developing science and technology threats in a new Center for S&T Intelligence.

Jim Leidlein (Public Affairs and Administration) is the city manager for Harper Woods in Wayne County, Mich.

--- 1992 ---
Angela Jacobs (Communication) has been appointed the first executive recruiter for the Alumni Relations and Development Division at the University of Chicago. Jacobs received her M.B.A. from the Keller Graduate School of Management and her Bachelor of Science degree in organizational communication from Western Michigan University. She is an active member of the Western Michigan University alumni association and one of the Alumni Admissions Ambassadors.

--- 1993 ---
Tom Kanayama (Communication) recently was promoted to professor in the Department of Journalism and appointed the interim director for the Institute for the Study of Social Justice at Sophia University, Japan. The Institute was founded in April 1981 with the objective of raising the consciousness of students and the wider society regarding the promotion of social justice.

--- 1996 ---
Patrick Palus (Public Affairs and Administration) received a master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education with certification to teach general science at the secondary level.

--- 1997 ---
Nicholas G. Maloof (Public Affairs and Administration) is president and general counsel of Associated Environmental Services, LLC (AES) in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Maloof is an active member of the State Bar of Michigan Real Property, Environmental and Business Law sections, and a registered professional geologist in Tennessee.

--- 1997 ---
Melissa Cheyney (Anthropology) has become a licensed midwife and earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology, and now is an assistant professor of anthropology at Oregon State University. In Memphis, Cheyney co-organized a panel on cultural competence for which she was also a discussant and delivered a paper on tracking the outcomes of home births. Cheyney also accompanied one of her own M.A. students as she gave her first professional paper.

--- 1998 ---
Stefanie Rentfrow (Chemistry) has been promoted to manager of analytical research and development at Perrigo Co. She will lead and expand efforts to improve AR&D systems and provide analytical support for new-product development. Rentfrow, who has a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Western Michigan University, has worked for Perrigo for 10 years.

--- 2000 ---
Dan Osborne (Anthropology) is now an assistant professor (tenure track) at the University of Nebraska (Lincoln).

--- 2001 ---
Eric Drake (Anthropology) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Binghamton University, conducting dissertation research on Anishinaabeg engagements with industrial capitalism on the logging frontier of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Drake is enrolled in the Region 9 USDA-Forest Service Federal Student Career Employment Program and employed full-time as an archaeologist for the Hiawatha National Forest.

--- 2002 ---
Mira Ptacin (Anthropology) is pursuing a graduate degree in creative non-fiction writing at Sarah Lawrence College.

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Jared Barrett (Anthropology) works for TRC in Nashville, Tenn. as an historic archaeologist, where he has conducted archaeological surveys and excavations throughout the southeastern United States.

Nelson Class Melendez (Anthropology) has been named director of Gale Publications, Latin America.

Cassie Workman (Anthropology) is pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of South Florida and co-authored a paper on food security, and organized a session for students titled “How to Survive Graduate School.”

Chris Sweetapple (Anthropology) recently passed his M.A. thesis defense with distinction at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is pursuing his Ph.D. He continues the work in Germany where he started while an undergraduate at WMU.

Meghan Moran (Ph.D. student at Kent State) (Anthropology) won the Ales Hrdlicka award for the best student poster at the American Association of Physical Anthropologists annual meeting in Columbus, OH (April 2008) for her poster entitled “Walkers vs. Non-Walkers: A comparison of femoral neck cortical bone in humans.”

Juan Florencia (Anthropology) is pursuing his Ph.D. work at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, continuing the work began at WMU on autoethnography with a focus on whiteness and white privilege.

Takami Delisle (Anthropology) has just started the Ph.D. program in Anthropology at the University of Kentucky.

Brock Giordano (Anthropology) works as an archaeologist and principal investigator for the Cultural Resource Consulting Group, Highland Park, NJ. Giordano also is an adjunct professor of archaeology at Monmouth University, Long Branch, N.J.

Boon Shear (Anthropology) currently is a Ph.D. student in anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His interest in Kalamazoo lives on, however, and his paper “Gentrification and Community” focused on community development in Kalamazoo.

