Western Michigan University’s Newsletter for Academic Affairs

Richard Utz, has been named new Department of English Chair. He was educated at the University of Regensburg (Germany) and Williams College (USA), specializing in early English and German literatures and languages. In 1990, he received his doctorate in English and German Philology from the University of Regensburg, and he has since taught at the Pädagogische Hochschule Dresden (1990-1991), the University of Tübingen (1996-1998), and the University of Northern Iowa (1991-1996; 1998-2007), where he served as Director of English Graduate Programs, Chair of the Graduate Faculty, and editor of UNIversitas: The University of Northern Iowa Journal of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity. His scholarship centers on medieval studies, medievalism, the history of English studies as a discipline, the interdisciplinary study of late medieval philosophy, theology, and literature, and the formation of cultural memories and identities. Utz is the author or editor of more than a dozen booklength publications, including contributions to Arbeiten aus Anglistik und Amerikanistik, Florilegium, Medievalia et Humanistica, Das Mittelalter, the Oxford Guide to Chaucer, the Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages, Perspicuitas, Philologie im Netz, Studies in Medievalism, Transfiguration, and The Year’s Work in Medievalism. His current professional activities include the editorship of Prolepsis: The Heidelberg Review of English Studies and the book series Disputatio as well as membership on the advisory board of Making the Middle Ages (University of Sydney, Australia), Studies in Medievalism (St. Louis University), Ritus et Artes (University of Copenhagen, Denmark), and Perspicuitas (University of Essen-Duisburg, Germany). Utz has been the recipient of Regensburg University’s “Katharina Sailer Award for Outstanding Work in English Studies.” At the University of Northern Iowa he received the College of Humanities and Fine Arts “Outstanding Teaching Award” and “Faculty Excellence Award,” the University’s “Donald N. McKay Research Award” and “Distinguished Scholar Award,” and the Iowa State Board of Regents “Award for Faculty Excellence.”

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to announce several new appointments within its departments and programs.

**Administrators:**
- Stapleton, Susan (Associate Dean)

**Faculty:**
- Deme, Miriam (Africana Studies)
- Friesner, Scott (English)
- Weldy, Lance (English)
- Mezei, Gellert (Chemistry)
- Sinn, Ekkehard (Chair) (Chemistry)
- Ede, David (Chair) (Comparative Religion)
- Utz, Richard (Chair) (English)
- Saito, Rika (Foreign Languages)
- Yang, Li (Geography)
- Berto, Luigi (History)
- Murray, James (Director) (Medieval Institute)
- Biener, Zvi (Philosophy)
- Beeson, Melissa (Public Administration)
- Mingus, Matthew (Director) (Public Affairs and Administration)
- Gapova, Elena (Sociology)
- Gu, Chien-Juh (Sociology)
- Wood, Jay (Interim Chair) (Statistics)

Additionally, the following have been changed from interim to regular chair positions:
- Kern, William (Economics)
- McGrew, Timothy (Political Science)
- Tasende, Mercedes (Spanish)
- Shattuck, Cybelle (Comparative Religion)

**One-year Term Faculty:**
- Gardner, Janet (Anthropology)
- Hartenberger, Britt (Anthropology)
- Blackmer, Gary (Chemistry)
- Cohen, Mary (Communication)
- Cutler, Wade (Communication)
- Gregory, Virginia (Communication)
- Hearit, Diana (Communication)
- Shattuck, Cybelle (Comparative Religion)
- Friesner, Scott (English)
- Weldy, Lance (English)

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• Cameron, Stephen (Geography)
• Gillespie, Robb (Geosciences)
• Dobson, Lemont (History)
• McRaven, Deborah (History)
• Steuer, Kenneth (History)
• Copeland, Susan (Mathematics)
• Eisenhart, Kirsty (Mathematics)
• Ernst, Cynthia (Mathematics)
• Garza-Kling, Gina (Mathematics)
• Hernandez, Daniela (Mathematics)
• Laser, James (Mathematics)
• Mackey, Steven (Mathematics)
• Risema, Beth (Mathematics)
• Wood, Frederick (Political Science)
• McGee, Heather (Psychology)
• Filipova, Anna (Public Administration)
• Loizides, Georgios (Sociology)
• Tridico, Frank (Sociology)
• Daoud, Marwan (Statistics)
• Kosten, Scott (Statistics)

Faculty Specialists:
• Eversole, Robert (Biological Sciences)
• Onderlinde, Kathleen (Biological Sciences)
• Kritzman, Marilyn (Communication)
• VanWesep, Edward (Economics)
• Amidon, Elizabeth (English)
• Bills, Patricia (English)
• DuPuis, Margaret (English)
• McKittrick, Casey (English)
• Rypma, Judith (English)
• Lyon-Jenness, Cheryl (History)
• Kayani, Asghar (Physics)
• Mason-Hall, Tina (Psychology)
• Maatman, Janice (Public Administration)
• Braun, Michael (Spanish)
• Perez de la Cruz, Mariola (Spanish)
• Heun, Loren (Statistics)

WMU currently has 16 students in this educational program which is designed to give men and women the opportunity to become an Air Force officer while earning a degree. After successfully completing the program, they will be commissioned a second lieutenant and begin serving as an officer in leadership roles of increasing responsibility and importance in the “active duty” Air Force. We would like to recognize these students and acknowledge their hard work as they move onto a successful career with the United States Air Force.

The Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education launched an online magazine, WMU International News, Sept. 20 that will be published periodically throughout the academic year. WMU International News includes news stories, feature articles, and event listings that highlight the internationalization efforts of the University. Highlights of the inaugural edition are stories about the institute’s new dean, Dr. Donald G. McCloud; a short-term business English abroad program for Ritsumeikan University students hosted by the Career English Language Center for International Students; and, the International Student Orientation and Registration Program that welcomed 238 new international students to WMU in late August. WMU International News is accessible from the Quick Menu located on the home page of the institute Web site at: http://international.wmich.edu.

A WMU engineering team won the national championship in the third Chainless Challenge - a hydraulic bicycle design competition sponsored by Parker Hannifin Corporation and held July 30-31 in Cleveland, OH. The team earned the championship trophy and a $10,000 cash award. Dr. Alamgir Choudhury, a Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) associate professor, and Dr. Pavel Ikonomov, an IME assistant professor, led a student team that included Manik Kapoor and Phani Chandar Sree, ME master’s students; and Francis Schlaud, an industrial education student. Parker established the criteria for the annual competition, which challenges students nationwide to be innovative in the design and development of a bicycle that transfers the rider’s manual power from the pedal to the driving wheel without using a traditional chain or other direct-drive mechanisms. WMU won the overall championship.

The Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies introduces the new Master of Arts in the Practice of Teaching. The master’s degree in Early Childhood, Elementary Teaching and Middle School has become the Master of Arts in the Practice of Teaching. Students can now complete a master’s degree in 30 hours.

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The 45-foot-tall wind generator installed last July on the WMU Parkview Campus was dedicated this month in a windy ceremony that highlighted the value of the free energy the turbine is providing to WMU. Among those who celebrated the energy conservation effort were U.S. Congressman Fred Upton, WMU President John Dunn, and CEAS Dean Tim Greene, who coordinated the event. The wind turbine project was spearheaded by Dr. John Patten, CEAS manufacturing engineering department chair, who funded the project with overhead and residual funds from his other research grants and contracts. Patten, who belongs to six statewide initiatives related to wind energy issues, has written many research proposals to bring in larger generators, but he was eager to do something more immediate. “Meetings and organizations are good for long-range projects, but I had to do something to make me feel good, and one day it dawned on me that I could do something small on my own,” he said. “Putting in that generator made me feel good, and it allowed me to walk the talk.”

The dedication was Mark Bauer, from Bauer Power in Wayland, whose crew installed the generator. Patten also credited three from WMU’s physical plant – Conn Macomber, renovation services; Dan Brimmer, an electrical engineer; and Dale Sheppard, electrical shop – for their support. In addition to providing energy, the new turbine can also be used for data collection and for some applied research. Patten is presently seeking grants to place larger wind generators on the campus. For more information contact Patten at john.patten@wmich.edu.

