**Items of Academic Interest**

**COLLEGE OF AVIATION**

The College of Aviation signed an agreement with Ohio-based AirNet Systems Inc. that will give Western aviation students and graduates preferential hiring treatment with AirNet. The preferred interview agreement will offer a guaranteed interview to students who have acquired 450 hours of flight time as a pilot, have received a letter of recommendation from a WMU chief flight instructor, and have commendable performance and training records along with other requirements. AirNet provides time-critical air transportation services for small package shippers and banking customers to more than 100 cities nationwide, according to its Web site. Craig Washka, director of pilot recruitment for AirNet, said Friday that AirNet has hired dozens of WMU graduates over the years and knows the quality of Western's program. “This is a tremendous opportunity for us to have a closer relationship with a college that's near our location in Columbus, Ohio, and help develop pilots for the future,” Washka said. AirNet also is expected to have about a dozen internships available this summer, Washka said.

The College of Aviation held an aviation networking day on April 13 that was a huge success. Twenty five employers were on hand at the Battle Creek facility to talk with staff and students about jobs. The Air National Guard brought their new glass cockpit A-10, the IFL Group brought their Convair 580 and AirNet brought their Lear Jet for display. Aviation students were pleased at the number of internships available, as well as the opportunity to talk with employers about what it will take to work for these companies after graduation.

Western Michigan University and four Michigan community colleges have joined forces to make the state a powerhouse in aviation education and boost the reach of economic development in the aviation sector for communities around Michigan. The agreement was signed at a ceremony in Lansing on March 27 at the office of Michigan Lt. Governor Cherry. “Expanding access to higher education is a critical component of our plan to transform Michigan's economy,” said Lt. Governor John D. Cherry Jr. of the collaborative effort. “This cooperative agreement between Western Michigan University, Delta College, Jackson Community College, Lansing Community College and Northwestern Michigan College will not only expand access to aviation training for students, but will streamline costs and strengthen economic development efforts in this growing field.” Through the arrangement, students in aviation disciplines at the four community colleges will enjoy a seamless transition from their associate's degree programs to WMU's four-year baccalaureate program. They can then continue their careers by moving into one of the exclusive bridging agreements WMU enjoys with regional air carriers and local partners.

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

On March 14, 2007, WMU alumnus Dr. Penny Weller spoke to two accountancy classes about improving business processes. Dr. Weller is Senior Business Advisor and Finance Shared Services Program Leader at The Hackett Group, a strategic advisory firm in Atlanta, GA.

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

IME faculty and students recently provided an IME Open House for several high school students who have been accepted at WMU for the fall semester. All the students have either applied to an IME engineering or technology program or declared no engineering major. A dozen IME faculty, led by Dr. Betsy Aller and Fred Sitkins and several WMU students who are enrolled in IME programs, answered questions from the high school students and their parents. “It was a fun, interactive day,” Aller said, “We want to encourage them to come to Western.” The event began with a pizza lunch followed by tours of several IME labs. IME professor Dr. Pavel Ikonomov led a project in the Fabrication Lab that enabled the visiting students to make a personalized metal object using the computer-controlled plasma cutting system. He also provided a hands-on demonstration of how machines can be controlled by virtual reality. In the automotive lab, IME instructor Tom Sutton demonstrated how data on a new Ford Mustang is collected while the vehicle is being run on a chassis dynamometer. In the vehicle lab, James Plocnik, a senior in IME’s engineering graphics and design technology (EGR) program, discusses the plastics lab with visitors to IME Open House.

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formed a WMU license plate. The IME department offers four undergraduate programs – industrial engineering (IEN), engineering graphics and design technology (EGR), manufacturing engineering technology (MFT), and engineering management technology (UEM), three master’s programs – industrial engineering (IEG), manufacturing engineering (MNE), engineering management (GEM) – and a Ph.D. in industrial engineering. IME students who answered questions and served as tour guides included Lauren Lambert (EGR), Josh Leyrer (EGR), Madeline McAuley (EGR), Ryan Miller (MFT), James Plocinik (EGR), Courtney Rawlings (EGR), Brian Petro, Sam Ramrahat, and Tom Swartz. Aller and Sitkins were pleased with the enthusiasm of the parents and students. “This was indeed a rewarding event for all,” Sitkins said.

