Over the past year, the CEAS industrial engineering (IE) program has been innovatively transformed into a new undergraduate degree in Industrial and Entrepreneurial Engineering (IEE). In 2006 Dr. Azim Houshyar, and Dr. Bob White, IE professors, began pulling together ideas to offset what Houshyar described as a "national problem" of decreasing demand for industrial engineers created by economic problems and the changing perception of industrial engineers. They teamed up with IE faculty – Drs. Steven Butt, Tycho Fredericks, Leonard Lamberson, and Tarun Gupta – to complete an extensive curriculum overhaul. Using input from the advisory board, faculty, and employers, they focused on the goals and objectives of what the engineering students would need in the world of work. Curricular changes include three new capstone courses: the first focuses on the financial aspects of entrepreneurial engineering; the second is team-taught and involves hands-on product design and development. A third course to be offered for the first time next year will focus on supply chain. The new program requires students to choose from three foreign study options: foreign study, an internship, or a course in globalization. With the new IEE, students can also obtain a minor in any field. The majority of students enrolled in IE have transferred into the new program. By next fall all students will be in the IEE program. Future plans include a call for expanding the IEE program to the master’s level. A recent curricular change enables undergraduates to take up to 12 hours of 500-level coursework that can be applied to both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree. It enables students to earn both in five years. It can now be applied toward an IE master’s degree, and in the future to one in IEE. For more information on IEE, email azim.houshyar@wmich.edu or bob.white@wmich.edu.

Scot Conant, CEAS student outreach and recruitment coordinator, has been providing tours of the Parkview Campus as part of GEAR UP is a multi-million dollar federal grant, funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education. GEAR UP is an acronym for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. Its purpose is to work

Continued on next page
with schools with large numbers of children of poverty to help the students graduate from high school and go on to post secondary education. “GEAR UP is based on a cohort model,” Conant said. “We begin with students in the seventh grade and stay with them until the end of twelfth grade.” WMU has been working with three Michigan school districts - Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, and Bangor – and with Toledo Public Schools through a Bowling Green State University program. By the end of Spring 2008 semester, WMU had given 16 tours to 400 area ninth-graders for Loy Norrix, Battle Creek Central, and Bangor High Schools. Conant works with Nancy VanKannel-Ray, WMU GEAR UP director. Program assistance is provided by Tiara Graves, student ambassador.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

Five CEAS faculty / staff members won 2008 CEAS Awards, which were presented by WMU Provost Tim Greene. Dr. Peter Parker, a Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI) professor, is the 2008 Outstanding Educator. He teaches chemical engineering (CE) courses and serves as an advisor in the CE program. Parker incorporates WMU’s “designation as student-centered” into both teaching and advising. Dr. Margaret Joyce, a PCI professor, is the 2008 CEAS Outstanding Researcher. She is credited with assuming major roles in securing over one million dollars in external funding through grants and contracts for diverse projects that include bolstering homeland security through use RFID-radio frequency identification and developing a new coating measurement system in the foundry industry. She has recently started a multidisciplinary research center called CAPE, Center for Advancement of Printed Electronics, with involvement from 10 faculty from multiple departments within CEAS. Winning 2008 Outstanding New Educator is Slobodan Urdarevik, an IME faculty specialist II and lead instructor

for IME 1420 Engineering Graphics. He presents all lectures, supervises 14 student teaching assistants (TAs) in the labs, coordinates a design competition each semester for those enrolled in the course, and directs an annual Best TA competition. His credentials include two U.S. patents for his teaching strategies. The 2008 Outstanding New Researcher is Dr. Zijiang James Yang, CS assistant professor. His primary research interest is computer system reliability. He was recently awarded a $400,000 NSF grant for research on multithreaded program verification. He also has five other research grants, and he recently won the 2008 ACM TODAES Best Paper Award. The IEEE senior member is a co-inventor with 5 U.S. patents and 5 pending patent applications. Abraham Poot is the recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Staff award. The IME/MAE lab coordinator supports computer and electrical equipment design, assembly, and maintenance. He also won the 2008 WMU Distinguished Service Award. Since 2001, Poot has served as project adviser of the WMU Sunseeker Solar Car.

Dr. Sam Ramrattan, a professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, was recently notified that he is being awarded the American Foundry Society (AFS) Award of Scientific Merit. In a letter to him from AFS Board Chairman, Arthur Edge says that Ramrattan is receiving the award “for dedication and commitment to education students preparing to enter the metalcasting industry, and for developing new equipment and technology to monitor and identify variables that affect the consistency and quality of castings.” According to Edge, the award is “the highest recognition the American Foundry Society and your peers can give to the individuals who have served the industry honorably and well. AFS will

Continued on next page
Prism: Western Michigan University's Newsletter for Academic Affairs

Dr. Sam Ramrattan, who has won the AFS Award of Scientific Merit for his commitment to students and for his contributions to the metalcasting industry, works with students in the metalcasting lab at the Parkview Campus.

present him with the award at the Casting Congress in Las Vegas, April 7-10, 2009. Ramrattan, who came to the CEAS in 1992, teaches materials and processes in manufacturing, metal casting, die casting, and process measurement and testing. He does extensive research in casting, supervises many projects, and supports students in acquiring scholarships and positions in metalcasting. He is a senior member of the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) and a director with the Central Michigan Chapter American Foundry Society (AFS), technical advisor to the Western Michigan University Student Chapter AFS, and a Key Professor for the Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF). He is a member of two national honor societies, publishes regularly, has a patent, and won the 2007 CEAS Outstanding Educator award. He has taught at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Iowa State University, and University of Technology Malaysia. He received his bachelor’s and master’s from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and Ph.D. and Post Doc. from Iowa State University.

Last month, Dr. Alexandra “Sasha” Pekarovicova, associate professor in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI), organized the 24th annual Gravure Day at the CEAS Parkview Campus. The seminar, titled “Sustainability through Gravure,” included morning speakers and presentations and concluded with a discussion of sustainability in gravure printing. Gravure printing involves engraving an image on the surface of a metal cylinder, filling the engraved area with ink, and then rotating the cylinder to transfer the image to either paper or other material. Topics of the seminar included state-of-the-art technologies, the latest challenges, an overview of the gravure printing process fundamentals, and demonstrations of best practices. “We want our students to have a solid understanding the gravure process,” Pekarovicova said. “This seminar also gives printing students the opportunity to meet industry leaders.”

Dr. Said AbuBakr, the PCI department chair, welcomed students and industry representatives and expressed appreciation to the Gravure Education Foundation (GEF) for awarding six scholarships to five PCI students: one each for Kristin Lebelt, Nettie Barnhart, Vyankat Sindphale, and Caitlin Lynch, and two for Brian Diefenbach. Bernadette Carlson, executive director of GEF, explained that the GEF has much to offer the students, including scholarships and opportunity to share their current vitas with the industry, and help in finding jobs. Other speakers included Michael Hill, sales director at Alcan Packaging, who presented “Sustainability in Gravure Packaging,” and Tom Drazen, USA sales manager for Schattdecor, who presented applications of gravure printing for the decorative products industry. To conclude the event, the Printing Advisor Committee (PAC) joined the students for a discussion about sustainability. Student coordinators who assisted Pekarovicova included CEAS undergraduate imaging majors Jeff Bergkamp and Christy Root. PCI office assistant Karen Lawrence was acknowledged for her efforts to coordinate logistics for the event.

Dr. Frank Severance, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), headed up a delegation of about 14 WMU faculty members and students who attended the 13th Annual Conference of the Michigan Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) held late last month in Ann Arbor. Severance, who serves as WMU’s MSGC program director, introduced seven of the 23 conference presentations, which were based on projects funded by last year’s MSGC grants. Faculty and undergraduate and graduate students shared both the results of work completed on last year’s projects and plans for new or continued projects and experiments. “This is an opportunity to see our peers’ proposals and to expand on the

Continued on next page
knowledge base of the projects that we currently have in the works," he said. **Michael Ellinger**, a WMU master’s student in electrical engineering (EE), presented “Computing with Neuron Cell Cultures,” based on his research in biological computation. He also submitted a poster on the project. Other posters included “Low Noise Instrumentation for Amplification of Electrode Voltages in Neuron Cell Cultures,” which was related to Ellinger’s work and done by **John Stahl** and **Eric Jones**, EE master’s and bachelor’s students respectively, and “Adaptive Control Algorithm in Heterogeneous Swarm Robotic Systems,” by **Hanyi Dai**, an EE Ph.D. student. Faculty and students from 10 other Michigan colleges and universities participated in this year’s presentations. MSGC fosters education and awareness of space-related science and technology in Michigan. It is a branch of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship program with a network of consortiums representing each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Each individual state consortium is allocated funding, which is dispersed among qualifying individuals who submit an application form and a proposal. For more information email Severance at frank.severance@wmich.edu.