A new technology that uses virtual 3D technology to link Google Earth to travel Web sites is being developed by Dr. Dean Johnson, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), and Sithidej Damrithamnij, a WMU graduate with electrical and computer MS degrees. The “Economic Development of the West Michigan Lakeshore through Application of 3-D Virtual Tourism” project has been funded for the last two years by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). “It was a federally funded project, but the money came through the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) portion of the USDA,” Johnson said. A requirement for getting the funds was that the project had to be run through a small business, so Johnson and Dej set up Webwriters LLC, a small Internet business headquartered in WMU’s Walwood Hall. For the pilot study, a virtual environment was constructed for South Haven, a small Lake Michigan town. “The project involved building a virtual community on Google Earth and then interfacing the system to the major South Haven travel Web site to enable people to visualize and explore the community through links on the Web site,” Johnson said. “The program is very sophisticated and very futuristic.” For the virtual realm, Dej created 3-D hotspots of South Beach, Old Harbor, South Marina, and Downtown and Maritime Museum areas. “What’s amazing about the technology is that you can zoom down into the hotspots and virtually ‘walk around’ to further explore the area,” Johnson said. Johnson is now ready to take the next step toward “a full-blown 3JVT system.” For more information, contact him at dean.johnson@wmich.edu.

Digitization of eight Civil War diaries housed at the University Archives and Regional History Collections was completed last semester. Full transcription of the 1860s manuscripts, thorough metadata, and enhanced searchability are highlights of the online image database. Functionality and features of this new online collection were presented to the Library of Michigan board of directors at a recent meeting. Dr. Sharon Carlson, director of the Archives and RHC, demonstrated how accessibility, preservation, and research are now greatly enhanced. Lou Ann Morgan, coordinator of the Digitization Center, spoke about how encoding the transcription made searching especially fruitful with research categories built in to the database. Many features were discussed which comprise the rich online collection with full images. The project was funded by the Library of Michigan, Digitization for Preservation and Access Grants for Michigan Libraries. It is now located in the Michigan eLibrary, MelCat and also at this url: http://www.hti.umich.edu/c/civilwar1. The Digitization Center

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at University Libraries is a full service department set up to do high end, custom digitization for community, university, private, or business groups on a fee for service basis. The Center url is: http://www.wmich.edu/library/digi.

**College of Fine Arts**

In his digital photography classes, Frostic School of Art assistant professor Bill Davis stresses “history is not a fixed entity, but is always in flux,” being written and rewritten through one’s personal filter of culture and identity.” Professor Davis and the art of four of his students who created digital images “modifying” common historical narratives have recently been featured in a new book by Robert Hirsch, Light and Lens: Photography in the Digital Age (Focal Point Press, 2008). The students included Christine E. Emmer, senior, B.F.A. in Graphic Design major; Robert L. Huston, senior, B.F.A. in Graphic Design major; Raquel M. Coulter, senior, Art/Sociology double major; and Steven A. Kuyper, junior, B.A. in Art teaching major.

**Graduate College**

The Graduate College is pleased to announce the continuation of the Graduate College Colloquium Series for the 2007-2008 academic year. Last year’s series brought lectures from not only distinguished WMU faculty members, but a number of international scholars. The Colloquium Series was established in order to provide a forum for scholarly presentations across disciplines, and promote a locus of interaction between research and education that result in the discovery of new knowledge, insights, and the development of creative expression. Some of the highlights of last Spring’s Colloquium Series: a lecture by Arturo Arias, Director of Latin American Studies at the University of Relands, California, on current post-colonial research entitled “Beyond Subalternism: The Emergence of a New Mayan Literature.”

We are pleased to announce the reactivation of Western Michigan University’s chapter of Sigma Xi. Sigma Xi, originally founded in 1886, is “an international, multidisciplinary research society whose programs and activities promote the health of the scientific enterprise and honor scientific achievement. There are nearly 60,000 Sigma Xi members in more than 100 countries around the world.” Western Michigan University’s newly reinstated chapter is proud to be among the more than 500 chapters worldwide. A coordinating committee for the WMU chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi met on August 23 in Walwood Hall. Dr. Clifton E. Ealy, professor of mathematics, was elected as president, and Dr. Robert Wall Emerson, assistant professor of blindness and low vision studies, was elected as secretary. Dr. Shirley Bach, emeriti in philosophy, and Dr. Lewis Pyenson, dean of the Graduate college, were charged with planning a speakers’ series. After an eclipse of several years, the Society has reemerged under the patronage of the Graduate College, who is co-sponsoring the first of these speakers with assistance from WMU’s Departments of Biological Sciences and Geosciences. Dr. Jeffery A. Wilson, of the University of Michigan’s Museum of Paleontology, will be speaking from 4 to 5 p.m. December 5 in the Bernhard Center’s Brown and Gold Room. The title of his lecture is “Monoliths of the Mesozoic: The Paleobiology of Sauropod Dinosaurs.” All are invited.

**College of Health and Human Services**

Western Michigan University was notified in June, 2007 that it has been awarded continuing funding for its bioengineering research project entitled, “Blind Pedestrians’ Access to Complex Intersections.” Western Michigan, along with its partners Boston College, Maryland School for the Blind, North Carolina State University, and Vanderbilt University will receive approximately $5 million from the National Eye Institute during the next five years to study a broad range of issues related to the challenges of crossing streets safely and efficiently at complex intersections. During the first grant period, which began in 2000, the team of rehabilitation specialists, psychologists, and engineers conducted studies about: access by people with blindness to roundabout intersections; drivers yielding in response to the long cane and pedestrian behavior; the design and operation of accessible pedestrian signals; differences in gaze patterns of low vision and typically sighted people when crossing streets; auditory motion perception as it relates to traffic detection; visual perception of time to contact; and anti-veering technology. In the next five years, research will focus on strategies for enhancing street crossing safety at roundabout intersections; underfoot and audible cues for detecting crosswalk locations; aligning for crossing streets and maintaining a line of travel while crossing; access to pedestrian signals by people with low vision and strategies for enhancing use of pedestrian signals by people with low vision; the visual and auditory perceptual processes that relate to pedestrian activity in complex traffic environments; and study...
ies of electric/hybrid vehicles that produce few sound cues at low speeds. WMU
researchers include David Guth, Paul
Ponchillia, Rob Wall-Emerson, John Ge-
sink, Koorosh Naghshineh, and Richard
Long, who serves as principal investigator.
Dr. Long was also recently appointed as
associate dean of the College of Health and
Human Services.

The 25th annual Charles Van Riper
Lecture series, which took place Sept.
12 through 14, explored “Language and
Literacy Connections.” The series is a na-
tional event organized by WMU’s Depart-
ment of Speech Pathology and Audiology
and began Sept. 12 at the Fetzer Center
with a pre-conference public lecture by
visiting scholar Dr. Margaret Gallego.
The Sept. 12 lecture by Dr. Gallego was
cosponsored by the College of Education
and addressed the subject of multiple
literacy’s used by children from diverse
cultural and linguistic backgrounds and
how educators can use these literacy’s to
support learning in the classroom. Gal-
lego, who is a professor at the San Diego
State University School of Teacher Educa-
tion, spoke again during the Van Riper
Lecture Series on Sept. 13 and 14 when
she discussed, “What Counts? And How
to Count It: Assessment Issues in Literacy
Developments.” Gallego’s research focuses
on the sociocultural influences within
learning environments, including schools
and after-school clubs that support second
language learners’ English literacy develop-
ment. She has also published widely in the
areas of teacher staff development, hetero-
genous classrooms, writing and learning
disabilities, literacy’s, and feminist and ac-
tion research. Gallego serves as co-editor
for the Social and Institutional Analysis
section of the American Educational
Research Journal. Also speaking Sept.
13 and 14, were Dr. Alan Kamhi of the Uni-
versity of North Carolina-Greensboro and
Dr. Maureen Staskowski of the Macomb
Intermediate School District. For more
information about the Van Riper Lecture
Series, please call (269) 387-8045 or check
the department Web site at http://www.
wmich.edu/hhs/sppa/.