Carlos Vargas-Silva (Economics) has won the prize for best dissertation on migrant remittances in a competition sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. The prize carries with it an award of $5000, the publication of a paper in the inaugural edition of a new journal entitled Remittances and Development published by the Bank, and a consultancy assignment with the Bank.

Abe Northup (Geosciences) is currently working with CH2M HILL, out of its Bay Area office in Oakland, Calif. He has spent time in the field low-flow sampling, slug testing, doing tidal studies (determining how much the tide influences the aquifer at a particular site), and drilling (direct push, HSA, and sonic drilling). He is currently working on several sites with a variety of contaminants, and at a variety of different investigative stages.

Cleothis Gill (Anthropology) delivered a paper based on her original thesis research on African American women's narratives of breast cancer. Dr. Ann Miles (Anthropology) attended the meetings and was thrilled to catch up with so many of her students. Dr. Timothy Ready (Anthropology and the Lewis Walker Institute) also presented at the meetings.

Robert Reichner (Political Science) has been named Presidential Management Fellow. He is the second Presidential Management Fellow from the Department of Political Science in the past five years. Dawn Heuscher (Political Science) received the PMF in 2005. Reichner holds civilian position with the Navy, United States Fleet Forces Command in Virginia. He is veteran of the US. Marine Corps and participated in the Kosovo peacekeeping operations.

Join the WMU Alumni Online Community

The WMU Alumni Association Online Community is designed exclusively for WMU graduates and former students, allowing them to network with one another, find out about upcoming alumni events, maintain a personal profile page, and much more!

www.wmualumni.com
A $195,000 grant from the DTE Energy Foundation to Western Michigan University’s Core Kids outreach program is bringing earth science alive for Michigan’s elementary, middle and high school students as well as their teachers.

The three-year grant was awarded in January to support the development of educational modules that explore the state’s geology and natural resources. They are being designed at WMU’s Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education (MGRRE), which is part of the University’s Department of Geosciences, part of the College of Arts and Sciences.

MGRRE faculty and staff created Core Kids to help bridge the gap between the public and scientists involved in energy and earth science studies, says Susan F. Grammer, MGRRE education outreach coordinator.

“Students and teachers who participate in Core Kids activities learn about the origin, development and efficient use of geological natural resources such as groundwater, oil, natural gas and minerals — resources that are essential to our quality of life,” Grammer says. “They also gain a better understanding of the age of the Earth and the changes that have taken place on Earth over time — two concepts that are vital in developing science literacy and identifying processes that policy leaders must consider when dealing with national energy and environmental issues.”

Geosciences graduate students Amy Noack, Audrey Ritter, Heather Qualman, and Amanda Walega visited classrooms with Grammer and showed students how much fun they could have as a geologist.

“Through our support of these programs, the DTE Energy Foundation is helping to enrich science curriculums for students throughout the communities we serve,” says Fred Shell, DTE Energy vice president of corporate and government affairs and president of the DTE Energy Foundation.

“Core Kids does an outstanding job of leading participants through an engaging exploration of energy and earth science,” Shell adds. “The DTE Energy Foundation is very pleased to play a part in bringing this exciting program to Michigan students and teachers. Core Kids seek to facilitate interactions between scientists and school-age children and channel children’s natural curiosity about the world around them into a desire for understanding Earth’s resources and processes. It also aims to get more children interested in earth-science careers and encourages all students to become knowledgeable citizens who can incorporate accurate earth science–related concepts into their decision making.” —WMU News

Since receiving the DTE Energy Foundation grant, MGRRE personnel and their associates have made presentations in more than 40 southwest Michigan classrooms, opened up MGRRE’s facilities to numerous school groups, and developed a variety of interesting and innovative earth science–based materials for both students and teachers. They also have taken to the road, exhibiting at gatherings of the National Science Teachers Association, Michigan Science Teachers Association, and Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association.
Professor of 42 Years, Peter Schmitt, Dies

It is with great sadness that the Department of History announces that Professor Peter J. Schmitt, who retired in April 2008, passed away on Aug. 6, 2008.