**Student Accolades**

Numerous students, mostly from the CEAS, pulled “all-nighters” on Saturday night to pretend they were engineering students in Cherry, a feature-length movie being filmed in Kalamazoo. The movie is about an engineering student in his first year enrolled in an elite engineering program, and WMU’s Parkview Campus, with its high-tech facilities, provided an excellent engineering campus backdrop for the story line. Between 3 p.m. on Sat., Nov. 15, and 8 a.m. the next day, CEAS students, who were selected as “extras” for the classroom scenes, put their acting talents to work. The long night included multiple “takes” that required the CEAS students to sit in a real Parkview lecture hall pretending to be part of a fictional classroom. Bright lights, huge camera setups, and an abundance of electronic gadgetry took more of the lecture hall space than the students. In between “takes,” the students lounged in the DENS0 cafeteria and waited. “Being in the movie was crazy and fun,” said **Kendall Vasilnek**, a civil engineering senior who explained that filming “took longer” and required “more people” than she had thought were needed before she took part as an extra. Several faculty and staff members also stayed most of the night. **Dr. Paul Engelmann**, chair of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, and **Courtney Rawlings**, a graduate assistant in manufacturing engineering, oversaw the filming that took place in the plastics lab. **Dr. Tarun Gupta**, IME professor, and **Srinivas Ghattamaneni**, a graduate assistant in the industrial engineering, supervised RoboBronco. The CEAS robot was included in a segment of the film. Other participants included **Dr. Karlis Kaugars**, CEAS computer-aided engineering director (CAE); **Chuck Overberger**, CAE technician; and **Tammy Bergman**, CEAS office associate. Cherry’s screenwriter and director is **Jeffrey Fine**. Actor Kyle Gallner has the leading role.

Five Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI) students have won six scholarships from the Gravure Education Foundation (GEF). **Brian Diefenbach**, a third-year imaging major whose minor is communication, was awarded both the $1,500 Hallmark Graphic Arts Scholarship and the $1,500 OMNOVA Solutions Corporate
Leadership Scholarship. A Lee Honors College student, he has received numerous support from the Print Graphics Scholarship Foundation, Gravure Educational Foundation, state of Michigan, WMU Dean’s Scholarship and imaging department scholarships. He had extensive experience as a freelance designer before coming to WMU, and he was recently promoted from ad designer to copy editor for the Western Herald. Vyankat Sindphale, a first-year PCI graduate student, won a $1,500 GEF Corporate Leadership Scholarship sponsored by grafikAmerica & IMC America. “It is really exciting to win such a reputed scholarship,” he said. While working on a graduate research project, “Sustainable Green Inks for Packaging and printability study,” he is serving as a teaching assistant in imaging classes. He has a BS in printing and graphics communication from University of Pune, India. He is presently seeking an internship. Caitlin Lynch, a fourth-year imaging major who chose imaging as her major in her second year, won the $1,000 Leon C. Hart Memorial Scholarship. She works in the WMU pilot plant where she gets “hands-on experience that cannot be obtained by reading a textbook.” She puts her prepress skills to work in the CEAS Print Shop where she also works with customers. “The Leon C. Hart Memorial Scholarship will really help support my education,” she said. “I’m very privileged to have received this scholarship.” Other scholarship winners include Kristin Lebelt, with a $1,500 GEF Corporate Leadership Scholarship sponsored by The Cerutti Group, and Nettie Barnhart, who won a $1,000 Gravure Publishing Council Scholarship.

Moskalik (EGR), Courtney Rawlings (EGR), Chris Reniger (EGR), Thomas Saville (UEM), Michael Sell (UEM), Steven Srivastava (UEM), and Daniel Switzer (EGR). The ceremony was coordinated by the society’s officers: Jordan Kimble (MFT), president; Joshua Wiese (UEM), vice president; Bradley Tudor (EGR), secretary, and Alexander Hiday (UEM), treasurer. Kimble expressed Tau Alpha Pi’s appreciation for its industrial sponsors: Avery Oil and Propane, The Viking Corporation, and Dennis and Janet Jaromin. The society’s purpose is to encourage members to seek professional excellence, acquire knowledge, and achieve wisdom. Membership in Tau Alpha Pi represents a reward for past accomplishments and a promise for future growth. Members dedicate themselves to wisdom and integrity. Dr. Alamgir Choudhury, an associate professor in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME), and Dr. Sam Ramrattan, an IME professor, serve as advisors to the honors group. Tau Alpha Pi currently has plans to host two events in the company lecture series on Tuesday nights with Fred Z. Sitkins, CEAS director of co-operative education who has arranged for several companies to visit the Parkview Campus to discuss the companies and to share co-op, internship, and employment opportunities with CEAS students.

Assessment of Student Learning

A WMU engineering team earned kudos at the 4th Chainless Challenge – Parker Hannifin’s hydraulic bicycle design competition held last summer in Cleveland, OH. Dr. Alamgir Choudhury, a Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) associate professor; Dr. Pavel Ikonomov, an IME assistant professor; and Dr. Jorge Rodriguez, an IME associate professor, led a student team that included Francis Schlaud, an industrial education undergraduate, and Adam Dudycha, a recent graduate in industrial design. They fabricated the hydraulic circuit and

Continued on next page
power train components, assembled the system, and tested for its performance in the Parker Motion and Control Lab. The system was designed by IME undergraduates Robert Barden, Matthew Johnson, Vijay Moolan and Daniel Switzer as their senior design project, which was presented last April at the CEAS 42nd Conference on Senior Engineering Design Projects. Joining the team as bike-rider was Phani Chandar Sree, a mechanical engineering master’s student. The competition challenged students to create innovative bicycle designs that transfer the rider’s human power to the wheels through a hydraulic system without using the traditional chain or other direct drive mechanisms. The bike had to store energy for use in uphill travel. Participating teams were judged on performance in a 150-meter sprint test and a 12-mile endurance race in a hilly terrain and on design innovation, cost and manufacturability, safety and reliability. WMU’s entry won first place in design, safety, and reliability and second place in the performance races. The overall 2008 winning entry came from California Poly Tech– San Luis Obispo. “As a recumbent design our bike worked perfectly, much better than last year’s, but the athletic ability of the rider rather than merit of the design was deciding factor in winning race,” he said. Parker has been a generous contributor to WMU. For more information, contact Choudhury at alamgir.choudhury@wmich.edu.

Students in the IME 6420 Ergonomics and Occupational Biomechanics class taught by Dr. Tycho Fredericks are preparing for final presentations of their major projects. Industrial engineering graduate students Zella Jackson, Trent Kenworthy, Ella Lambrix, and Pam Tkachuk are working on a project to determine whether handle height (as a function of shoulder height) affects heart rate during a pushing task. “First, we are to validate the findings of a study that found that heart rate was less adversely affected when handle height was either 70 or 80% of the subject’s shoulder height,” Lambrix said. “Our goal is to duplicate these results and verify that this would also hold true for a lesser load, which may be applicable to a manual materials handling task in industry.” Fredericks, a professor in Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, said that the 6420 project assignment reflects his educational philosophy about the differences between graduate and undergraduate classes. “In undergraduate education, we teach the textbook fundamentals about guidelines for research and problem-solving,” he said. “Graduate education involves developing the guidelines in the future.” Fredericks requires students to do their own research. “The only way to teach that process is to immerse students in it,” he said. Lambrix, who described the 6420 as “an excellent blend of engineering and physical, biological, and social/behavioral sciences,” said that her group’s project enlightened them about all that goes into successfully simulating a given task. “In order to obtain the best and most accurate results, one has to take many variables into consideration by making sure that each subject is held to the same protocol,” she said. “Most importantly, the goal of the scope of the project must be very clear and well-defined. This helps when developing a procedure, performing research, and analyzing the task.”