Director of musical theatre performance
Jay Berkow’s new play “The Cure for
Love” was optioned for performance
by the Barter Theatre in Virginia for
inclusion in its 2008 main stage season.
The Barter is a member of the League of
Regional Theatres and the production
opened in June 2007 and ran in repertory
through the summer.

Micha Espinosa,
Department of The-
atre, was recognized
by Voice and Speech
Trainers Association
as a Fellow. The pur-
pose of the Fellows
program is to provide
expertise in specific
areas that may not be
available in a given
institution.

Department of
Dance professor Sharon Garber presented
her research at the National Dance Asso-
ciation Pedagogy Conference in Saratoga
Springs, NY in June. Her topic was “Crea-
tive Approaches to Teaching Classical
Ballet; An Old World Art Form in a New
World of Multiple Learning Styles.” Pro-
fessor Garber has also been invited to
write an article for Dance Teacher maga-
zine about the Department of Dance’s
presentation of its “Great Works Dance
Project” ballet, Dark Elegies.

Opus 21, an ensemble comprised pre-
dominantly of WMU faculty members,
received a commissioning grant from
Chamber Music America. Only two of
these awards are presented each year, and
the grant received by Opus 21 will result
in the commissioning of a work by com-
poser Frederic Reszewski to be premiered
at the Gilmore International Keyboard
Festival on April 28 and in New York
on Carnegie Hall’s “Making Music” series
in Zankel Hall on May 1. Opus 21 also
received a grant from the Aaron Copland
Fund for Music Recording. These grants
are also extremely competitive. The grant
will be used to record Opus 21’s debut
CD of seven commissioned works from the
2006 season. The recording will be
released in spring 2008. The members of
Opus 21 for these upcoming activities are
WMU faculty members Bradley Wong
(clarinet), Judy Moonert (percussion),
and Yu-Lien The (piano); WMU alumni
Henning Schröder (saxophone, MM ’06)
and Greg Secor (percussion, BM ’87); and
cellist Alexa Muhly, former principal cello
of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.
Composer Richard Adams, an associate
professor of music, is the artistic director
of the group.

Assistant pro-
fessor of dance
Megan Slayter
joined dance
historian and
labanotator
Jessica Lind-
berg in Paris
this past June
to conduct
research on
modern dance
pioneer Loie
Fuller. Fuller’s
three signature
solos Night, Fire Dance, and The Lily,
were then performed together for the first
time in nearly 100 years at MOMENTA’s
Academy of Movement and Music in Oak
Park, IL on Aug. 25.

Dr. Marianne DiPierro, director of
WMU’s Graduate Center for Research
and Retention, has recently published
two articles on Doctoral Education. The
first, “Debriefing: An Essential Final Step
in Doctoral Education,” was published
in The Journal of Quality and Partici-
pation and discusses ways in which the
act of “debriefing” can be applied to doctoral
programs as part of an effort to ensure
quality. Dr. DiPierro writes, “The value
of debriefing has never been lost on the
business or military community, both
elements expert at engaging in the art of
inquiry regarding details relevant to a com-
pleted mission. Whether it is a business

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Blindness and Low Vision Studies research by WMU associate professor highlighted in the Kalamazoo Gazette. Robert Wall Emerson, associate professor of blindness and low vision studies, was featured in a recent Kalamazoo Gazette article for his research with “quiet cars.” For more information, go to: http://www.mlive.com.

Drs. David Guth, Richard Long, Paul Ponchillia, and Robert Wall Emerson each contribute chapters discussing the experiences of people with visual impairments and the relationship of these experiences to brain plasticity. The chapters are as follows:

- Paul Ponchillia: Nonvisual sports and art. Fertile substrates for the growth of knowledge about brain plasticity in people who are blind or have low vision. Richard Long: Crossing streets without vision: Access to information, strategies for traveling, and the impact of technology, training and environmental design.

These funds will be used to support continuation of the Michigan Mathematics Rural Initiative Project. The purpose of the project is to improve mathematics teaching and learning in grades 6-12 classrooms in rural areas—primarily low-income schools in Michigan’s central and northeastern Lower Peninsula. Dr. Yuri Ledyaev has been awarded a research grant of $150,055 by the United States National Science Foundation for the period 2007-2010. Dr. Ledyaev is an internationally recognized scholar in the areas of differential equations, control theory, nonlinear functional analysis, and nonsmooth analysis. The title of his research project is Discontinuous Feedback in Nonlinear Control. Dr. Nil Mackey and Dr. Steve Mackey have been awarded a research grant of $177,681 by the United States National Science Foundation for the period 2007-2010. Drs. Mackey and Mackey have traveled extensively over the past several years to lecture and conduct scholarship abroad, and their work has won them international recognition in the area of numerical matrix analysis. Their joint project is titled Numerical Methods for Structured Polynomial Eigenvalue Problems.

Steven Ziebarth and three colleagues received a grant of $521,496 from the U.S. National Science Foundation for their project, Assessment for Learning Research Scholars: Capacity Building in Mathematics and Science Education. Dr. Ziebarth’s co-directors on the project are William Cobern, Herbert Fynewever, and Arlen Gulickson. The term of the award is 2007-2009. According to the award letter, the NSF expects to continue support for this project with an additional $791,003 for the period 2009-2011.

Charlotte Thralls (English) has accepted to serve as Chair of the Committee on Scientific and Technical Communication, a national committee under the auspices of the National Council of Teachers in English. The committee’s mission is to increase the professional community’s awareness and skill in teaching technical and scientific communication.

 Herb Fynnewever and Bill Cobern of Mallinson Institute for Science Education, along with Steven Ziebarth of math education and Arlen Gulikson of the WMU Evaluation Center have just been awarded a new grant by the NSF Discovery Research K12 (DR-K12) program of $1.3 million over five years. The funding is primarily for support of five graduate students (tuition plus stipend) for five years. Two of these students will be enrolled at the Mallinson Institute; the other three will be enrolled at the evaluation center and math education. The interdisciplinary cohort will conduct research focused on “Assessment for Learning” to evaluate the effectiveness of integrating communication between student/peers/faculty into the structure of classroom work.

College of Education

Dr. Stephen Craig, assistant professor and counselor education unit director in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, has been appointed as a member of the Professional Standards Committee of the American Counseling Association. This committee is responsible for promoting the professionalism of counseling and for monitoring graduate program accreditation, counseling center accreditation, and national voluntary counselor certification programs.

Three faculty in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies wrote chapters for the edited book, “A Collection of Research Papers in Pedagogical Sciences” which was subsidized by UNESCO. Dr. Tetyana Koshmanova, associate professor, wrote “Global Impact of American Teacher Education Reforms” and was also on the main editorial board. Dr. Josephine Barry-Davis, associate professor, wrote “Continuous Education in the Development of Prospective Teachers” and Dr. Allison Downey, assistant professor, wrote “Whole School Reform & the A+ Schools Program.” The book was published by Kremenets Taras Shevchenke Regional Humanitarian Pedagogical Institute (2007). In addition, Dr. Barry-Davis’ paper “Global Literacy and Early Childhood Education for Life-Long Learning” and Dr. Koshmanova’s paper “Philosophy of Lifelong Education of Prospective Teachers in Post-Conflict Societies” were published in the book Lifelong Education: Continuous Education for Sustainable Development: Proceedings of International Cooperation in the Realm of Continuous Education for Sustainable Development (Alter Ego, Saint Petersburg, 2007). Also, Dr. Koshmanova’s article “Vygotskin Scholars: Visions and Implementation of Cultural-Historical Theory” was published in the Journal of Russian & East European Psychology (Vol. 45, No. 2, March-April 2007, pp. 61-95). Dorothy Robbins, guest editor, gave a glowing review in her introduction, “Koshmanova’s contribution fits perfectly with this issue. Her article defines various positions of Russian scholars we know, but few we have actually read in depth in English. Clearly, Koshmanova makes a vital contribution. The article by Koshmanova is important for many reasons, in particular because it is the voice of a person familiar with the Russian/Ukrainian and North American context, and also because of her own work in teacher training, which applies deductive generalizations to an inductive approach. I believe she will become a strong voice that will serve as a bridge between the international community, Russia/Ukraine, and other Newly Independent States.”