Boy Scouts from Vicksburg and Schoolcraft went to college to learn about engineering drafting. In two three-hour sessions at WMU’s College of Engineering and Applied Sciences’ Parkview Campus, 14 scouts examined engineering drawing from two perspectives, by hand and with computer-aided design (CAD). WMU’s Slobodan Urdarevik, the lead faculty member in the engineering graphics classes in the IME department, provided the instruction with the help of student teaching assistant volunteers. “Working with these scouts has been very exciting,” he said. As part of the requirements for the drafting badge, the Scouts, who ranged from 11 to 15 years old, completed a third angle orthographic projection showing the front, top, and right side views of an object. “In order to draw any object either by hand or in CAD, we need to know these three views of a part,” Urdarevik said. “These are basic.” The scouts learned to transfer measurements from the part to the drawing, to use symbols, and to show dimensions. They took width, depth, and height measurements of the part and determined the location and diameter of a hole in the part. One week after completing hand-drawn images, the scouts returned to a WMU computer lab where they drew the same part using AutoCAD, an electronic drafting program. WMU students Jonathan Zolp, a second-year aeronautical engineering student from Paw Paw; David Schmidt, a second-year civil engineering student from Rochester Hills; and Jaime Rodriguez, a mechanical engineering senior from Three Rivers volunteered to assist the scouts. All three presently serve as undergraduate teaching assistants (TAs) in the engineering graphics course. This is the first time Urdarevik has offered the drafting sessions for scouts, but he is interested in providing instruction for other scouts to earn the drafting badge. “I hope there will be more requests because I think learning about drafting is beneficial for the scouts and it’s also good for them to come here to the college.” Those interested in scheduling sessions should contact him at slobodan.urdarevik@wmich.edu.

Last month, the Paper Engineering Open House attracted many Michigan high school students to the Parkview Campus of the College of Engineering, Applied Sciences (CEAS) to learn about careers in the paper industry, to examine WMU’s paper facilities, to enjoy hands-on paper engineering activities, and to learn about the Paper Technology Foundation (PTF) scholarship program. The Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI) has been hosting similar events for the past two years. According to Dr. Said AbuBakr, PCI department chair, over 100 students and parents attended from Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Muskegon, Escanaba, and the Detroit area. “These are talented high school students who have never heard of paper engineering,” he said. “These events explain the pulp and paper industry.” The event began with a light breakfast and welcome. Nichole Perk, paper programs’ specialist, then reviewed the various careers available to those who earn degrees in paper engineering and science and the other engineering degrees that often collaborate on paper projects. “Paper engineering careers are limitless,” she said.
PCI professor Dr. Margaret Joyce demonstrates paper coating drawdown for the high school students, who then coated their own sheets of paper.

According to Perk, almost all students can find a paper engineering career to suit their personalities. She listed a wide variety of occupations available to those who earn paper degrees and the various other engineering degrees that work with paper. “You can work with $500 million machines, tackle environmental concerns, improve colors and coatings, or work with radio frequency identification labels (RFIDs),” Perk told the students. The audience also watched an industry video that put the large size of paper machines in perspective before Jan Walter, general manager for the pilot plants, led a tour of the WMU pilot plant. Students participated in three lab demos. “It’s really important for these students to begin envisioning themselves working in our program,” Perk said. In the coating lab, the students each coated a sheet of paper under the direction of Dr. Margaret Joyce, whom Perk described as “our resident coating expert” for the research Joyce has done in paper coating. Joyce first demonstrated a drawdown for students who then coated their own sheets before running them through a calendar. Other lab demos were directed by PCI professor Dr. Raja Aravamuthan, lab coordinator Matthew Stoops, and grad student Ali Fadel. John Bergin, PTF managing director, reviewed scholarship opportunities, and the event concluded with lunch when the guest students were given PCI tee shirts.

**COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**

The WMU Department of Theatre's production of "Remants from Senegal" has been invited to perform at the prestigious National Black Theatre Festival. The show, directed by Dr. Von Washington, will travel to North Carolina in August of 2007.

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Frederick MacDonald, associate professor of social work, will be teaching this summer at the University of Applied Sciences in Coburg, Germany. As a guest professor there since 2000, MacDonald has been instrumental in developing the master’s program in clinical social work at Coburg as well as for the Alice Salomon School of Social Work in Berlin. MacDonald will be teaching in both the undergraduate and graduate programs at Coburg, and will offer the following workshops: Globalization and Social Welfare; Restoring Social Justice in the Global Economy; Social Welfare in the USA and Germany: A Comparative Analysis; Family Systems Theory and Family Therapy for Clinical Social Work; Single Case Evaluation Methods in Social Work Practice; and Evidence Based Practice: Methods and Models for Social Work Practice.

On Friday, April 13, the Kalamazoo Area Mathematics and Science Center (KAMSC) held a health conference for its students at WMU’s College of Health and Human Services. The conference, titled “Searching for Health: Pathways to Health Careers,” gave high school students the opportunity to explore fields such as nursing, occupational therapy, and holistic health care.

**Faculty Accolades**

Assistant professor of dance Megan Slayter was awarded a Gilmore Emerging Artist grant to conduct research in Paris on choreographer and dance lighting pioneer Loïe Fuller. She will be working with research collaborator Jessica Lindberg and their goal is to recreate the third and final dance from Loïe Fuller's original 1896 concert, "Lily of the Nile". Fuller's three dances "Night", "Fire Dance" and "Lily of the Nile" will be performed this summer in Chicago in partnership with Momenta Dance Company. This will be the first time the three have been performed in over 100 years. This performance will be included on a new DVD documentary on Loïe Fuller.

Bill Davis, assistant professor of art, will display works in the exhibition The Art of Photography at The Lyceum in San Diego, CA. The exhibition is curated by Tim Wride, Director of the Photography Department at the Los Angeles County Arts Museum. His work is also included in the Alternatives Exhibit at the WWA Arts Center Flash Gallery in Lakewood, Colorado, curated by Mark Sink.

School of Music faculty members Renata Artman Knific (violin) and Lori Sims (piano) have released a new CD. The recording, released on the MSR Classics label, is a compilation of sonatas for violin and piano by William Bolcom and it is appropriately titled William Bolcom Works for Violin and Piano. On the liner notes, Bolcom states, “The vibrant team of Renata Knific and Lori Sims play these violin sonatas with rare fervor and drama. I first heard them in a shattering performance of the third sonata; they have evinced the same intensity in their readings of the other three, and I thank them profoundly for this recording.”

Pianist Lori Sims, the John T. Bernhard professor of music, presented a solo recital in Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall on March 18. A review of the performance in New York Concert Review concluded, “Ms. Sims is quite a catch for Western Michigan.” The reviewer went on to call the performance “polished and professional” and lauded Sims as “versatile” and “well established in professional music circles.” The recital included the premiere of a new work by Mischa Zupko, son of former music professor and composer Ramon Zupko. Of the Zupko work, the reviewer wrote, “Not many performers could pull off such a performance, and the composer appeared pleased.” In addition to the recital, Sims’ visit to New York City included several events for WMU alumni and friends.

The Western Brass Quintet, a resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music, recently took a recruiting tour in Wisconsin and Illinois. The three day trip, March 10–12, included

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Thompson, Dr. Joyce studies doctoral research conference.