In late October, Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity hosted a two-hour resume/KSA (knowledge, skills, and abilities) workshop at the Parkview Campus. Heather Highhouse, assistant director for Career and Student Employment Services (CSES) and career advisor for the CEAS, explained the fine points of resume writing to about 15 student members of Theta Tau and the National Society of Black Engineers. “Your resume should reflect who you are and what you want to become,” Highhouse said. “It should be ethical and honest.” She also stressed the need to develop a unique format, to “never use a template,” and to proofread carefully. Naidra Walls, a federal government...
Naidra Walls, a federal government intern in Career & Student Employment Services, and Heather Highhouse, assistant director for Career and Student Employment Services (CSES) and career advisor for the CEAS, offered 15 students some fine points on resume writing.

estimated the registration process would take “approximately 5 minutes.” Registration involves four steps: 1) Review and update “Company” information; 2) Register for a Career Fair 2009 “Package”; 3) Complete attendee information online or later by contacting WMU directly; and 4) Complete billing information. For assistance with registration, employers can contact CSES: LaSonda Wells or Ewa Urban at (269) 387-2745.

Haenicke Institute

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Thomas Kostrzewa’s experiences guiding intergenerational parties of students and life-long learners to the four corners of the planet for experiential, perspective-expanding adventures made him the perfect candidate to teach Western Michigan University’s Introduction to Global and International Studies course this fall. Kostrzewa began exploring the globe while in college and has collected passport stamps from 83 countries throughout Africa, the Middle East, the Far East, up and down the coasts of South America, the former Soviet Union, China, the forbidden island of Cuba, and the top of the Earth in Tibet. He’s been a part of the WMU Department of Political Science since 1987 and has taught a wide range of comparative courses including Russian, Chinese, African, Latin American, and U.S. political systems. Most recently, he has been associated with the WMU Honors College, teaching courses in comparative genocide. Attracted by the broad reach of Kostrzewa’s academic and international experiences, Haenicke Institute Dean Dr. Donald McCloud selected Kostrzewa to teach the entry-level course of the global and international studies major. McCloud said the major is very attractive to students in that it is multi-disciplinary, which allows for a broad, integrative approach to the study of global and international issues. More than 90 WMU students are currently enrolled in the course and about 100 WMU students have declared global and international studies as their major. “It is satisfying to have your actions follow your values,” Kostrzewa said. “I am helping create global literacy within Western’s curriculum. If students master an understanding of the world, grasping the nature of what divides and unites humanity, they can meaningfully
participate in the forces that affect us all. Globalization means an ineluctable interdependency of all nations and their citizens.”

The role of geology in the civilization and culture of ancient and modern Egyptians is the focus of a new Western Michigan University short-term study abroad program planned for May 1-May 16, 2009. The WMU Geosciences and Foreign Languages Departments, in collaboration with the Haenicke Institute, have developed the innovative 3-credit-hour program, Civilization and Geology in Egypt, which will be taught by WMU Professors Dr. Robb Gillespie and Dr. Mustafa Mughazy. The main objective of the course is to demonstrate to students how geology, and science in general, is integral with day-to-day events, and plays a central role in shaping society and civilization. Geology faculty from South Valley University in Qena, Egypt will participate in conducting portions of the field trip, giving WMU students exposure to scientists from other cultures. Gillespie said the program will help students come to an understanding that Egypt is much more than just the home of Pharaohs and pyramids. “This program will not only expose the students to Egypt’s majestic past, but will also introduce them to the realities of contemporary Egypt,” Gillespie said. “Egypt is still viewed by many as a land of mystery and romance, epitomized by the River Nile and the pyramids and it remains a popular tourist destination, ranking high on most peoples’ lists as a place they would like to visit sometime during their life.” The course has been approved to meet requirements for General Education Area IV (Other Cultures and Civilizations). The geological content of the GEOS 2020 course will be wrapped within the context of the cultural development and history of Egypt, from the Pharaohs through contemporary times. This will provide an integrated perspective as to how science interacts with everyday events, eventually leading to cultural development or defeat. Mughazy, a WMU Arabic language professor, will team teach the course with Gillespie to enhance its multi-disciplinary aspect. A comprehensive program profile is available on the Haenicke Institute Study Abroad Web site: www.wmich.edu/studyabroad.

Dr. Michitoshi Soga, Western Michigan University emeritus professor of physics, who worked tirelessly for decades to build relationships and linkages in Japan by setting up programs with Japanese universities, hosting Japanese students attending WMU, and helping to build a Japanese alumni network, was awarded an honorary doctorate by Josai University in Saitama, Japan in September. The invitation to accept the award at Josai University was extended to Soga by President Yasunori Morimodo. Soga, and his wife of 53 years, Ryoko, attended Josai’s September 30 commencement to accept the degree presented by WMU alumnus and JU Professor Yoshiaki Ryu, director of the Josai University International Education Center. “Since 1968, Dr. Soga has welcomed Japanese exchange students in Kalamazoo and has worked to established relationships with a number of Japanese universities,” said Ryu, who earned a master’s degree in economics at WMU in 1977. “Moreover, he has worked to build a network of friendships throughout the western Michigan area with Japanese businesses and visitors. He was also instrumental in founding the Battle Creek Japanese School.” Soga joined the WMU physics faculty in 1968. In 1986, he transitioned to a half-time teaching load and serving half-time as an administrative officer for the Office of International Affairs. In 1993, Soga retired from teaching and worked full-time in the international office until his retirement in 1996. “This degree was not for me; this was for Western,” said Soga, when he visited the Haenicke Institute with his Josai degree in October. “This office worked very hard to maintain good relationships with Japanese universities. WMU was the first university from outside Japan that Josai University partnered with to exchange students. I still vividly remember the day when former Chancellor Seiko Mizuta and Chancellor Noriko Mizuta visited the WMU campus and signed the agreement between the two institutions.”

College of Fine Arts

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Jane Baas, professor of dance, served on the organizing committee for the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science held in October in Cleveland. She also gave a presentation on grant writing tips and strategies, participated in a strategic planning day for the organization and continues to serve as Media Committee chair.

Professor Jane Baas, dance, and Assistant Professor Jennifer O’Donoghue, HPER, have begun collaborating on cross disciplinary efforts to provide athletic training services for dance concerts, providing valuable and unique learning opportunities for both dance and athletic training students as well as safer performance settings for the student performers. Dr. O’Donoghue has also joined the Dancer Wellness research project, now in its 5th year, which Baas heads with continuing support from Brenda Chapman and Rainer Liebert of the WMU Sports Medicine Clinic.

Adriane Little, assistant professor of photography & intermedia in the Frostic School of Art, is the curator of the newly formed exhibition series for the fall 2008 semester: the Frostic Video and Sound Art Series. Displayed on flat screens throughout the Richmond Center for Visual Arts, each video runs for about two weeks. A description of the videos can

Continued on next page

Student/Alumni Accolades

Four students from the Frostic School of Art worked together with sculptor, John Running-Johnson, to create a memorial for Gwen Frostic to be permanently located in her birth place of Wyandotte, Michigan. The commission was facilitated by WMU past-president Diether Haenicke, who was instrumental in Ms. Frostic’s decision to leave WMU her bequest. The students, Andrea dePollo (2008), Eric Froh (2008), Rob Bartholomew and Greg Woody were inspired by the flora and fauna found in Frostic’s work. They created their own designs which they cut into steel plates. The plates were folded to resemble Frostic’s famous greeting cards and then welded together. The sculpture is currently on display in the sculpture court of the Richmond Center for Visual Arts. There will be a dedication ceremony at the site on Thursday, December 4 at 4:30 with a reception to follow. The sculpture will move to Wyandotte in the spring.

Assessment of Student Learning

Frostic School of Art BFA Candidate Lynn Batchelder and recent alumni, Gabriel Craig (2006) and Amy Weiks (2004), were included in an exhibit at The Georgia Museum of Art on the campus of the University of Georgia, Athens. The Ring Shows: Then & Now and Putting the Band Back Together presented nearly 200 rings by more than 130 artists from 11 countries. On exhibit from Aug. 23 to Nov. 2, 2008, a catalogue of the exhibit featured all three WMU students who have worked closely with Frostic School of Art assistant professor of metals/jewelry, Caroline Gore.