Sangren Hall staff offered assistance the first week of classes, giving campus and Sangren Hall room directions to new and returning students.

Dr. Eric Sauer, associate professor and director of the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services in Grand Rapids, was recently elected president of the Association of Directors of Psychology Training Clinics. He will be serving a two-year term as president-elect before taking office in the summer of 2009. ADPTC is the national organization for directors of psychology training clinics. ADPTC members are directors of clinics that are typically associated with pre-doctoral graduate training programs in professional psychology - clinical, community, counseling, clinical child, and school psychology - at regionally accredited universities.

Dr. Allison Downey, assistant professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies, presented a paper, “Exploring the Spectrum of Theatre-in-Education (TIE): Perspectives from Several British TIE Companies” at the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE) Conference in Vancouver, Canada in August. This paper is based on preliminary findings from her FRACASF-funded research of the genre in England in 2005 (40 years after its birth), and supplemented by follow-up interviews this May, 2007. She also served as the Co-Chair for the Theatre-in-Education Network of AATE.
Students from WMU and from Brazil worked last summer with Dr. Pnina Ari-Gur, a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, on a nanotechnology research project that could someday lead to a cleaner environment. The research is a part of a three-year National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to develop titania as a photocatalyst to clean specific contaminants in water. “Titania is a photocatalyst that accelerates the process of disintegration,” she said. “What we’re investigating is titania’s photocatalytic activity toward degrading contaminants that are prominent in Michigan and Brazil,” she said. Ari-Gur’s co-PIs are Dr. Sherine O’bare, WMU assistant professor of chemistry, Dr. Dan Fleming, WMU professor of chemical engineering, and Dr. Edson Roberto Leite from Universidade Federal de São Carlos. WMU students in the program include Ian Deming, a mechanical engineering (ME) sophomore from Grand Ledge; Andrew Hyder, an ME senior from Goodrich; and Emil Sanchez, a senior in chemistry. The Brazilian students who spent four weeks last summer at WMU are Igor Cella, a mechanical engineering major, and Fernando Soares, a civil engineering major. The research was conducted at the Parkview campus and Haenicke Hall. Using Parkview’s X-ray lab, the researchers used a diffractometer to study titania’s nanocrystalline structure. Mr. Bill Woods, interim dean of the Haenicke Institute, and Dr. Tim Greene, CEAS dean, and Dr. Elen Cutrim, professor of geography, were instrumental in bringing the Brazilian students here and in enabling the NSF funding. Ari-Gur, a long-time WMU faculty member, started collaborating with Leite in Brazil following a meeting at an international conference in Brazil. Ari-Gur and Obare took the WMU students to Brazil in July to continue the research in the laboratories of Dr. Edson Roberto Leite at the Universidade Federal de São Carlos.

Projects coordinated by two CEAS professors were highlighted last month in a special supplement of Business Review Western Michigan, as being among “the most innovative people and companies for 2007.” Winning one of eight innovation trophies were Dr. Margaret Joyce - an associate professor in the paper engineering, chemical engineering and imaging (PCI) department - and her team. They developed technology to form radio frequency identification (RFID) tags by printing antennae and integrated circuits directly to paper and board at commercial-press speeds. The RFID project is being funded by a $966,000 21st Century Jobs Fund initiative to create jobs in Michigan’s emerging technologies. The project aims to bolster homeland security through technological improvements that enable products to be tracked and identified with RFID tags. Another project goal is to grow the Michigan economy. Joyce’s team includes professors Dr. Shasha Pekarovicova (PCI), Dr. Dan Fleming (PCI), Dr. Brad Bazuin (ECE), and Dr. Valery Bliznyuk (PCI), and post doctoral students Dr. Marion Rebros, Dr. Erika Hrehorova, and Dr. Gururaj Neelgund, and several MS students and industrial partners. For more information, contact her at margaret.joyce@wmich.edu.

CEAS’s Dr. William Liou, a professor in the mechanical and aeronautical engineering (MAE) department, was honored as one of 25 finalists in the competition for his work in developing WMU’s Center for Advanced Vehicle Design and Simulation (CAViDS) to coordinate the efforts of WMU, federally funded labs, and automakers to enhance vehicle design and analysis. To that end, a CAViDS Consortium began operations at the beginning of this year. It was formed with the signing of Memoranda of Understanding in October 2006 with manufacturers Dana Corp., Eaton Corp., L-3 Communications, and MANN+HUMMEL and the US Army’s TARDEC and the US Dept. of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Lab. For more information, contact him at william.liou@wmich.edu.

This summer, IME professor Dr. Sam Ramrattan hosted a weeklong metal-casting workshop for nine high school students from Detroit, Ann Arbor, and...
Saginaw, Michigan; Cleveland, Parma, and Defiance, Ohio; and Windsor, Ontario. During the students’ five-day campus visit, Ramrattan, a technical advisor to the American Foundrymen’s Society and a Key Professor for the Foundry Educational Foundation, directed activities in the CEAS Parkview Campus Metal Casting Laboratory. Workshop topics included metal casting history, trends, and the relationship of manufacturing (molding, melting, filling, and finishing), engineering, quality, purchasing, marketing, and sales of castings. The students explored the use of computers, math, and science in metal casting. The students were sponsored by various chapters of the American Foundry Society (AFS) and the North American Die Casting Association (NADCA). Students were selected on the basis of an aptitude for math and science. There was no cost to the students who stayed in WMU dorms and enjoyed campus life. In addition to their lab and course work, the students met with WMU administrators to discuss university entrance requirements and expectations and with professionals from the foundry industry to review career opportunities in metal casting. On field trips to metal casting industries, students saw real-world technology and met with professionals. This year’s attendees toured Metal Technologies’ Three Rivers Gray Iron Plant, and Contech’s die casting facilities in Dowagiac, MI. They also enjoyed activities in the Kalamazoo / Portage metro area. WMU has had a casting metal program in various engineering curricula since the college opened over 100 years ago. Its most recent accreditation began in 1992 when Ramrattan joined the faculty. “Our goal is to produce hands-on engineers,” he said. Metal casting is a program option in the industrial, manufacturing, graphics, and engineering management programs.

Dr. Mitchel Keil, a professor in the industrial and manufacturing engineering (IME) department, created prototype goblets from computations prepared by advanced math students at Mattawan High School. MHS math teacher Nancy Garman organized her 48 calculus students into 16 groups and challenged them to design a goblet that met two criteria: to be made with a specific amount of material and to be capable of holding a specific amount of liquid. The students used Pro-E, a computer-aided design software program that creates solid models and sent their computations to Keil, who created prototypes. Jai Thomas, a Ph.D. graduate assistant who works with Keil, made all 16 prototypes using the rapid prototyping machine in the Center for Integrated Design at CEAS Parkview Campus. The process took about seven hours. According to Keil, the rapid prototyping machine creates prototypes – made from cornstarch – layer by layer using the computer calculations. The prototype goblets were returned to the students who reviewed their computations and reported problems. “We pick apart their mathematics to discover what they did wrong,” Garman said. Garman, a 21-year veteran math teacher, first used prototypes a year ago in a similar project completed as part of a National Science Foundation grant study and led by WMU engineering professor Dr. Andrew Kline. Even though that grant was completed last year, this year’s students had heard rave reviews from the previous class and wanted to do a similar project. The Mattawan Foundation was credited for providing grant funds for this year’s project, and Garman said that if funding is available, she plans to do a similar project next year. “This is very valuable for the students,” she said.