After joining the faculty of the Department of History in 1965, Schmitt spent his entire career of 43 years here. In addition to teaching and researching in the Department of History, he served for 11 years (1973-1984) as faculty associate for regional history in the WMU Archives. He was director of “Insights: the Data Bank for Living History,” a WMU oral history program. He also was, at different times in his career, director of the WMU American Studies Program and a member of the WMU Environmental Studies executive committee.

Schmitt was a pioneer in developing the field of environmental history. His Back to Nature: The Arcadian Myth in Urban America, (1969) was so important that it appeared in a second edition 21 years later—a rare distinction for a history book.

He applied his tools as an historian to local and regional history with special emphasis on the built environment. He authored Kalamazoo: Nineteenth-Century Homes in a Midwestern Village (1976), Kalamazoo: The Place Behind the Products (1981), and Battle Creek: The Place Behind the Products (1984), the latter two co-authored with Larry B. Massie, a graduate of the WMU Department of History. One often finds well-worn copies of his books in the waiting rooms of professional offices where local patrons browse through them, refreshing their memories of earlier years.

Schmitt’s legacy as an inspiring teacher is unsurpassed. In his course, “Popular Art and Architecture in America,” thousands of students learned to think as historians by becoming aware of their own historical surroundings. The course was so popular that at one point Schmitt was teaching 17 percent of the students enrolled in all history courses.

He taught courses in public history and history of the American west. Early in his career he pioneered a course on African-American history. Graduate students will remember him as the instructor of a course on computers in historical research at a time when many doubted the value of computers in the history discipline and later as a mentor in college teaching and professional activity.

Schmitt was an outdoorsman, a lover of nature, and an avid gatherer of wild cranberries. His colleagues and students will miss Schmitt’s cheerful presence in Friedmann Hall.

Mathematics Launches New Minor in Actuarial Science

As of fall 2008, WMU students now have the option to declare a minor in actuarial science through the Department of Mathematics. Coursework for the exciting new program cuts across several departments, including mathematics, statistics, economics and finance.

According to statistics from the vice president for research, the Department of Mathematics brought in more than $3.5 million in external grants during 2006-2007, which is 10.6% of the University total for the year. These awards included more than $269,000 in F&A monies. Both the total and F&A amounts were the largest for any department on campus. Much of the funding supports the Core Plus Mathematics Project and Center for the Study of Mathematics Curriculum, two major projects directed by professor Chris Hirsch.
Johnson and Johnson acquired the Clinical Chemistry Division from Eastman Kodak, and Oenick transferred as part of this acquisition which became Ortho Clinical Diagnostics.

Over three decades, Daniel Pellegron has served as CEO of three organizations, with that time almost evenly divided between organizations which work domestically and internationally. Pellegron has managed advocacy campaigns and capital campaigns, and led organizations during times of political opposition and even terrorist attack. Pellegron has served 22 years as CEO of Pathfinder International.

Patricia A. Dolly completed her undergraduate degree in business administration at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Mich. She holds a Doctorate in Education, a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership, and a Master of Arts in Organizational Communication. She obtained her graduate degrees from Western Michigan University. In her current role—at Oakland Community College, Auburn Hills campus—she leads operations through management of its resources to achieve the college’s mission.

Dr. Happy Siphambe received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Botswana in 1987 and his Master of Arts in Economics from Western Michigan University in 1989. Siphambe currently is an associate professor in the Department of Economics of the University of Botswana, where he served as the head, from 2001 to 2007, and taught undergraduate and graduate courses in various fields such as development economics, labor economics, advanced macroeconomics, and history of economic thought.

Robert W. Bradley earned a Bachelor of Arts in English in Language and Literature (cum laude) in 1951 from the Western Michigan University College of Education with minors in history and French. Publications include book reviews for the Mensa Bulletin; History, a publication of the Helen Dwight Reid Educational Foundation; and Best Sellers, a publication of the University of Scranton (PA).