Upcoming Events

On Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008, the Frostic School of Art will host a dedication of a sculpture in honor of Gwen Frostic at 4 p.m. in the sculpture garden outside of the Richmond Center. The Frostic School of Art faculty exhibition will showcase newest works produced from recent research and studio time. This exhibition helps students and community see the talent of those responsible for the education and support of over 450 students in the Frostic School of Art. The exhibition opens on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 5 p.m. in the Monroe Brown Gallery. All are welcome to the dedication and opening. The Department of Theatre proudly presents Late Night Broadway, Dec. 4-Dec. 6 at 9 p.m. in the Williams Theatre. Join the graduating seniors of our renowned music theatre performance program as they present a cabaret evening of New York show tunes with special Broadway guest star, John Treacy Egan. John recently created the role Chef Louis in Disney’s The Little Mermaid on Broadway. He played Max Bialystock in the Broadway Production of The Producers. He has also played the role of Roger DeBris and Franz Liebkind. He was an original cast member of the Broadway production of Jekyll & Hyde, and has toured the U.S. and Europe in productions of Kiss Me Kate and Cats. Tickets may be purchased by calling the box office at (269) 387-6222.

Join the School of Music for A Choral Christmas, an annual concert featuring the tradition-rich choirs of Western Michigan University. It is the perfect start to the holiday season. Come and literally be surrounded by the glory of the human voice in one of the oldest and most beautiful structures in Kalamazoo: First Presbyterian Church. The concert will include traditional holiday favorites as well as music appropriate for such a grand setting and space. University organist Karl Schrock will be featured and joined by brass ensemble, percussion, and over 100 singers, including the University Chorale, Cantus Femina, Men’s Ensemble and Collegiate Singers. There will be two performances on Saturday, Dec. 6—one at 4 p.m. and one at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 (students $5) and are available at the Miller Auditorium Box Office (269) 387-2300.

The School of Music presents its annual gift to the community with a free concert of holiday music on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. Popular with audiences of all ages, the School of Music holiday concert has become a regular part of celebrating the season for many area families.

Western Brass Quintet Members

Continued on next page
This year’s extravaganza is titled “Brass for the Holidays” and marks the 25th anniversary of brass Christmases. The concert will feature the internationally acclaimed Western Brass Quintet and an ensemble of outstanding students and faculty from the School of Music, including faculty percussionist Judy Moonert. Members of the brass quintet are Scott Thornburg and Stephen Jones, trumpet; Lin Foulk, horn; Daniel Mattson, trombone; and Deanna Swoboda, tuba. The program includes festive music for brass ensemble with selections from the Renaissance, the Baroque, and other periods. The afternoon promises a great mixture of traditional holiday music, brass classics, and new favorites.

Haworth College of Business

Items of Academic Interest

Students from the Haworth College of Business were exposed to some of the hard core realities that exist in an urban environment as part of the United Campus Ministry sponsored Urban Plunge trip to Chicago in late October, led by Coleen Smith Slosberg, executive director of United Campus Ministry at WMU; Dr. Tim Palmer, professor of management, joined senior students Brianna Barrett, Marketing; Marcus Kole, Management; and Nicholas Nelson, CIS; for the weekend trip. The HCOB students were amongst 25 Western Michigan University who participated in the service-learning experience. Palmer is commencing research on service-learning as it relates to business majors. “It isn’t all that uncommon for business students to participate in community service activities. However, when it comes to service learning, students enrolled in business colleges across the country are less likely than their counterparts in the arts and sciences, and education to participate in these activities.” The findings also suggest that business majors who take part in service-learning activities receive many benefits from service learning. Early evidence from Palmer’s research, with a colleague at Portland State University, suggests that business students, who engage in service learning, feel they are able to connect what they learn in the classroom to the ‘real world; enhance their understanding of political and social issues, and clarify their career goals. “This isn’t a bad set of outcomes on top of those received by partner organizations,” added Palmer.

Student Accolades

PricewaterhouseCoopers xACT Case Competition was held at WMU once again this year in late October. This was an opportunity for students to network with PWC professionals, learn about high level accounting issues, and work in a group setting to develop a solution to a case prepared by PWC. WMU is one of 42 universities nationwide where PWC sponsors their xACT Case Competition. Approximately 35 WMU accountancy students participated in this event.

Accountancy majors in the Haworth College of Business took on the role of Internal Revenue Service agents for an afternoon in mid-November and worked in teams to uncover several hypothetical white-collar financial crime scenarios. The interactive-learning experience between students and IRS agents is called the Adrian Project Student Fraud Conference. “We are excited to bring the Adrian Project to Western Michigan University,” said Dr. Don Gribbin, chairman of the

Continued on next page
Department of Accountancy. “People typically associate the IRS with taxes,” says Gribbin. “This event exposes students to the IRS in a new interactive dimension that involves forensic accounting.” Twenty students participated in the project.

Two advertising and promotion majors from Western Michigan University’s Haworth College of Business and one imaging major from WMU’s College of Engineering and Applied Sciences were among eight students statewide to win 2008-09 scholarships from the Adcraft Club of Detroit’s Adcraft Foundation. Adcraft Club of Detroit is the nation’s largest advertising club. Its foundation annually awards cash grants to advertising and marketing students from Michigan universities. Students are nominated by faculty members and must submit an application and transcript, along with an essay demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of the advertising business. Winners were presented their scholarships and honored at a luncheon reception. Erika Schreiber, advertising and promotion major, received a $3,500 scholarship. She was nominated by Dr. Karen M. Lancendorfer, assistant professor of marketing. Says Atkin, “The AdCraft scholarship is just one of Kristen’s many accomplishments both in and outside the classroom. It was a pleasure to nominate such a talented young woman.” Christa Ickowski received a $1,000 scholarship. She is a sophomore majoring in imaging. She was nominated by Master Faculty Specialist Larry Ahleman.

WMU’s Women’s Ranger Challenge Team took first place among nine teams in late October. The event took place at Camp Atterbury, IN, just south of Indianapolis and consisted of a series of physically and mentally challenging events spanning three days. It began on Friday night with a night land navigation competition. Saturday began with a full Army Physical Fitness Test followed by a full day of events including a HUMVEE pull, rope bridge event and others. The competition culminated on Sunday morning with a forced march of 10 KM carrying 30 pound packs. Team members were Alexandra Horton, Criminal Justice; Jennifer Larson, Nursing; Jane Ziesser, Tourism & Travel; Erin Fahey, Psychology; Hannah Blok, Nursing; and Alice Roberts, Sociology.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

The McDonald’s Corporation recently honored Professor Dan Farrell, management department, Haworth College of Business, at their Supplier Summit Conference held Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2008 in Lombard, Illinois. Dr. Farrell received the Press On Award in recognition of his consulting work for the company. Professor Farrell has served as a consultant to the food service company, providing objective analysis and assessment of managerial programs. The “Press On” award is taken from Ray Kroc’s expression meaning that persistence and dedication are important attributes in the long term success of any business.

Sandra Cochrane, Small Business & Technology Development Center tech consultant, was selected by the National Business Incubation Association (NBIA) to be on a training team that will lead a study tour of Bio Incubators for a group of Malaysian incubator managers. The study tour takes place in March and will include stops in San Francisco, San Jose, St. Louis and Richmond. Sandra and the training team will work with the Malaysian managers in several areas including management best practices, shared facilities and

**Continued on next page**
services, innovation process, business development, and more. Sandra was also recently selected to serve on the NBIA Membership Committee. She is being recognized as an Incubator expert and not only the state but national level.

**Cris Obreiter**, office associate in the Military Science Department was selected for the Make a Difference Award for fall, 2008. This is the third time that she’s received this award. She was one of several volunteers who helped prepare care packages, from items donated at the football game on Saturday, for deployed WMU students and alumni.