For eight weeks this summer, eight third-year IIT engineering students participated in a new summer undergraduate program organized and coordinated by Dr. Raja Aravamuthan, the Gordon H. Sindcucise professor in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI). The program represented a collaboration of CEAS and the Hanick Institute for Global Education (HIGE). The IIT students were enrolled during Summer I 2007 in independent study classes of different departments, and they worked with CEAS engineering professors in several areas. Selecting students who had completed their third year meant that they were already well educated in engineering, Aravamuthan said. At the Continued on next page
conclusion of the program, the students submitted a written report to the project advisor and made an oral presentation to the CEAS faculty and students. Faculty members who served as research guides and mentors included Dr. Said AbuBakr, PCI; Dr. Haluk Aktan, Construction and Civil Engineering (CCE); Dr. Brad Bazutin, Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE); Dr. Steven Butt, Industrial Engineering (IE); Dr. Tycho Fredericks, IE; Dr. Ajay Gupta, Computer Science (CS); Dr. Margaret Joyce, PCI; Dr. John Patton, the CEAS manufacturing engineering department chair; and Douglas Mclaughlin, the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI), a privately funded organization that does research in the paper industry. Other CEAS faculty and staff members were featured speakers on Friday seminars that were arranged for the benefit of the students. For more information, contact him at raja.aravamuthan@wmich.edu.

University Libraries

Dr. Sharon Carlson, Director, University Archives and Regional History Collections presented a session, “Digital Imaging in the Smaller Shop: Case Studies from the Midwest” at a meeting of the Society of American Archivists, Chicago, IL on Aug. 30.

Three faculty librarians have co-authored an article appearing in the most recent issue of College and Undergraduate Libraries. Professors Maira Bundza and Michele Behr and Associate Dean Dr. Barbara Cockrell chronicle and illustrate activities that academic libraries might perform for recruiting and retaining students. See: Behr, M., Bundza, M., & Cockrell, (2007). Going for the Gold: Recruiting Students and Engaging Administrators through Education and Entertainment in the Library. College and Undergraduate Libraries, 14(1), 1-18.

James Dexheimer, Special Collections Cataloging, was admitted to the University of Virginia’s Rare Book School. He attended an intensive course focusing on the physical examination of books printed between 1550 and 1875; the determination of format and collation; the writing of standard descriptions of signings and pagination; and the attribution of metadata describing type, paper, illustrations, binding, and the circumstances of publication.

Challenges in teaching library instruction to large classes and practical ways librarians can use to engage large undergraduate classes in a single session are the focus of a recently published article by three faculty librarians. See: Vander Meer, P. F., Perez-Stable, M. A., & Ring, Donna, M. (2007). Engaging the Masses: Library Instruction with Large Undergraduate Classes. College & Undergraduate Libraries, 14(1), 39-56.

The University Archives received a grant of $1,250 from the Kalamazoo Arts Council to co-sponsor “An Oral History Symposium” with the Kalamazoo Valley Museum on Sept. 29.

Student Accolades

College of Education

Tiffany Hill, graduate student in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, completed her practicum (FCS 6220) in South Korea. She taught English at a summer camp at Kyeimyung University in Daegu City. Tiffany says, “I discovered early on that when I decided to teach outside the United States during the summer that I probably could not have picked a country with more cultural differences than South Korea. It was both an adventure and learning experience from beginning to end. I taught English using all subjects at a summer camp on the campus of Kyeimyung University in the city of Daegu City. I lived in an apartment building not far from campus. The apartments there were different than what I am used to, my room made dorm rooms seem huge! The only thing that fit in the room was a bed. There was a shared common area, kitchen on the top floor and a shared bathroom. South Koreans make very good use of their space; all the buildings are multi-level. Shops and restaurants were underground as well as on upper floors in buildings. The students were between 6 and 17 and I really enjoyed working with them. The most notable difference between them and the students I teach in Detroit was how hard they work when class is in session and how wild they become on a break. I did not expect such a vast difference between their classroom and play behavior. I learned a lot while I was gone; the experience was enriching and enjoyable.”

Congratulations to LaSonda Wells, counselor education doctoral student, and Dr. Norman Kiracofe, professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, who had their article “Mandated Disciplinary Counseling on Campus: Problems and Possibilities” appear as the lead article in the Summer 2007 issue of the Journal of Counseling and Development. The authors propose a policy position that would preclude mandated treatment and place emphasis on counseling readiness programming for disciplinary referrals. A stage of behavioral change model is discussed to help conceptualize when counseling may be effective with students involved in disciplinary procedures.

Michele McGrady, counseling psychology doctoral student, has been awarded a student travel award from the American Psychological Association. Student travel awards are competitive awards granted to Continued on next page
students who are first authors of a presentation at the annual convention. Ms. McGrady will present a paper co-authored with Dr. Karen Horneffer-Ginter entitled “Spirituality as Self-Awareness: How Caucasian, Heterosexual College Students Understand Spirituality” (https://forms.apa.org/convention/viewabstract.cfm?id=51461) at the upcoming APA convention in San Francisco. McGrady has a strong interest in integrating psychological and holistic health care approaches to promote positive development in college students. The information she will present at APA is part of her research concerning spirituality and college students. McGrady is in the final stages of developing her dissertation, “Understanding the Dimensions of Spirituality in College Students,” which builds on previous conference presentations and this study, and seeks to address definitional and measurement concerns in the existing literature.

Allison Buller, doctoral student in Counselor Education, was recently appointed to the 2007-08 American Counseling Association’s Graduate Student Task Force. The focus of this task force is to further develop policy recommendations for more actively involving graduate students in the American Counseling Association and the counseling profession. The following counseling psychology doctoral students participated in this year’s APA convention in August 2007 in San Francisco: Amy Cavanaugh, Julie Davis, Michele McGrady, Danny Huber, and Donald Knight each presented papers at this year’s APA convention. Cavanaugh and Davis presented a paper co-authored with Dr. Kelly McDonnell on “Helping Students and Educators Understand, Recognize, and Combat Vicarious Traumatization”. Michele presented a paper co-authored with Dr. Karen Horneffer-Ginter titled “Spirituality as Self-Awareness: How Caucasian, Heterosexual College Students Understand Spirituality.” Danny presented a paper co-authored with Dr. Eric Sauer, on “Advisory Working Alliance: Contributions of Advisee-Attachment Orientations.” Donald Knight presented a paper co-authored with Dr. Gunilla Holm and Dr. Lonnie Duncan titled “Lived Experiences of Black Male College Students From Single-Parent Homes.” Amy and Julie also presented a paper on “Graduate Students: Creating and Implementing Specialty Groups on College Campuses.” McGrady and Huber each received a student travel award from the American Psychological Association to present their work. Student travel awards are competitive awards granted to students who are authors of a presentation at the annual convention.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

To sample life as an engineer in this year’s weeklong Expanding Your Horizons @ WMU Engineering day camp program, 36 area seventh- and eighth-graders built Popsicle-stick bridges strong enough to hold more than 40 pounds and robots that could maneuver a maze, knock down pop cans, and hit a golf ball. The students - who attend Kalamazoo, Parchment, Paramount Charter, and Otsego middle schools - worked with WMU college students majoring in electrical and computer engineering (ECE) and civil and construction engineering (CCE). WMU students assisting the program included CCE majors Joseph Barbera, Brad Stempfihar, and Ammar Zalt; ECE majors Ishrak Mamun, Ivana Krenata, Eddie Quada, and Bryan Berger; ECE Ph.D. student Imad Zyout; and Kalamazoo Area Math and Science Center volunteer Omar Abudayeh. Half the middleschoolers built nine bridges, and the other half built nine robots. According to Barbera, a civil engineering graduate student, the bridge builders used 60 Popsicle sticks and glue to create a bridge that spanned 10 inches, and then tested their bridge designs via simulation using WestPoint Bridge Builder software. The robot builders explored a variety of techniques to control the nine robots built by the students. The day-camp program mathematics fields,” Abdel-Qader said. “We want to help students take advantage of the Kalamazoo Promise.”