Derek Humphries earned his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and Geography from WMU in 1994. While attending WMU, he interned with Kraft General Foods – Post Cereal division in Battle Creek, Mich. Humphries is the corporate safety director of Leprino Foods Company, a Denver, Colorado-based company, which is a leading producer of mozzarella and dry whey food products with nine manufacturing facilities across the U.S.
John Van Gessel received his B.A. from Western Michigan University in 1973, with majors in history and secondary education and minors in German and business administration. He earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Notre Dame Law School in Notre Dame, Ind. Van Gessel began his legal career with Chicago and North Western Transportation Company in Chicago, Ill., followed by a position as senior counsel for Chemical Waste Management Inc. In 2001, after some years in private practice in Florida, he became vice president and southern area general counsel for Waste Management Inc., based in Atlanta, Ga. While at Western Michigan University he received the coveted Freie Universitit Berlin scholarship, a full-ride grant for a year-long study in Berlin.

Dr. Paul F. Krause graduated from Michigan State University in 1970 with a Bachelor of Arts in Geography. In 1976 he completed his Master of Arts in Geography at Western Michigan University. After serving as a civilian employee for the U.S. Army for 20 years, he completed his Ph.D. in Geography in 1996 at Kent State University. Following his graduate studies he served as head of the U.S. Army Climate Support Unit for all new materials developments and assessments of the operational equipment standards relative to meteorological factors. He received numerous awards and citations for outstanding service during his career.

Barry C. McBride earned his Bachelor of Science in Geology from Furman University in 1985. McBride went on to receive his Master of Science in Geology from Western Michigan University in 1988 and his Doctorate of Philosophy in Geology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1997. He has 20 years of oil and gas experience with several different companies. McBride is manager of geology for Cordillera Energy Partners II in Greenwood Village, Col. He lives in Denver with his wife Beth and two children.

Werner G. (Vern) Marten, a native of Berlin, Germany, came to Western Michigan University in 1966 as one of three exchange students from the Pädagogische Hochschule (Teacher’s College). Marten graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History/Liberal Arts in 1968. Marten officially retired in 2002 as vice president in sales and marketing from an international flavor manufacturer.

Donald G. Southwell is president and chief executive officer of Unitrin, Inc., a $3 billion Chicago-based financial services company, which provides a diverse array of insurance and financial products for individuals, families, and small businesses. Southwell received his Bachelor of Science in mathematics from Western in 1973, with a minor in physics. Southwell is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, a Chartered Life Underwriter, and a Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter.

Dr. Luis Samuel González graduated from Western Michigan University in 1994. He graduated from Valparaiso University School of Law with a Juris Doctor in 1997. He is a licensed attorney, and taught at Grand Valley State University from 1997 to 1999. His teaching and interest focus was professional ethics and philosophy of law. González became an officer with the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate Corps (JAG) and separated, as a captain, with an honorable discharge. Currently, González is an associate professor of philosophy at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio, and an adjunct professor at the University of Dayton. He dedicates most of his academic energy to the philosophy of law, professional ethics, business ethics, and philosophy of sex.

William Sigourney Hough served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, continued on page 17
William S. Hough

John R. Petrocik

Douglas W. Woods

Karen Aldridge-Easton

Tiffany Moore

Diana R. Cucos

Alumni Achievement Awards presented to 20

and was assigned to the V-12 Officer Training Program, an intensive program of study at what was then Western Michigan College of Education. Through intense library research, he positioned himself for selection into the Antarctic expedition team. Hough thus became a member of the first group ever to winter over at the South Pole, at what is now called the Amundsen-Scott Station. He returned to Kalamazoo a few years ago to pursue hobbies in computers, analyzing the stock market, and pipe organs.

John R. Petrocik is professor and chair in the Department of Political Science at the University of Missouri —Columbia. He received his Ph.D. in 1976 from the University of Chicago. His specialty is electoral politics, with particular emphasis on public opinion, voting, and political parties. His recent work has emphasized the social basis of politics and the influence of social divisions on electoral politics.