**College of Health and Human Services**

**Items of Academic Interest**

Western Michigan University’s Bronson School of Nursing has received accreditation for its new master’s program from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The accreditation was awarded for five years, the maximum number of years allowed for a first-time accreditation. There were no compliance issues in obtaining the accreditation. The accreditation followed a self-study and on-site visit. The on-site team visited WMU April 7-9 to verify, clarify and amplify results of the self-study, which had been submitted in February. **Dr. Linda Zoeller**, the nursing school’s new director, says accreditation is very significant. “Accreditation bestows a special seal of excellence to an MSN program,” Zoeller says. Accreditation is also considered in the awarding of some scholarships.” The Bronson School of Nursing offers the MSN degree in two areas—nursing education and nursing administration. “We want the public and our students to know that we offer a high-quality educational program,” Zoeller says. The school expects its first five MSN candidates to graduate this December and another four in December 2009. The school will admit its next cohort in fall 2009. “We also look forward to growing this new program in the future,” Zoeller says. “Our state is in need of many nursing educators and nursing administrators, who are well-prepared for their respective positions—and WMU hopes to help meet that need.” The school’s bachelor’s program in nursing also is accredited by the commission, having received the maximum 10-year accreditation in 2007. The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public’s health. The commission ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate education programs preparing effective nurses. (Written by Mark Schwerin of University Relations.)

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

**Sandra O. Glista**, MFS-Clinical Specialist with the speech pathology and audiology department of WMU’s College of Health and Human Services has been elected a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). This honor, one of the highest forms of recognition, is a testament to Sandy’s accomplishments during her career.

Continued on next page
Prism: Western Michigan University’s Newsletter for Academic Affairs

hosted by CHHS Dean **Dr. Earlie Washington** on Friday, Nov. 14. Jeannyne was selected because, of all nominees, she best exemplified achievement of the following eight goals for customer service that are the performance criteria for all CHHS staff members: Offer assistance to diverse groups with varying needs; introduce yourself (in person and on the phone) and identify your area (e.g. college dep./school) to unknown callers and people; listen to people intently; let people know that their efforts are appreciated; follow-up if you refer someone to another staff member; solve problems and respond to complaints without blaming others; respond to inquiries and requests the same day if possible; and, if possible, escort people who ask for directions to their destination. The Outstanding Customer Service Clock will rest on Jeannyne’s desk until the Spring 2009 recipient is selected. She will also receive $250 gift certificate to spend at her choice of the WMU bookstore, the CHHS Bella Vita Café, WMU Microcomputer sales, Miller Auditorium, or another campus business. Previous CHHS Outstanding Customer Service Award recipients are **Joyce Gard** and **John Stanford** (2007) and **Deborah Rhoderick** (April, 2008).

**Student Accolades**

**Priscilla Barnes**, a doctoral student in the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Ph.D. program (IHS) has had an article accepted by the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice. Physician Assistant and IHS professor **Amy Curtis** is a second author of the article, A National Examination of Partnerships among Local Health Departments and Faith Communities in the U.S.

The WMU School of Social Work’s fifth annual Master of Social Work Admissions and Program Information Day was held Friday, Nov. 7, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room 4010 of the College of Health and Human Services. School of Social Work Admissions Director **Nancy McFadden** hosted the event, which provided information about graduate programs and navigating the admission process. Highlights of the program included an interactive Q&A session with a panel of students from various disciplines within the MSW program. Other speakers provided overviews of their involvement in careers, collaborations, and community programs. Those speakers included **Connie Black-Pond**, Director of WMU’S Child Trauma and Assessment Clinic (CTAC); **Dr. Don Cooney**, a devoted community activist and social work professor, who recently ran for Congress; **Barbara Howe**, private-practice social worker and co-founder of Drug Court; and **Dr. Yvonne Unrau**, co-creator of WMU’s Foster Youth and Higher Education Initiative. These dynamic speakers represent what McFadden calls “the strength of our program…our involvement in the community.”

**Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Sciences student Timothy Mullen** successfully defended his dissertation “Radiographic and Functional Analysis of Movement Allowed by Four Wrist Immobilization Devices” on Oct. 27, 2008. Tim will walk in the December graduation wearing special robes. His father-in-law was the provost of Alma College for many years and is now deceased,

Continued on next page
but Tim’s mother-in-law saved his gown for Tim to wear at graduation. Tim’s committee members were Dr. Ben Atchison (chair), Dr. Diane Dirette, and Dr. Kieran Fogarty.

Upcoming Events

This image of Louis Braille was derived from a daguerreotype, taken shortly after his death. This is the visage of a dead man; in life, he kept his eyes open. “Louis was of medium height, slender, quite dream lined, and elegantly muscular. His head leaned forward, his blond hair curled naturally, his movements were free and easy.” On Dec. 4 the 200th birthday of Louis Braille will be celebrated with a free public education event from 3 to 6 p.m. on the 4th floor of the College of Health and Human Services building on the WMU campus. The Portage Lion’s Club will be represented and will kick off their new Braille menu project for all of the Greater Kalamazoo area restaurants. Faculty, staff, and graduate students in the WMU Blindness and Low Vision Studies Department will host learning stations with activities and giveaways for all ages including Braille birthday cake, Braille code introduction with opportunity to have names Brailled, secret Braille messages to decipher, a Braille twister game, demonstration of Braille technology and products, and a “Careers in Blindness and Low Vision” station. A special guest Braille speed reader will read from a Braille version of a Harry Potter book. WMU graduate students will also be available to read from Braille/print combination children’s books for those who are interested. The event will help mark the importance of Louis Braille’s contribution to literacy for people who cannot see to read print. Braille was born on January 4, 1809 and devised a tactual system of reading books and music that has been shown to be the most effective way to read for people who are blind. Louis Braille’s system, based on a 6-dot Braille cell is the standard throughout the world, and a variety of similar events are being held to mark his legacy.

Extended University Programs

Items of Academic Interest

On Thursday, Nov. 13, Extended University Programs celebrated two colleagues at a reception in their honor. Dr. Darrell Johnson, dean of EUP, introduced Dr. Betty Dennis as a new associate dean Extended University Programs. Dr. Dennis oversees the General University Studies program as well as EUP central administration. Johnson also presented Dr. Gary Wegenke, dean of the College of Education, with the inaugural ‘Friend of EUP Award.’ “EUP would not succeed without the support of our academic partners,” said Dr. Johnson. “Dr. Wegenke is a true advocate for the mission of EUP, and we appreciate his willingness to champion and embrace programs offered at WMU branch campuses.” Over 1,000 WMU students benefit from the partnership between EUP and the College of Education. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Wegenke noted that he was one of the first deans to visit all of the branch campuses and was designated an EUP ‘Road Scholar’ for his efforts. He views being a friend to EUP as being on the same side of the struggle. “We continue to look at new dimensions in EUP,” according to Dr. Wegenke. “Convenience has entered the picture, and if we don’t meet the need, someone else will.” WMU Provost Timothy Greene was also in attendance, sharing his thoughts and appreciation for the efforts of Dr. Wegenke. “We appreciate what he has done for students,” Greene said, “and what we appreciate most is his dedication to our students.”

Notice for all faculty/staff who received a laptop funded through the 2006 Provost Laptop Initiative: The factory warranty on all of the laptops purchased through this initiative will expire on Jan. 21, 2009. Until this date, you can continue to receive a same-day swap out for warranty repairs through EUPs Academic Technology Office (ATO) at no charge. Contact ATO at 387-0080 for details. After January 21, repairs will be handled by the Computer Repair Shop at 387-HELP option #2 and standard rates apply. If you have...
questions about repairs, contact your academic technology support personnel or the Academic Technology Operations office for assistance.

Dr. Gary Miron, professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology is using classroom technology to create flexibility for students and, more importantly, help them graduate. One of his students was nearing completion of her degree, but unable to graduate due to an unexpected move to Florida. Dr. Miron created a solution with ordinary personal computers. Utilizing Skype, Jennifer Knapp could attend class via videoconference from her new home in Florida. This seemed like an ideal solution, but students were afraid to ask questions due to an echo created through the equipment. Miron consulted with Kirk Sundling of Extended University Programs, who suggested the best kind of solution: free and easy. “We integrated a Polycom teleconference phone with the computer through a special cable and eliminated the echo problem; both are technologies WMU currently owns,” Sundling said. The echo problem was resolved, and the microphones were sensitive enough to pick up all of the students’ voices. In addition to this EMR class, Gary also uses Skype to bring in experts from around the world to speak to his students, including the authors of some of the textbooks used in the class. “Experts who could not otherwise attend are now able to ‘Skype in’ with no real cost to either party,” says Miron. “The technology is advanced, but simple to use. Now, when students are away on business or are sick they also ‘Skype in’ to the class so they don’t have to miss a session.”