WMU’s student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers [ASCE] won the hockey puck award at the 2007 North Central Regional Concrete Canoe Competition held at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Mich., last spring. WMU students Joe Barbera, in the civil engineering master’s program, and Brad Stempfihar, a civil engineering senior, were part of a team that prepared the pucks for one of the side competitions of the event. Their concrete hockey pucks were selected based on specific criteria. “They had to be within a three-inch diameter, and they had to be one-inch thick, and the allowable variance was only around a quarter of an inch,” Barbera said. “We also met the weight requirement, and we worked on the puck’s cosmetics so it looked really good.” The puck also had to be durable. “We had to shoot the puck, and if it cracked or pieces fell off, we’d lose points,” Barbera said. “The puck was made of pretty much the same concrete mix that we used for the

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Five members of WMU’s student chapter of the Society of Plastics Engineering (SPE) attended the Annual Technical Conference (ANTEC) in Cincinnati, Ohio, in May. WMU Engineering Graphics and Design Technology (EGR) seniors Josh Leyrer, Jim Gabriel, Courtney Rawlings, Lauren Lambert, and Jim Vlieg were accompanied by IME Department Chair Paul Engelman and Jay Shoemaker, IME adjunct professor and Moldflow, Inc., employee. ANTEC is the world’s largest plastics conference. “This conference was the conference for plastics,” Lambert said. Presentation topics included process optimization methods, overcoating improvements, bioplastics, shear-thickening fluids, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, and nanotechnology. Presenters included research and industrial professionals from all over the world. Students learned about the latest developments in plastics at Plastics Encounter, an exhibition set up by plastics companies. Evenings included several social events. Students were also provided with opportunities to network with others in the industry. Moldflow sponsored a student activities night at a local gaming center. Students were selected for the trip based on individual application essays. They wrote formal proposals for travel support to the conference as well as trip reports on their ANTEC activities and professional development upon their return. “I’m glad that I was given the opportunity to go to this event to further my learning in the plastics field,” Rawlings said. The trip was sponsored in full by a grant for support of lifelong learning and supplied to the school by the Alcoa Foundation, through EPC/Alcoa in Mattawan. Dr. Betsy Aller, IME associate professor, is principal investigator of the grant.

A number of School of Music alumni have been keeping busy. Pianist Xavier Davis (B.A. in music and mathematics, ’97) performed with Regina Carter at the Detroit International Jazz Festival over the Labor Day weekend and will play with Stefon Harris’ band at Chenery Auditorium in November. Trombonist Candace (Downing) Bartel (B.M. ’99) appeared with her band on the CBS Late Late Show on August 22. Recent graduate and singer Nayanna Holley (B.M. in jazz ’07) has been hired as a backup singer for Queen Latifah for her upcoming tour promoting the new CD, “Trav’lin Light,” to be released Sept. 25.

The work of Gabriel Craig, 2006 alumnus with a B.F.A. in Art, appeared in the most recent volume of the journal, Metalsmith (Vol. 27, no. 4). Craig’s work consists of framed photographs of the human figure. Across the images wander gold-leafed snail shells from which live snails emerge and decorate the body as a ring or necklace. The static photographic image belies the temporary and mobile nature of the adornment.
The Graduate College is pleased to announce that four doctoral students were recently named recipients of Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2007–08. The annual competition for the fellowships drew 16 applications. The 2007–08 Dissertation Completion Fellowship recipients are:

- **Travis Bruce**, Department of History, whose advisor is Dr. Larry Simon. The title of Mr. Bruce’s dissertation is “The Politics of Intercultural Exchange: The Taifa of Denia and the Western Mediterranean.” Mr. Bruce is a recipient of the All-University Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award at WMU and spent 2004–05 on a research fellowship from the Fulbright Institute. He has published in the Journal of Medieval History and presented at numerous national and international conferences.

- **Arun Harutyunyan**, Department of Political Science, whose advisor is Dr. Emily Hauptmann. The title of Ms. Harutyunyan’s dissertation is “Contesting National Identities in an Ethnically Homogeneous State: The Case of Armenian Democratization.” A native of Armenia, Ms. Harutyunyan’s dissertation focuses on the effect of multiple national identities on democratization in Armenia. Her research has been presented at numerous conferences and published in Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization.

- **Yuchun Lin**, a student in the Computational Chemistry program in the Department of Chemistry, whose advisor is Dr. Yirong Mo. The title of Mr. Lin’s dissertation is “Molecular Modeling on Ammonia/Ammonium Transporter Protein AmtB.” His research on the computational modeling and simulation of proteins has led to recent publications in the most prestigious journals in chemistry.

- **Nathanael O’Reilly**, Department of English, whose advisor is Dr. Gwen Tarbox. The title of Mr. O’Reilly’s dissertation is “Between the City and the Bush: Suburbia in Contemporary Australian Fiction.” Mr. O’Reilly’s work in the field of Australian literature has resulted in international recognition as a scholar, including six journal publications in the past year and service on the editorial board of the North American journal for Australian literary studies.

The Graduate College is pleased to announce that two doctoral students were recently named the first-ever recipients of the new Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowships. The fellowships, which will be given 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 will assist doctoral students in all fields with education expenses, including tuition and fees, materials, and travel. The Spring 2007 Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowship recipients are:

- **Robert H. Duke**, Department of History, was awarded $2,000 for work on his dissertation “Passport from Poverty: The Political Journey of Bilingual Education, 1964-1978.” Mr. Duke’s dissertation will analyze the reception and implementation of the Bilingual Education Act, a controversial national public policy initiative of 1968. Using the passage of this act as a lens, Mr. Duke’s study will investigate school districts in Texas and Michigan, a right-to-work state and a strong union state, to determine how issues of race and ethnicity intersect with the longtime quest by classroom teachers to have a meaningful voice in the operation of their schools. In addition to archival work already done at Baylor University and Wayne State University, the Frostic award will allow Mr. Duke to conduct additional archival research in repositories in Washington, D.C., Michigan, and Texas. Mr. Duke is a former superintendent of schools who holds master’s degrees in history and educational leadership. His dissertation chair is Dr. Nora Faires.

- **Julien Kouame**, a Doctoral student in the Department of Education, Measurement and Research and Dr. Mohamed Sultan.

We are also pleased to announce publications and presentations by three of our Graduate Assistants: **Jon Anderson’s In Sepia**, published in issue 8/9 of Redactions: Poetry and Poems of Lynda Hull. The second review, of Jon Anderson’s In Sepia, was published in Third Coast, in which she reviews the Collected Poems of Lynda Hull. The second review, of Jon Anderson’s In Sepia, was published in issue 8/9 of Redactions: Poetry and Poetics.
Occupational Therapy graduate student Suzanne L. Adams, a registered cytotechnologist, recently published a book on “The Art of Cytology: An Illustrative Study Guide with Micronutrient Discussions.” Her illustrations and research have appeared on cytology registry exams, in medical articles, on magazine covers, and in brochures promoting HPV and Folic Acid Awareness. Cytotechnology is the identification of cells and cellular abnormalities.

Interdisciplinary Health Studies doctoral student Priscilla Barnes has been awarded a $42,551 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant to examine local health department partnerships with non-governmental agencies in improving public health outcomes.

Dr. Debra Lindstrom Hazel, associate professor of occupational therapy at WMU, and nine of her students recently helped to provide a “CarFit” program for older adults in the Kalamazoo area. CarFit, a joint venture between the AAA Motor Club, the American Association for Retired Persons (AARP), the American American Office on Aging, and the American Occupational Therapy Association, is a program designed to help older adults drive with more safety and comfort by providing them with ergonomic assessments of their automobiles and their positions in them. Occupational therapy students worked with AAA safety specialists and the Disability Resource Center to review a twelve point checklist with each participating driver. The checklist included seating and steering wheel adjustments, positioning to gas and brake pedals, and the use of mirrors for checking blind spots. Dr. Hazel says that she looks forward to continuing WMU’s participation in this and other programs serving older drivers in Michigan.