Dr. Douglas W. Woods earned his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 1999 from Western Michigan University. He is an associate professor of psychology and the director of Clinical Training at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Woods is internationally known for his clinical research on repetitive behavior disorders such as Tourette’s Syndrome, trichotillomania [chronic hair pulling] and muscle tics. A prolific researcher and writer, Woods has published five books and over 100 research and scholarly articles. He also serves on a number of editorial boards, grant review panels, and medical advisory boards. Woods’ teaching interests include assessment and treatment of habit disorders, childhood behavior problems, HIV/AIDS prevention, and clinical behavior analysis.

Karen Aldridge-Eason is the director of the Office of Foundation Liaison at the Governor’s Office, and is technically on loan to them from the C.S. Mott Foundation. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education from The University of Michigan, and received a Master of Public Administration from Western Michigan University. She is serving a three-year term as chair of the board of trustees of the Genesys Health System/Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc, Mich. She currently is a member of the board of directors of Tapology, Inc., a Flint-based dance program for youth; and just recently ended 10 years of service on the board of directors of the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Tiffany Moore graduated in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Language and Literature from Western Michigan University. After graduation, Moore spent more than six years in the office of Congressman Fred Upton, eventually becoming legislative director and advising Upton on a wide range of policy matters including defense, homeland security, education, foreign trade, budget, and tax issues. Since June, Moore has been working as an assistant U.S. trade representative for Venable LLP as a senior legislative advisor in its Washington office. Moore is active in the American Council of Young Political Leaders, the Trade Policy Forum, the Women’s Foreign Policy Group and Women in International Trade.

Dr. Diana R. Cucos received her Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science from the University of Bucharest in Romania. She currently is the senior director of Biostatistics, Americas in Ann Arbor, Mich., an international organization, where she has worked since receiving her Ph.D. in Statistics from Western Michigan University in 2002. Prior to that, Cucos served as a biostatistician for the Michigan State University/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies. Cucos has made several presentations on biostatistical applications and published several journal articles related to her work.
For the first time, this fall, the Department of Spanish at Western Michigan University offered a course with a new twist: Spanish with Internship or Service. This is the first time that the course has been offered and it has successfully promoted ongoing collaboration between WMU students, faculty and community organizations such as Kalamazoo Public Schools, the Hispanic American Council, and Kalamazoo Communities in Schools.

Students in the Spanish with Internship or Service course are all advanced Spanish majors who completed an application and interview in the spring to be accepted for participation in the course.

All of the students in the course worked in the Kalamazoo Public Schools on a weekly basis. They participated as tutors and mentors at all levels of the curriculum and also helped to coordinate afterschool bilingual club activities. WMU Spanish students were placed with teachers at Lincoln International Studies School, Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts, and Kalamazoo Central High School. The primary language of instruction and mentorship during their experience at the schools is Spanish, allowing students to improve their acquired language skills through interaction with the local Hispanic community, while also putting their abilities to work for the benefit of the local schools. Many of the students put together presentations on Hispanic culture and their own experiences with travel and study abroad at WMU to share with the KPS classes and clubs. Though WMU students spent the majority of their time with KPS students, they also participated in several parent outreach efforts and even served as interpreters for parent-teacher conferences.

In addition to their scheduled work in the public schools, each of the students in the Spanish course undertook individual service-learning projects under the supervision of the class professor, Michael Millar. One such project organized a group of more than 30 WMU students to volunteer at the Hispanic Heritage Festival in September. This coordination between the Department of Spanish, the Hispanic American Council and the Latino Student Alliance allowed WMU students the opportunity to work closely with representatives of the local Hispanic community groups.
the local Hispanic community while enjoying the many traditions represented at the festival.

Course participants Mayela Cameron and Nicole Vafadari also worked with Professor Millar to win a Good Neighbor Grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. These funds were used to host a Posada holiday celebration at Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts. The WMU students worked with the bilingual club at Maple Street to make piñatas and other handmade decorations as well as prepare much of the food prior to the event. On Friday, Dec. 5, Los Banditos de Michigan played many well-known holiday songs as students and parents from the school participated in the Piñata competition voting (and breaking), made Mexican arts and crafts such as poinsettias and papel picado, and enjoyed traditional foods such as buñuelos, tamales, flan, and chocolate caliente.