Eric was also the winner of the Scientific Poster Award for best initiative at the College of Health and Human Services in 2002. Interdisciplinary Health Studies, which was initiated at the College of Health and Human Services in 2002. Eric was also the winner of the Scientific Poster Award for best research poster presentation at the 2006 interdisciplinary health studies doctoral research conference.

**College of Health and Human Services**

Dr. Joyce Thompson, Lacey Professor for Community Health Nursing at the Bronson School of Nursing, has accepted an invitation from Michael O. Leavitt, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, to serve on the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice.

Eric Vangsnes, interim program director for the Physician Assistant department at WMU, will be the first graduate of the Ph.D. program in Interdisciplinary Health Studies, which was initiated at the College of Health and Human Services in 2002. Eric was also the winner of the Scientific Poster Award for best research poster presentation at the 2006 interdisciplinary health studies doctoral research conference.

**College of Arts and Sciences**

Seven faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences have been recognized with College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Achievement Awards. The awards are based on outstanding performance in three areas: teaching; research and creative activity; and professional and community service.

- The teaching award is based on outstanding graduate and undergraduate classroom instruction, mentoring, independent study, field work, laboratory work, thesis and dissertation advising, undergraduate and graduate advising, curriculum innovation or any other work in which the faculty interact with students to promote learning. Recipients of this award include Robert Berkhofer, III (History) and Susan Hoffman (Political Science).

- The professional and community service award is based on outstanding service to the university, community, and professional organizations. Recipients include Jan Maatman (Public Affairs and Administration) and Michael Nassaney (Anthropology).

- The research and creative activity award is based on scholarly achievements in research and creative activity. These achievements may be philosophical, historical, literary, scientific, or technical and must constitute significant contributions to understanding and portraying the human condition or the natural world. Recipients include John Clark (Political Science), Grace Tiffany (English), and Chansheng He (Geography).

**Haworth College of Business**

Drs. James Carr and Linda LeBlanc, associate professors of psychology, have been appointed to the editorial board of the new journal, *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. This journal, published by the *International Association for Behavior Analysis*, is a peer-reviewed translational publication designed to provide for practitioners science-based, best-practice information relevant to service delivery in behavior analysis. Carr and LeBlanc have been WMU faculty members since 1999. They co-direct the University’s Center for Autism, an outpatient clinic for families of children with autism spectrum disorders. Both advise graduate students, Carr for the behavior analysis program and LeBlanc for the behavior analysis and clinical programs.

Wil Reding, adjunct faculty member in geography and part-time instructor in environmental studies, was recently awarded the Master Front-Line Interpreter Award by the National Association for Interpretation. Recipients of the award must demonstrate mastery of interpretive techniques, program development, and project design. Reding was cited for his “three decades of dedication to interpretation, his enthusiasm and creativity, and for his outstanding outdoor/environmental historical programs for Great Lakes region groups from preschool to senior citizen.”

Mark Hurwitz, assistant professor of political science, has been appointed Legal Notes Editor for the *Justice System Journal*, effective January 2007. The journal, sponsored by the National Center for State Courts, publishes social science research on courts and court administration. As Legal Notes Editor, Hurwitz is responsible for contributing articles on contemporary judicial topics, as well as overseeing the editing process for journal submissions. Hurwitz, a WMU faculty member since 2005, conducts research on judicial politics and behavior, a research area at the intersection of law and politics. He has published numerous articles in political science and law journals. Law & Policy, an article demonstrating how the Supreme Court’s agenda both influences and is shaped by litigation in the lower federal courts, is one of his recent published articles.

Cindy Linn (Biological Sciences) has been awarded a $220,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services to study ACh Nueroprotection.

Susan E. Stapleton (Chemistry) has been selected as the 2007 recipient of the Bennett J. Cohen—Educational Leadership Award by the Michigan Society for Medical Research.

Linda LeBlanc (Psychology) recently was appointed to the editorial board of the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*, an international scientific journal published by the Norwegian Association for Behavior Analysis.