Faculty who are interested in more information regarding this technology and how to integrate Skype or Oovoo (another free video conferencing program) into their classroom may contact Sundling, CVIT Manager for EUP, at kirk.sundling@wmich.edu. Academic or pedagogical questions regarding this class may be directed to Dr. Miron at gary.miron@wmich.edu.

Upcoming Events

Extended University Program’s Office of Faculty Development offers assistance to instructors at all levels (board appointed faculty, adjunct and part-time faculty, and graduate students) to develop the skills necessary to implement powerful pedagogies in their teaching. Regardless of whether courses are face-to-face or online, large or small, powerful pedagogies emphasize strong instructional design that maximizes student engagement. The office offers three areas of instruction:

- High-tech: The e-Teaching Endorsement Program is currently available to tenured and tenure-track WMU faculty members who are interested in teaching fully online or hybrid courses (75% online, 25% face-to-face) and have the support of their academic chair. The program consists of eight sessions with various presenters covering instructional design basics, best practices for e-learning, concept mapping to plan and design courses, and hands-on training in Blackboard Vista. A stipend is provided after program completion. The next program runs Thurs., January 22 through March 19, 2009 in 3310 Sangren Hall on Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Mid-tech: The Blended Learning Seminar Series is for faculty who want to incorporate web-based tools into their classroom teaching. This seminar will help instructors plan and integrate learning tools such as podcasts, Blackboard Vista, wikis, blogs, YouTube, etc. The series starts Wed., January 28, 2009 and runs from 1 to 3 p.m. for six sessions.
- Low-tech: Instructional Strategies for Today’s Students is an eight-week seminar series in which participants explore students’ learning processes and ways to optimize learning in the college classroom. Participating faculty will have the opportunity to focus on a course that they teach in order to apply new ideas about learning and teaching. Sessions start Tues., January 20, 2009 from noon to 2 p.m.

For more information, or to register for any of these events, please contact Andrea Beach at (269) 387-4196 or andrea.beach@wmich.edu.

College of Arts and Sciences

Faculty and Staff Accolades

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 received her CLU & ChFC designations. Schieble has lived in the Kalamazoo area since
1990, and 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,” notes Schieble, “and I’m excited to meet the alumni and friends of WMU. In my travels, I want to meet and greet every alum and ask for your view on what the College has done well and what we can improve on to reach out to all our wonderful alumni. We value your experiences and the knowledge you 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 put them on the leading edge in their career.” It is important to remember, successful programs are built on more than talented students and faculty. With decreasing sources of funding, alumni and friends financial support is more important than ever. The Department of Geosciences needs include travel funds for students to go to meetings, assistance for internship opportunities, to bring in speakers, to fund research, to support interviews and recruitment of faculty and students, to provide assistance for internship opportunities, and to support the research and educational activities of Michigan Geological Repository Research and Education. To learn more about Department of Geosciences and their priorities or to make a donation, please contact Dorilee at (269) 387-4399 or dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu.

**Susan Grammer** with help from Mike Grammer leads MGRRE’s K-12 Outreach Program. This year they visited students in over 40 area classrooms with presentations and displays and hosted several high school field trips at the repository. Bonnie Cross created a mailing list of local schools so that they could announce the program during National Earth Science Week in October. It’s a very busy year for the program, and thanks to a grant from DTE Energy, we are looking forward to staying busy well into the future! Geosciences graduate students **Amy Noack, Audrey Ritter, Heather Qualman** and **Amanda Walega** visited classrooms with Susan and told students how much fun you can have as a geologist and the entire MGRRE crew got in on the act when high school classes came to tour MGRRE. Geosciences alumnus, **Niah Venable**, M.S., visited classrooms with Susan and is now hard at work on making our presentation on hydrogeology web compatible so that other teachers around the state can use real drilling data to map the subsurface in their own communities. Two work-study students worked on the Sands of the World project, taking photomicrographs of different sands from around the world and collecting information on the beaches that they came from. Once the sands are described geologically all of this information will make it to our Website where students and teachers will click on a world map to see photos of sand and information about the area the sand came from. Over 100 teachers participated in our raffle at MST A and the winner, Nancy Riley of Adrian Middle School, Adrian, Michigan, took home a porosity and permeability apparatus made from MGRRE cores just like the one that we take out to classrooms. Her school plans to use it immediately as part of an enrichment lab on ground water and sources of water pollution.

**Janice Maatman**’s nonprofit seminar (PADM 4000), in conjunction with the American Humanities Student Association at WMU, is one of 10 universities to be awarded $15,000 from Campus Compact and Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund in a program called Students4Giving. Campus Compact, a national organization, whose mission is “to educate college students to become active citizens who are well-equipped to develop creative solutions to society’s most pressing issues” and Fidelity’s Gift Fund created this program to inspire philanthropic education on college campuses. Prior to awarding the grants, students will research local issues, set priorities, issue a request for proposal, review responses, and interview finalists. Twenty-five students enrolled in the Nonprofit Seminar (PADM 4000) at WMU and another thirty students from the WMU chapter of the American Humanities Student Organization will be a part of the Students4Giving program. WMU was chosen from 21 universities and colleges across the country that submitted proposals for the program. Five academic institutions participated in the pilot program last year: Boston University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, California State University at Fresno, Portland Community College in Oregon and Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. Through the Gift Fund’s Giving Account, student-run programs at these academic institutions gave tens of thousands of dollars to a variety of local charities including a Boys and Girls Club in California, a community hot meals program in Oregon and a mobile classroom reading program in North Carolina. For more information, contact Janice at janice.maatman@wmich.edu or (269) 387-8945.

**Dr. Angie Moe** recently returned from trips to Barcelona, Spain and Rome, Italy. In Barcelona she took part in the First Forum on Sociology, sponsored by the International Sociological Association [ISA] Sept. 5-8. Her paper, “Dancing Beyond the Belly: An Appraisal of Belly Dance as Leisure,” was part of a session on gender and leisure, organized jointly by the ISA Research Committee on Women and Society and Research Committee on Leisure. In her paper, Moe argues that bellydance (aka Middle Eastern dance, Oriental dance, Arabic dance) is largely misunderstood as a form of erotic entertainment, when really it is an ancient, diverse and expressive dance aimed largely at feminine-based celebration and ritual. Despite negative misconceptions, the dance has become extremely popular throughout the world, appealing to women regardless of dance experience, age, ability, physical condition, race-ethnicity, socio-economic strata, education, profession, sexual orientation, or spirituality. Moe has been ethnographically studying women’s interest and experiences in the dance for the past five years. She has found that there is much more to the genre than meets the eye and that important aspects of self-discovery, healing, spirituality, community and empowerment are found within it. Moe’s conference paper is part of a larger body of work, Beyond the Belly (Dance): Re-Envisioning an Ancient Art, which is currently under review at two academic presses. She will also speak about this research, specifically about how belly dance may be considered a feminist project, at the Congress on Research in Dance Nov. 14-16 in Roanoke, Va.
An internationally known mathematician and a science education expert who has explored the cultural component of improving science literacy were honored by Western Michigan University as distinguished faculty scholars during an Oct. 30 campus-wide awards ceremony. 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 Academic Convocation ceremonies at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall. The event featured WMU President John M. Dunn's State of the University address as well as the presentation of several other campus wide awards including Emerging Scholar, Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Service awards. 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. 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.

Student Accolades

Four WMU M.A. alumni (Anthropology) presented papers recently at the joint meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology and the Society for Medical Anthropology in Memphis, Tenn.

- **Boone Shear** (M.A. ’06) currently is a Ph.D. student in anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, however, his interest in Kalamazoo lives on and his paper “Gentrification and Community” focused on community development in Kalamazoo.

- **Cassie Workman** (M.A. ’03) who is pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of South Florida co-authored a paper on food security, and organized a session for students titled “How to Survive Graduate School.”

- **Dr. Melissa (Missy) Cheyney** (M.A. ’97) who, since leaving WMU, has become a licensed midwife and earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology, is now 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.

- **Cleothia Gill** (M.A. ’08) delivered a paper based on her original thesis research on African American women’s narratives of breast cancer.

Dr. Ann Miles (faculty) 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.

The following CAS students received Graduate Student Research and Travel Grants in September 2008.