Dr. Martha Shadel, a WMU Physician Assistant alumna, was named “Professional of the Year” by the Cambridge Who’s Who Registry. For more information, go to: http://www.247pressrelease.com.

The American Occupational Therapy Association’s National Backpack Awareness Day was Sept. 19, and WMU Occupational Therapy students were on campus to educate their peers about healthy behavior for toting books, laptops, and other items. “Pack it light and carry it light,” was the motto of the day. Students carrying overloaded backpacks and improperly worn packs, according to U.S. and international studies, are likely to experience neck, shoulder, and back pain; adverse effects on posture; and compromised breathing and fatigue. The U.S. Consumer Product and Safety Commission estimates that more than 7,000 emergency room visits in 2001 resulted from injuries related to backpacks and book bags. The growing awareness of potential long-term problems to students has resulted in increased medical research and proposed legislation in at least two states to address the issue of backpack weight in relation to student health. Some recommendations for loading and wearing backpacks:

- Backpacks should weigh no more than 15 percent of your body weight.
- Load heaviest items closest to your back.
- Wear both shoulder straps for an evenly balanced load.
- And adjust shoulder and waist straps to distribute the burden more evenly along your back.

Occupational Therapy student teams were at stations in the Haworth College of Business, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the College of Health and Human Services and the Bernhard Center, where they distributed handouts and consulted with WMU students about the proper weight and distribution of their backpacks and carrying devices. For further information, please contact Debra Lindstrom Hazel in the Department of Occupational Therapy at 387-7239.

Christopher Sell was among 46 Western Michigan University seniors named a 2007 Presidential Scholar. Sell is the Presidential Scholar in Communication and expects to graduate in December. He is a member of the Lee Honors College, majoring in organizational communication English.

Kylie Schultz, a Chinese language student at WMU, took part in the Third Annual Midwest Chinese Speaking Contest at Northwestern University in Chicago. Schultz competed in the Second Year Group, and received the Second Place Award. More than 60 students from 21 Midwestern universities attended.

Alumni Updates:

- “Connections,” a series of short one-act plays by creative writing alum David James, had its premiere production March 29-30 in The Smith Theatre on the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, where David is a faculty member in English.
- James Armstrong, M.F.A. (English) alumnus, caught the attention of Garrison Keillor’s radio show at the beginning of December. His poem “Prayer” from Blue Lash (Milkweed Editions) was selected for “The Writers Almanac.”
- Tom Dickinson, B.A. ’63 (Physics) and 2003 WMU Distinguished Alumnus has been honored again by his current institution, Washington State University.
- John Rybicki, (English) alum of Western Michigan University, has been named Olivet College’s poet-in-residence for the 2007 Intensive Learning Term. The college received almost 50 applications for the new annual Sandburg-Auden-Stein Residency, which was named after poets who visited Olivet in the 1930s and 1940s.
- Eric Schleder, B.A. (English) has accepted a non-contracting position with Perrigo Company in Allegan. He is a Validation Specialist with them. “Basically, I develop documentation and test equipment and processes to ensure we meet FDA regulations.

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and our products are safe, effective, an clean as can be. It’s certainly not the most glamorous work, but it pays well. And validation is of the few growing industries these days. I’m still hoping to pursue my Ph.D. someday and become a full-time professor, but in the meantime I’m playing the game doing ok.”

Western Michigan University aviators Jennifer Jakubiec and Alison Pierce successfully completed the 2007 Air Race Classic, a 2,500-mile women’s cross-country event that began June 19 in Oklahoma City and ended June 22 in St. John, New Brunswick. WMU placed 12th out of 46 teams in the overall standings. Eleven of the 46 entries failed to complete the race, due primarily to severe storms along the final three legs of the race. “Alison and I were relieved to even get here,” wrote Jakubiec from New Brunswick. “A handful of women had to scratch, because they weren’t able to make it through the last three legs of the race due to storms. We were sad to hear some of our fellow college teams were among those who couldn’t make it in.” During their journey, Jakubiec and Pierce logged 2,236.2 nautical miles - more than 2,500 statute miles - and were airborne about 18 hours out of the 60 hours from start to finish of the race. Originally from Walled Lake, Mich., Jakubiec is a WMU flight instructor and an April graduate of the College of Aviation. Pierce is from Burlington, Mich. She also is an April aviation graduate, who is now working on her flight instructor license. Both women were competing in their first Air Race Classic. Women’s air racing traces its origins to 1929 with the first Women’s Air Derby, which was sponsored by the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots. The Ninety-Nines was founded that year by 99 licensed women pilots, and famed aviator Amelia Earhart was the group’s first president. Racing continued through the 1930s and was renewed after World War II, when the All Women’s Transcontinental Air Race, better known as the Powder Puff Derby, came into being. The 30th and final Powder Puff Derby was held in 1977. The Air Race Classic stepped in to continue the tradition of transcontinental speed competition for women pilots and staged its first race in 1977. A map of the race route and additional information can be found at www.airraceclassic.org. To read their daily reports go to WMUnews (WMU News - 2007 Air Race Classic ‘flight log’).

Haenicke Institute for Global Education

Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education Study Abroad provided support and oversight for the awarding of more than $250,000 in scholarships and grants to WMU students for overseas studies over the 2007-2008 academic year. Following are some of the top contenders in national and campus scholarship/grant awards:

- Rodger Swan, a senior from Battle Creek, Mich., was awarded a full-ride scholarship to Keio University in Tokyo, Japan for AY 07-08, which covers tuition and fees and includes a monthly stipend for expenses. Rodger is majoring in English with a Japanese minor.

- Lindsey Rucker, a senior from Schoolcraft, Mich., was the recipient of a full-ride scholarship to Freie Universitat Berlin in Germany for AY 07-08, which covers tuition and fees and includes a monthly stipend for expenses. Lindsey is majoring in German, with a Japanese minor.

- Anna Groesser, a senior from Traverse City, Mich., picked up two prestigious awards to study in Japan—a Freeman Asia award for $7,000 and a $4,500 Gilman Scholarship. She is studying at Rikkyo University in Tokyo, Japan for AY 07-08 and is majoring in Global and International Studies with a Japanese minor.

The President’s Grant for Study Abroad is designed for students who plan to study a foreign language overseas and who can demonstrate significant academic preparation for their project. The award is primarily based on financial need with smaller grants awarded for merit only. The highest recent award was $11,000 for an academic year abroad. There is an application deadline every semester for studying abroad the following semester or academic year. The deadlines are March 15 to study abroad the following fall semester or academic year and Oct. 15 to study abroad the following spring semester. Visit Haenicke Institute Study Abroad online at: www.wmich.edu/studyabroad. The following students were the top three award-winners in the WMU’s President’s Grant for Study Abroad:

- David McDowell- $9,500. David also was awarded $1,000 from WMU’s Department of Foreign Languages. He is studying at Daigo Bunka University, Tokyo, Japan for AY 07-08. David is a native of Columbia, Mich. and is a senior majoring in computer engineering with a Japanese minor.

- Mikel Kotonika- $7,896. Mikel, a native of Albania, used his award to attend Universitat Tubingen in Germany for AY 07-08. He is currently a junior majoring in political science with a German minor. Mikel has also lived in the Czech Republic and Germany before moving to the United States. He currently resides in Sterling Heights, Mich.

- Aziz Harrington- $6,010. Aziz is also the recipient of a $3,500 Freeman Asia award and a $5,000 Gilman Scholarship. He is currently studying at Beijing Language and Culture University in China for AY 07-08. Aziz is from Holland, Mich. and is a senior majoring in marketing with a Chinese minor.