Mr. David Rozelle has announced he will be retiring as of December 31, 2007. Mr. Rozelle has served the Department of Accountancy for over 30 years. He has served as faculty adviser to Beta Alpha Psi for 23 years and was awarded the WMU Distinguished Service Award for 2007.

Luann Bigelow, Office Coordinator for the Department of Accountancy, will receive a WMU Make a Difference Award at a reception on April 23, 2007. Luann has served the
Dr. Carla Adkison-Bradley, professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, was presented with the Professional Development Award by the Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD) during the American Counseling Association Annual Convention in Detroit on March 24. This award recognizes an AMCD member who has developed techniques and systems that have strengthened, expanded, improved and/or otherwise had demonstrable benefits to clients. Dr. Adkison-Bradley also recently received the Distinguish Service Award from the Board of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

The College of Education annual awards program honors faculty, staff and students who have distinguished themselves through extraordinary service to the college, university and community through teaching, research, leadership and professional activities. Congratulations to the following recipients awarded on April 20, 2007:

- Esprit de Corps Award: Linda Dannison, chair, Family and Consumer Sciences
- Undergraduate Rising Star Award: Denise Peters, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
- Masters Rising Star Award: Casey Coker, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
- Doctoral Rising Star Award: Julie Davis, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology
- Staff Excellence Award: Diane Bourgeois, office associate, Educational Leadership, Research and Technology
- Staff Excellence Award: Deb Withee, webmaster, Educational Technology Services, Deans Office
- Strengthening Community Connections Award: Jody Brylinsky, professor, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
- Mary L. Dawson Teaching Excellence Award: Shaila Rao, assistant professor, Special Education and Literacy Studies
- Teaching Excellence Award, Part-Time: Lisa Makuch, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology

The following faculty made presentations at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting April 9-13 in Chicago:

- Dr. James A. Muchmore, associate professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies, presented “Improving an Urban School District Through a Graduate Degree Program for Inservice Teachers: A Study of Teacher Change” and “The Lives of Teachers Who Survive and Thrive”
- Dr. Ronald A. Crowell, professor emeritus, Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies

Dr. Gary Bischof, president of the Michigan Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and associate professor in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, represented the Michigan Division at the AAMFT Leadership Conference March 22-25 in Alexandria, VA. The conference involved lobbying on Capitol Hill about the professional interests of marriage and family therapists, leadership development, and workshops on enhancing divisions of AAMFT.

Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology faculty and students presented at the American Counseling Association Annual Convention during March in Detroit. Dr. Adkison-Bradley, professor, and Dr. Phillip D. Johnson, assistant professor, along with students Darryl Plunkett, Patrick Kamau, and Glinda Rawls presented “Preparing African American Counselor Education Doctoral Students to Become Scholars: A Focus on Publishing.” Research poster sessions included:

- “Counselor Application of Informed Consent Ethical Principles: A National Survey” by Dr. Suzanne M. Hedstrom, assistant professor, and students Ericka Newton, Christina Stuive, Robert Powell, and Daniel Romero.
- “Understanding the Professional Development and Needs of Group Workers” by Dr. Kelly McDonnell, associate professor, and student Jessica Kerby.
- “The Experience of Married International Students with Culture Shock: A Qualitative Study” by student Adriana Fox.
- “Assessing the Potential for Depression-Related Issues Among College Student-Athletes” by student Jeffrey Badger.

Mark Rainey, doctoral student in educational leadership, helped to secure grant funding and deliver one of the most successful leadership academy programs for building leaders in the state. He was assigned to the Wallace Project (http://www.wmich.edu/wallacegrant/) for developing school leaders where he contributed to a highly successful state-wide training project for school principals. He also became a key member of a Michigan Department of Education team that develops a national model for training building principals to successfully lead comprehensive school reform.