Spanish major Kaitlyn Paynich served as the Spanish language organizer of the Read-a-thon literacy night event at the newly opened Vine Street Dual Language School. In addition to translating all of the promotional materials into Spanish for the WMU Student Education Association and assisting with parent outreach to the Hispanic families at the school, Paynich organized a group of WMU Spanish majors to volunteer at the event. Several other students of the Spanish 4400 course also have arranged ongoing hours to serve as volunteers in the classrooms at the Vine Street Dual Language School working with Spanish-speaking students at all levels of their curriculum.

Senior Spanish major Michael Gould focused his project on working as an interpreter to facilitate communication and interaction between the Croyden Avenue Preschool Program teachers, students and their Spanish-speaking family members. He facilitated the teaching and testing of children with autism and Down

syndrome in their native Spanish language, translated paperwork for the parents and frequently attended parent-teacher meetings as an interpreter.

The students of the Spanish 4400 course have undertaken a wide range of projects over the course of the semester. According to Professor Michael Millar, “our WMU Spanish students’ energy, talents and dedication, coupled with the strong commitment and collaboration of the KPS students, teachers and administrators have had incredible results. The learning environment created through such interaction has been a source of reciprocal growth and development for everyone involved.” The course will be offered again in fall 2009.

Sandra García and Marquetta Kirk with a friend at Kalamazoo Central High School
Dorilee J. Schieble, CLU, ChFC, has been named director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Schieble is experienced with charitable giving and philanthropy, community nonprofit information, building and maintaining business relationships, educating, team building, and public speaking.

She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with an emphasis in management from the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh and has lived in the Kalamazoo area since 1990. Previously, she served as donor relations officer for the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

“I am quickly learning about the programs and needs of all 26 departments in the College of Arts and Sciences,” notes Schieble, “and I’m excited to meet the alumni and friends of WMU.

“In my travels, I want to meet and greet every alumni and ask for their views on what the College has done well and what we can improve on to reach out to all our wonderful alumni. We value the experiences and the knowledge our alumni gained while on campus, and especially in your career since attending WMU. There is much you all can share with the students of this excellent University that will help put them on the leading edge in their career.”

Charitable bequests play an important role in the development of Western Michigan University. “Indeed, it would be difficult if not impossible to maintain our high standards of excellence without such thoughtful support,” says Schieble. Also, a charitable bequest is an effective estate planning tool and may create significant tax savings. Bequests are by far the simplest and easiest way to provide support. “Naming a specific department as a beneficiary in your will, trust, or retirement plan for a specified amount or percentage, will help insure the continuation of excellence.”

If you have made the College of Arts and Sciences or one of its departments a beneficiary, we encourage you to inform us so we can properly thank you for your support. It also enables us to better plan for the future.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support of Western Michigan University.

To discuss your giving plans, call:
Dorilee Schieble
(269) 387-4399
dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu
WMU Foundation
117 West Walwood Hall
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403
Scholarships named for three alumni

College of Arts and Sciences graciously welcomes the naming of three new scholarships for student support.

In the last few months, the following scholarships have been generously created by either one donor or a group of individuals with a common interest in helping students in a particular department within the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Joseph P. Stoltman Endowed Scholarship in Geography Education

The Joseph P. Stoltman Endowed Scholarship in Geography Education endowment was established by Dr. Khan Sharafat and Mary Khan of Canton, Mich. Khan is a senior partner in Deloitte and Touche, an international audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services company. Khan was professor Joseph P. Stoltman's student in geography education and educational evaluation more than 20 years ago.

The Douglas L. Daniels Scholarship

The Douglas L. Daniels scholarship, is dedicated to providing: a) scholarships for tuition, fees and books for those with a minimum standing of at least an undergrad junior with a declared major in Geology, overall gpa of 2.8+ and GPA of 3.2+ in Geology major courses; b) awards for funding geological research projects; c) awards for designated travel and expenses; awards for authorized geologically related activities; or d) any combination thereof.