Upcoming Events

University Libraries

University Library Faculty and the Graduate Center for Research and Retention will be sponsoring workshops and drop-in sessions for graduate students to support them in conducting library research. Faculty is welcome to participate. Upper-level undergraduates may attend by obtaining the permission of the instructor, Prof. Michele Behr (michele.behr@wmich.edu). Full information for September through December may be found at: http://www.wmich.edu/library/grads/workshops.php.
College of Health and Human Services

The Charles Van Riper Language, Speech and Hearing Clinic is offering a series of classes designed to increase understanding of the effects of hearing loss, learn new strategies to improve communication, and explore new hearing aid technology. Morning and evening sessions are available beginning Sept. 18. The Charles Van Riper Language, Speech and Hearing Clinic is located within the WMU University Clinics at 1000 Oakland Drive. Please contact 387-8047 or 387-8062 for further information.

College of Aviation

On Oct. 19, an Open House for Alumni and Friends will be held from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the College of Aviation for alumni planning to return to WMU for Homecoming weekend. This event is being planned for your arrival in Battle Creek on Friday in time to kick off a weekend of fun. Alumni should come to the COAs Aviation Education Center (building #209) main reception area between 3 and 4:30 p.m. Tours of the new CRJ & Cirrus Aviator simulators will be offered. Our fleet of Cirrus SR 20s and 22s will be on the tarmac though its safe to say that if the weather is good, some will be flying. For additional information contact Karen Kitt, WMU College of Aviation, 237 N. Helmer Rd, Battle Creek, Mich. 49015, (269) 964-7767 or karen.kitt@wmich.edu.

Graduate College

The 2007-2008 Graduate College Colloquium Series has begun! We begin this academic year with lectures on “The Vocation of Seeking Truth,” On Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2007, Dr. Nora Berrah, of the Department of Physics, will be presenting her discussion of Gender and Science, entitled “Beyond Bias and Barriers: Sciences for Everyone!” from 4 to 5:30 pm in Putney Auditorium, Fetzer Center. The first Sigma Xi sponsored colloquium begins on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007: Dr. Jeffery A. Wilson, of the University of Michigan’s Museum of Paleontology, will be presenting “Monoliths of the Mesozoic: The Paleobiology of Sauropod Dinosaurs,” from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Bernhard Center’s Brown and Gold Room. All are invited to attend this interdisciplinary series, for more information please visit the events section of the Graduate College’s website at: www.wmich.edu/grad/.

College of Education

The Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation will host a celebration block party for its students on Friday, Oct. 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the basketball arena. The event is co-sponsored by Department of Athletics.

Education Week: The 2007 Golden Apple Award Recipients will be feted at a program on Friday, Oct. 5.

College of Fine Arts

The Department of Theatre is proud to present its opening production, Miss Witherspoon, by Christopher Durang, Sept. 27-29 and Oct. 4-6 at 8 p.m. and also on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 2 p.m. This zany comedy was named one of the Ten Best Plays of 2005 by Time Magazine and Newsday, and was a finalist for the Pulitzer. Reincarnation and Chicken Little’s falling sky anchor this clever exposé of the pitfalls of contemporary culture. Tickets may be purchased through the Gilmore Theatre ticket office, 387-6222.

The University Symphony Orchestra will present the opening concert of its 2007-08 season on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 3 p.m. in Miller Auditorium. The concert will also be the School of Music’s official “welcome to WMU” for university President John M. Dunn and his wife, Linda, who are planning to attend. Titled “From Russia with Love,” Sunday’s concert will feature three popular symphonic works by Russian composers. The program will open with the Overture to “Colas Breugnon” by Dmitri Kabalevsky, a marvelous piece which incorporates nationalistic Russian themes and rich orchestral color. WMU School of Music Professor of Piano Lori Sims will be the featured soloist in the popular and virtuosic “Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor” by Serge Rachmaninoff. The centerpiece of the concert will be the “Symphony No. 5 in D Minor” by Dmitri Shostakovich. This spectacular piece launched Shostakovich into national prominence at its premiere in Moscow.

In October, the Department of Theatre presents Dracula in the D. Terry Williams Theatre. This stage adaptation of Bram Stoker’s classic is a riveting blend of Victorian melodrama and contemporary horror. The wild and evil Prince of Darkness comes to Kalamazoo in this haunting new incarnation. Dracula runs Oct. 11-13 and 18-20 at 8 p.m.; Oct. 20 at midnight; and Continued on next page
The Fall Concert of Dance: SEXY_TEEN_LOVE_IDOL.NET and other dance/digital shorts will be presented in the Dalton Center Multimedia Room, Oct. 18-20, at 8:15 p.m. and Oct. 20 and 21 at 3 p.m. Tickets are available in the Department of Dance for $15.00; $12.00 for Partners in Dance, staff and seniors; and $7.00 for students. For more information call 269-387-5830.

The Frostic School of Art Faculty Exhibition opens in the Monroe Brown Gallery on Thursday, Oct. 18 and runs through Sunday, Nov. 11. There will be weekly lectures by experts in vaccinology—held live at the Fetzer Center on the Western University campus in Kalamazoo, Mich., and broadcast to 10 Pfizer sites around the globe. Interested members of the general science public are invited to attend the seminar series at Fetzer Center. Those who desire college credit may register for the course once they are enrolled at WMU, and the program is offered as continuing education for Pfizer colleagues.

- Oct 12, 2007
  “The odyssey of eIF2A: A repressor of IRES-mediated translation”
  Presenter: William C. Merrick, Ph.D.
  Department of Biochemistry
  School of Medicine
  Case Western Reserve University
  Cleveland, Ohio

- Oct 19, 2007
  Guy Benian, Ph.D.
  Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
  Associate Professor of Cell Biology
  Biological and Biomedical Sciences
  Emory University

- Oct 26, 2007
  “Seeing is believing: studying neuronal regeneration in the adult zebrafish retina.”
  David Hyde, Ph.D.

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Globalization and International Development: Critical Issues of the 21st Century. Werner Sichel Lecture-Seminar Series Set for 2007-2008. The 2007-2008 Werner Sichel Economic Lecture-Seminar Series features six outstanding economists whose presentations will focus on the challenges and opportunities of globalization and international development. All presentations are free and open to the public. They are all held at 3 p.m. in 3508 Knauss Hall. Details on the speakers and topics will be available soon on the Department of Economics’ website at www.wmich.edu/economics. The Lecture-Seminar Series will include the following presenters:

- Oct. 24, 2007—Dr. Lisa D. Cook, Michigan State University
- Nov. 14, 2007—Dr. Steven Radelet, Center for Global Development
- Feb. 27, 2008—Dr. Hadi Saleh Esfahani, University of Illinois-Urbana
- March 26, 2008—Dr. Joseph Joyce, Wellesley College
- April 9, 2008—Dr. Linda Tesar, University of Michigan

Other College of Arts and Sciences October Events:

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Event: Ethics Center Program
Rethinking No Child Left Behind
Speaker: Paul Farber, Teaching, Learning, and Education Studies, WMU & Allison Kelaher-Young, Teaching, Learning and Education Studies, WMU
Location: 210 Bernhard Center
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Sponsor: WMU Center for the Study of Ethics in Society
Contact: Sandra L. Borden, sandra.borden@wmich.edu, 387-0362

20
Event: Tailgate @ the Tower
Location: Sprau Tower and fountain area
Time: 10:30 a.m. to noon
Sponsor: School of Communication
Contact: www.wmich.edu/communication
What We’re Reading

College of Health and Human Services

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down, by Anne Fadiman. The college is planning a book club to discuss this text.

College of Arts and Sciences

Dear Colleague,
Are you working in the area of linguistics and interested in meeting other linguists on campus? A number of us have formed the WMU Linguistics Group and invite you to join us. Currently, we are planning a speaker series for the coming year, using funding that has been designated for this purpose. If you are interested in participating in this group, please contact me at c.running-johnson@wmich.edu.

Prism Newsletter

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