Casey Peavey, an interior design major in Family and Consumer Sciences, received an Honorable Mention award in the 2007 Ghiordes Knot Student Creative Space Competition.
Student Accomplishments Continued...

An Honorable Mention award for her design drawing entry in the 2007 Ghiordes Knot Student Creative Space Competition. Her drawing was executed as part of her course work in FCS 259 Studio I. The award was presented on March 30 at the annual Career Day sponsored by the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) at the Michigan Design Center in Troy, Michigan. Casey is a sophomore from Battle Creek.

Jeff Kingma and Jeff Engbers, graduate pedagogy students in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, presented a poster titled “Integrating and Applying Fitness Concepts with Physical Best and FITNESSGRAM” at the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Leadership national conference.

Master’s students Casey Coker and Josh Jacobs and Dr. Gary Bischof, associate professor in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, gave a poster presentation titled “Major Premarital Inventories: Feminist & Diversity Critiques” at the MAMFT 2007 Annual Conference on March 30 in Lansing.

Darryl P. Plunkett, doctoral student in Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, participated in a special program titled “The Student-Counselor Educator Connection: Clarifying Your Research Ideas” on March 24. This program was designed for doctoral students at any stage of thinking about their dissertations. Counselor educators consult with small groups of participants to provide feedback and share ideas related to dissertation topics and research methodology.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

WMU’s Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA) Student Chapter was honored with two awards at the 2007 Annual Technical Conference (ATC) held last month in Pittsburgh. First, the WMU chapter received a Special Recognition award for Technical Writing and Non-print/New Media Design for “Impressions,” the WMU TAGA student journal 2007 entry. In addition, Erika Hrehorova, a PCI Ph.D. candidate, won TAGA’s Dusty Rhodes/TAGA Graduate Student Paper Award. The students’ winning journal includes the research papers written by WMU TAGA student chapter members on topics such as printing of electronics, color management and spot color proofing, printing inks for conventional printing, and conductive inks. Writers for the journal include Hrehorova, TAGA student chapter president, Yu-Ju Wu, PCI Ph.D. student, Miles Haney, Garrett Tucker, and Nathan Schmucker, all PCI undergraduate students majoring in imaging. The journal design was created by Sean Sanders, a PCI undergraduate student majoring in imaging, and the page layout by Sujay Pandkar, who is enrolled in a PCI master’s program. Printing and binding of the publication was donated by North American Colors, Inc., Portage, MI. Hrehorova’s winning paper, “Evaluation of Gravure Print Form Quality and the Capability of Available Methods to Engrave Uniform Grooves for Printing Very Fine Lines. The paper is based on her research focus on the suitability of gravure printing in electronics manufacture and the development of new functional materials based on conductive and semi-conductive polymers for printed organic electronics. Originally from Slovakia, Hrehorova came to WMU in the fall 2003 after earning a BS in chemical engineering and a MS in polymer materials at Slovak University. She has also earned a MS in paper and imaging science and engineering at WMU. She will present her paper at 2008 TAGA Annual Technical Conference in San Francisco, CA. Also attending this year’s conference were Omkar Chandorkar, a PCI master’s student, and PCI faculty members Dr. Paul Fleming and Dr. Alexandra (Sasha) Pekarovicova, who serve as advisors to the WMU chapter. TAGA has 15 active student chapters internationally and sponsors a student chapter publication competition at each of its ATCs.