The Georgia E. Doles-Walker Emergency Student Grant

With the passing of Georgia E. Doles-Walker, her husband, Dr. Lewis Walker, chair and professor emeritus, joined with the Kalamazoo area Dulcet Club and the WMU Department of Sociology to acknowledge her dedication and commitment to the students at Western Michigan University. Awards will be given in her name to undergraduate sociology students who are in need of emergency funds to assist with the purchase of books, lab fees, and other educational costs while at Western Michigan University.

Scholarships can benefit any area of study at the undergraduate or graduate level. Scholarship funds have a minimum opening balance of $25,000 and a donor may make smaller contributions over time by themselves or with a group of donors to achieve this balance.

Donors may choose several directives in a new scholarship: What will the name be? Is it renewable? What is the minimum qualification for application (GPA, area of study)? Will financial need or academic merit be considered for selection? What is the amount of the scholarship? Who will select the recipient? When will the award be made?

Other scholarships and funds that will assist students are being created each month. For information about scholarships, please contact Dorilee Schieble for more information at (269) 387-4399 or dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu.
About the institute

The Summer Translation Institute (STI), hosted by the Department of Foreign Languages at Western Michigan University, offers a unique opportunity for advanced language learners and professionals to improve their translation skills while working on their language proficiency. This program is unique in that it provides intensive translation training in Arabic, Chinese, French, and Japanese, which is available only in a handful of graduate programs in the United States despite the high demand for translators in the marketplace.

When and where

The Institute will take place during the first four weeks of summer II semester (June 25 to July 24, 2009) on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich. Housing will be available for out-of-state students.

Goals:

- Training students in the nuts and bolts of translating to and from the particular language of their specialty;
- Giving students the practical skills and basic knowledge necessary to make a career of translation;
- Preparing a future generation of translators specializing in practical and literary translation; and
- Raising awareness of the theoretical and practical problems of translation, especially in regards to linguistic and cultural issues.

Who Should Apply

The Institute welcomes applicants from across the nation and the world. We welcome your application if you are one of the below…

- Undergraduate student from WMU or another university who is studying a foreign language and is considering a career that will use those abilities;
- Graduate student from WMU or another university who relies on translation for your research;
- Professional who does or might be doing translation as part of your career;
- Government official who relies on foreign languages as part of your career;
- High-school teacher in Michigan who needs advanced courses in foreign languages to maintain your language teaching certification;
- International student or professional who is interested in a short-term intensive language program in America; and/or
- Native speaker of Arabic, Chinese, French, or Japanese who wants experience in translating into English.

Application and contact information

www.wmich.edu/languages/summertranslation
Brown Hall reopens with naming ceremony

It was an unveiling like none other. It was a long time coming. It was a dream, a vision, made reality. It was the unveiling and ribbon cutting ceremony for the School of Communication’s new facilities in Brown Hall.

The event, held just before Western Michigan University’s 2008 homecoming, drew over 100 faculty, students, alumni and emeriti.

Dr. Steve Rhodes, director of the school got the evening started when he said, “We are here tonight to officially dedicate the School of Communication spaces in Brown Hall; to honor new inductees into our Alumni Academy; to thank those special alumni who made these new spaces possible; and to celebrate having reached the phase one capital campaign’s success—over $2 million dollars in gifts and pledges.”

The ribbon cutting was conducted by WMU President John Dunn, Arts and Sciences Dean Thomas Kent, and student ambassadors from the School of Communication.
We like to keep in close touch with our alumni. What are you doing? Fill this out and return it to the College via one of the methods listed below. To learn more about us, please visit www.wmich.edu/cas.

Name (maiden)(married)

Current Address

Employer

Year of Graduation/Degree Earned/Major, Minor

Achievements and Accomplishments Since Graduation from WMU

Do you no longer wish to receive this newsletter? Do you have comments or concerns? Contact Coordinator of Communications and Events Cheri Bales, by e-mail at cheri.bales@wmich.edu, fax at (269) 387-3999, or mail to: Office of the Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5308.