**Research Grants:**

- Mary Adams: Biological Sciences
- Lori Barnes: Psychology
- *Michael Buchalski*: Biological Sciences
- *Fang Huang*: Science Education
- Douglas Johnson: Psychology
- Teck Maan Lim: Chemistry
- Julie Ryan: Biological Sciences
- Renée Zaya: Biological Sciences

**Travel Grants:**

- Suzanne Decker: Psychology
- *Irene Elksnis Geisler*: History
- Tania Iqbal: Biological Sciences
- Shannon Mortimore: English
- John Panos: Psychology
- *Mihaela Ristei*: Political Science

* Also awarded a supplemental international travel grant funded by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee

Jim Leidlein (BA, 73 Public Affairs and Administration) is the City Manager for Harper Woods in Wayne County, Michigan. He recently contacted us with the following (slightly edited) anecdote: “I was in one of the first undergrad PA programs at Western in the early 1970s. One of my political science professors was William N. Thompson. I believe that I took two classes from him, but students and professors at that time knew each other fairly well. After I graduated, I moved to Washington D.C. to go to graduate school. (Western did not have an M.P.A. program at the time!) I also landed a job with the U.S. Department of Labor. I had been there about three years when out of the blue I heard a familiar voice call out my name. I thought “that can’t be Dr. Thompson” but sure enough, it was. When I asked what the devil he was doing in my office he told me he was on a one-year assignment from WMU to study the new ERISA law and would be working down the hall. After the year, he returned to Western and continued teaching. I finished my

Continued on next page
M.P.A. in D.C. and became a township manager in the Saginaw area in the late 1970s. At about the same time Thompson was elected as the Supervisor for Kalamazoo Township so we were back in touch again. That lasted until about 1980... Two years ago when I was president of ASPA’s Detroit chapter, we needed a speaker on casino gambling. Having seen Thompson twice on the Today Show (another story) I knew that he had moved to UNLV and became a gambling expert. So I e-mailed him. We had not spoken in over 25 years and he returned my call. We talked as if it was yesterday. Well, to make an already too long story short, he and I wrote a book with 21 case studies, Ethics in City Hall: Discussion and Analysis for Public Administration (Jones and Bartlett, 2009).

Upcoming Events

To support the Seita Scholars (www.wmich.edu/fyit/index.html), a few friends are teaming up to fill holiday stockings for each of the 51 scholars on the WMU Campus. We already have the stockings and are now looking for assistance from others to purchase items to fill them. Suggested items include:

- Laundry soap
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste/Toothbrush
- Razors
- Gift certificates for: area food vendors, movies, Bronco Bucks, etc.
- Snacks and “dorm” food

Items will be collected through Monday, Dec. 8 and may be delivered to Dorilee Schieble, CAS director of development at 3302 Friedmann Hall or Sara Troupe, Walwood Hall. For information, contact Schieble at dorilee.schieble@wmich.edu.

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. The Institute will take place during the first four weeks of Summer II 2009 (June 25 – July 24) on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. 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
- Raising awareness of the theoretical and practical problems of translation, especially in regards to linguistic and cultural issues.

The Institute welcomes applicants from across the nation and the world. We welcome your application if you are a:

- 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
- Native speaker of Arabic, Chinese, French, or Japanese who wants experience in translating into English.

December 1

- Event: Geosciences Seminar
  - Title: “Solid Waste Disposal: Past, Present and Future” presented by Dr. Terry West, Purdue University
  - Location: 1122 Wood Hall
  - Time: 2 p.m.

December 1

- Event: Geosciences Seminar
  - Title: “Rock Slide Stability: Description and Analysis” presented by Dr. Terry West, Purdue University
  - Location: 1118 Wood Hall
  - Time: 4 p.m.
December 3
- Event: Physics Colloquium
- Title: “Inner-Shell Photodetachment of Transition Metal Negativelons” presented by Ileana Dumitriu, WMU
- Location: 1110 Rood Hall
- Time: 4 p.m.
- Refreshments served at 3:30 p.m. in Room 2202, Bradley Commons, Everett Tower

Emeriti Council

Upcoming Events

Dec. 3, 2008:
- “Holiday Stories Presented by Students from the Department of Theatre”
- Time: 2 p.m.
- Location: Walwood Hall main floor lobby

Jan. 14, 2009:
- “The Fun and the Uncertainty of the November Election and Implications for the New President”
  - Richard McAnaw (Political Science)
  - Time: 2 p.m.
  - Location: Emeriti Lounge, Walwood Hall

Feb. 11, 2009
- “Medical Ethics and the Wisdom of the Sages”
  - Shirley Bach (Philosophy)
  - Time: 2 p.m.
  - Location: Emeriti Lounge, Walwood Hall.

March 11, 2009,
- Discussion of the thought-provoking play, “Doubt.”
  - D. Terry Williams (Theatre)
  - Time: 2 p.m.
  - Location: Emeriti Lounge, Walwood Hall.

College of Education

Items of Substantial Academic Interest

The Mu Beta chapter of Chi Sigma Iota Counseling Academic and Professional Honor Society International and Graduate Student Advisory Committee hosted this year’s Visiting Scholar Program on Nov. 5 and 6. The program is designed to honor new inductees and expose WMU counselor education students to best practices and cutting edge research in the counseling profession by inviting a distinguished scholar within the counseling profession. The induction speaker and visiting scholar was Dr. Richard Hazler, associate professor and coordinator of the elementary school counseling program at Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Hazler has a national reputation as a leading scholar in the area of bullying and youth violence prevention. He has written numerous articles and books including: The Emerging Professional Counselor: Student Dreams to Professional Realities and Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Interventions for Bullying and Victimization. Equally impressive has been his support of students as column editor of Student Focus and co-column editor of Student Insights, student columns in The Exemplar (Chi Sigma Iota’s newsletter) and Counseling Today (American Counseling Association’s monthly newsletter) respectively. Dr. Hazler is a Past-President of Chi Sigma Iota and the Ohio Counseling Association.

The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies hosted Ms. Monika Schell, exchange scholar and social worker for the city of Nuremberg, Germany who spoke on “Child Care Centers in Nuremberg, Germany and in the United States: A comparison” on Nov. 25.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Marlene Breu, professor of Textile and Apparel Studies in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, has published a chapter on material resulting from a joint study of historical sacred artifacts in the Armenian Orthodox Churches of Istanbul, Turkey. The chapter was written in conjunction with colleague Dr. Ron Marchese of the University of Minnesota at Duluth, who collaborated on the project. The book, titled Vivarium in Context, was published by Pozzo Publishers for the Centre for Medieval Studies in Vicenza, Italy. The Marchese/Breu chapter, titled Images of the Divine: Sacred Embroideries from the Armenian Patriarchate in Istanbul, follows their study of sacred vestments and other textiles in the church treasuries. Thirty-three color plates of textile artifacts from the collections were used in the chapter and cover page of the book. The textile study was partially funded by a Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund Grant.

Dr. Robert Leneway, associate professor in the educational technology program in the Department of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, and Susan Westoff-Reahm, a recent graduate of the educational
technology online master’s program presented a paper on Nov. 21 at E-Learn 2008 in Las Vegas. The research paper, titled *Effects of Gaming on the Gender Gap in Enrolling in High School Computer Classes* was selected as the outstanding research paper of the five day conference and will be formally recognized at the closing keynote. The World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, & Higher Education is an international conference organized by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education and co-sponsored by the International Journal on E-Learning.

**Dr. Marianne Frauenknecht,** professor of School Health Education in the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, received the ETA Sigma Gamma 2008 Distinguished Service Award. The honor is presented to a health education professional who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to advancing the mission and goals of Eta Sigma Gamma and health education through research, teaching and professional service. “Working to positively impact the health status of young children and adolescents by effectively training teachers in school health education, Dr. Frauenknecht has helped to diffuse health-enhancing knowledge and skills to improve the quality of life among young adults.” The award was presented at the annual business meeting of Eta Sigma Gamma, the National Health Education Honorary at the 82 Annual Conference of the American School Health Association, Tampa, FL.

**Student Accolades**

School health education student, **Patty Timmons,** received the 2008-09 Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Outstanding Major of the Year award for Health Education.

The Merchandising Opportunities Design Association recently hosted the successful “House of MODA,” a runway fashion show on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8.

The SEA held its Fourth Annual Read-a-Thon promoting literacy in November. Reading events were held at the Dual Language School and at the Washington Writer’s Academy.

**Upcoming Items**

Kappa Delta Pi, International Honors Society for Educators, is collecting donations of fleece fabric (1 1/2 yard each), new children’s books and new, unwrapped toys. Members of the organization will be making fleece tie blankets to donate to Kalamazoo children’s shelters. The new children’s books will be used for Kappa Delta Pi’s Literacy Alive event in March and donated to students at a KPS school. The new, unwrapped toys are supporting the Angel Tree group of Kalamazoo. Donations can be dropped off at Sangren Hall in the College of Education Advising office, COE Dean’s office and 2310 Sangren Hall.

The WMU College of Education chapter of UNICEF will be giving a presentation on The Global Learning on the Condition of Children Worldwide. The presentation is scheduled for Monday Dec. 1, at 8:45 p.m. in room 2301 Sangren.

**Graduate College**

**Items of Academic Interest**

**Tony Dennis,** associate director, Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention, along with other members of the Graduate College staff, students and faculty welcomed eleven students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities for a campus visit on Friday, Nov. 14. They are graduating from prestigious institutions including Dillard University in New Orleans, Fisk University in Nashville, and Tennessee State University, also in Nashville. Their majors or intended fields of graduate study range from CECP to Chemistry, Psychology, Geosciences and Social Work. The students attended several presentations, including “Applying to Graduate School” by Dr. John Spitzbergen, and a student panel consisting of representatives from GSAC and GSOC as well as a campus/city tour. Students met with faculty from their departments of interest and visited those departments. They also had a chance to meet with representatives from Financial Aid. We hope to welcome several of these outstanding students to graduate study at WMU in spring and fall 2009.

**Ms. Cheyla Milo,** while pursuing her master’s degree in Counseling Psychology, is the chair of Graduate Students of Color (GSOC) and graduate assistant to **Tony Dennis,** associate director of Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention. Along with **Dr. Glinda Rawls** of University Testing and Counseling Services, Cheyla planned a brunch for GSOC members on the subject of “Navigating the Political Aspects of the Dissertation Process.” Held November 15 in the President’s Dining Room, the brunch featured a panel discussion with **Dr. Douglas Davidson,** Sociology, **Dr Evelyn**

Continued on next page
Winfield, University Counseling and Testing Center, and Ms. Cleothia Gill of the Anthropology Department. Closing remarks by Dr. Charles Warfield wrapped up an informative and inspiring event for the approximately 30 people attending.

Faculty and Staff Accolades


Student Accolades

The Graduate College is pleased to announce that three doctoral students have been named recipients of the Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowships for Fall 2008. The fellowships, which are awarded at least annually, are made possible by a generous endowment from the estate of the late poet, artist, and naturalist Gwen Frostic, Western Michigan University Class of 1929. These competitive fellowships assist doctoral students in all fields with education expenses, including tuition and fees, materials, and travel. The Fall 2008 Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowship recipients are:

Anirban Dutta, Department of Mathematics, was awarded $2,000 for his dissertation “Stable Pricing and Trading Methods for Index Options and Other Derivatives.” The topic of robust option pricing in mathematical finance is very timely in light of the recent volatility of markets across the world. With this award, Mr. Dutta will travel to the Risk Management Institute of Singapore National University, which will allow him to access market data for Asian credit derivatives which are essential for his dissertation research. His dissertation chair is Dr. Jim Zhu.

P. Cristian Gugiu, Interdisciplinary Evaluation, was awarded $4,000 for his dissertation “Summative Confidence.” Mr. Gugiu’s dissertation, which presents a methodology for determining the probability that any single evaluative conclusion is accurate, is praised as having “the potential to make a significant, meaningful, and enduring contribution to the discipline” of evaluation. A portion of his dissertation has already been published in the Journal of Multi-disciplinary Evaluation and has resulted in several conference presentations. His dissertation advisor is Dr. Brooks Applegate.

Renée Zaya, Biological Sciences, was awarded $2,000 for her dissertation “Molecular, Cellular, and Systemic Effects of Atrazine on Xenopus laevis Tadpoles.” Ms. Zaya’s dissertation research, representing a new approach to using animal species as indicators of toxicity, involves the precise definition of primarily metabolic related changes that occur in male and female tadpoles during normal development and in development compromised by exposure to atrazine, a herbicide common in farming. Her dissertation advisor is Dr. Charles Ide.

Natalie Giarratano, Ph.D. student in Creative Writing and graduate assistant to Jennifer Wendling Holm, Coordinator, Theses and Dissertations, is copy editor for two new books of poetry published by New Issues Poetry and Prose and released in October 2008. A collection of beautiful and sometimes heartbreaking poems about growing up black in America, where sometimes music is the only thing that can save. Jericho Brown’s first book, Please, is accessible and moving whether he is channeling Diana Ross, Janis Joplin or some other musical spirit. Tall If, the sixth collection of poetry by Mark Irwin, finds unexpected certainty in the asking of some of the seemingly unanswerable questions of the universe, while his urgency is driven powerfully by his lyricism.

Upcoming Events

The Graduate College is sponsoring two workshops for graduate students in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences:

“Meeting the challenges of the literature review search for graduate students in the college of engineering” will be conducted by Edward Eckel, WMU science/engineering librarian on Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m at the Parkview Campus: c-228. Please register online at www.wmich.edu/grad. This workshop will help students to:

1. Streamline the literature review search
2. Focus on relevant sources – eliminate the inessential
3. Ensure that you have “covered your bases”
4. Empower you to develop research-based opinions
5. Learn how to keep your literature review current

This workshop is designed to hone students’ library research skills. It is not designed to assist with the actual writing, development or organization of the literature review.

“Managing your citations with refworks” will be conducted by Michele D. Behr, off-campus services librarian, and Edward Eckel, science/engineering librarian on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008.

Session One: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Session Two: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Waldo Library/Classroom B: Lower Level
Please register online at www.wmich.edu/grad.
The presentation meets the following objectives:

1. To organize and create a personal database of references that can be accessed from any computer with Internet access.
2. To import references directly from online sources and enter citations manually for any type of material.
3. To add keywords and notes to any citation to allow writers to better structure and organize the literature review and keep track of which textual points are relevant to respective sources.
4. To output a bibliography in any style required –APA, MLA, etc.-and in the required file format –HTML, Ms Word, or text.
To learn techniques that facilitate citation management and scholarly professionalism in citing sources for the dissertation and other scholarly works. Students are encouraged to bring completed research or a work in progress on disk/hard copy: literature review, research paper, proposal, journal article, etc. However, this is not a requirement for attending the workshop.

**What We’re Reading**

Book Review of “The Elegance of the Hedgehog” by Muriel Barbary, translated from the French by Alison Anderson, Europa Editions, 2008. Review by Carson Leftwich, M.A., Assistant to the Dean: Two disparate protagonists narrate this elegant philosophical novel, set in present day Paris. Renée is the concierge, a self-taught intellectual who devours literature, philosophy, history, music, art, Japanese films and the small beauties of everyday life. In order to guard her dignity and her position, Renée hides her accomplishments under the guise of a stoic, stereotypically dull employee of the bourgeois families who live in the apartment building. While they pay her little attention except when they need her services, she scrutinizes them with wit and humor. Paloma is a twelve year old genius whose sharpened pen cuts through the facades that surround her. With typical adolescent brio she has decided that because she cannot live a fully realized adult life in the confines of her banal world, she will commit suicide on her thirteenth birthday. In the meantime she continues to behave as expected by her family, school and society. Both Paloma and Renée keep journals, separate and unbeknownst to each other: Renée records her efforts to stay beneath the radar of the Philistines who employ her, while Paloma offers “Profound Thoughts” as well as hilarious vignettes exposing her neurotic mother, distant father and deeply annoying older sister, a philosophy major at the Ecole Supérieur Normale, an elite school for France’s future leaders. The arrival of a wealthy Japanese resident disturbs the carefully constructed parallel worlds of Renée and Paloma. He politely disregards all the complicated rules of social and personal interaction and earns the trust of the alienated protagonists. In language as simple and direct, yet full of meaning, as poetry, the author fully realizes her characters and their observations. She creates a microcosm of societal stereotypes and glares a light on the barriers people use to separate themselves from each other while she tears down those walls at the same time. This book must be read carefully; every sentence is a thought provoking and perfectly wrought jewel.