Last month 15 CEAS student members of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE – pronounced Nez bee) participated in the 33rd Annual National Convention – themed “Our Time, Our Renaissance” held in Columbus, OH. According to Vanessa Lucas, an engineering management senior and the president of the WMU-NSBE student chapter, the WMU chapter earned several honors. First the chapter Web site, which was created by Rashad Thomas, won a Web site of the Month award. In the regional election, WMU freshman Chris Bellomy was voted the vice chair of the regional e-board. Two WMU students completed classes that led to certifications, four students were invited to interview, and three students received job offers. “We also went to dinner with our buddy chapter, MSU’s NSBE Chapter, and Whirlpool Corporation, which is one of our sponsors,” Lucas said. “Some of our alumni are from Boeing and Parker Hannifin.” Those students who attended include Shedrick Harrell, Josh Armstrong, Alex Plair, Adrian Sargent, Antoinette Armstrong, Torri Garland, Vanessa Lucas, Andrew Sigfrids, Lauren Denham-Hubbard, Naidra Walls, Chris Bellomy, Dominique Young, Jeff Staten, and Cameron Mallard.

This month, CEAS dean, Dr. Tim Greene, honored 17 seniors as the top students in their programs. The honored students represented seven CEAS departments: Civil and Construction

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Engineering (CCE), Computer Science (CS), Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), Industrial Design (ID), Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME), Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE), and Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Imaging (PCI). In addition, the students each invited a special professor. Those students honored, their programs, and the faculty members that they invited included the following. Students from the CCE honor students included Mark Humiecki, civil engineering, with Dr. Sherif Yehia and John Kakoczki, construction engineering, with Dr. Ahmad Jrade. Honored CS students were Kevin Steuer, computer science, with Dr. Ala Al-Fugaha and Justin Constantino, computer science: theory & analysis, with Dr. Don Nelson. Top ECE students were Chintan Dagli, computer engineering, with Dr. Janos Grantner, and Jeremy Jensen, electrical engineering, with Dr. Ahmad Jrade. Honored MAE students included Nicholas Killoran, aeronautical engineering, with Dr. Bob White; and John (J. D.) Steinmetz, manufacturing engineering technology: automotive, with Dr. Sam Ramrattan. MAE honorees included Andrew Hovingh, mechanical engineering, with Dr. James Kamman; Everett Bolduc, aeronautical engineering, with Dr. Kapsong Ro; and Rob Harmer, aeronautical engineering, with Dr. Damon Miller. Three top students from PCI were Ryan Stoklosa, paper engineering, with Dr. Margaret Joyce; Tyler Pierce, chemical engineering, with Dr. Peter Parker; and Steve Dilullo, imaging: business, with Larry Ahleman.

Garrett Beulle, a mechanical engineering student from Vicksburg, won first place in the Fall 2006 AutoCAD Contest. Second and third respectively went to Austin McGregor, an aeronautical engineering major from Ada, and Nicholas Killoran, a mechanical engineering major from Macomb. All three are first-year students. They were honored last month in a ceremony held at the CEAS Parkview Campus before an audience that included many students currently enrolled in IME 1420 – Engineering Graphics, the requirement for eligibility in the competition. Sllobadan Urdarevik, IME 1420 lead faculty member, described Beulle’s entry as “an excellent drawing.” All three winners took computer drawing courses in high school and came to WMU specifically for its engineering programs. Both Beulle and McGregor have dean’s scholarships. Beulle had three years of high school CAD classes. Attending WMU is convenient for him in that it allows him to live at home. “WMU is a good engineering school,” he said. “It has really worked out for me.” McGregor, who had two years of high school CAD, chose WMU because of its “good engineering program” in aeronautical engineering. “Not many schools have an aeronautical program,” he said. “WMU is one of the best.” Killoran had three years of high school CAD drawing classes. He is presently involved in the WMU solar car project, and he came to WMU for the engineering program. “They have a good engineering program here,” he said. None of the winners has specific goals for a future career. “I really enjoy designing with the graphics program, Beulle said. Killoran added, “At this point I’m not sure about my long-range goals but I know I’d like to do something progressive.” Each winner received an engraved plaque donated by Dr. Hooks, Inc., a Kalamazoo-based business that specializes in awards. They also received copies of Inventor 11 by AutoDesk, which were provided by Edutronix LLC, based in Troy. Beulle and McGregor received unlimited licenses for Inventor 11 and Killoran received a one-year license. Beulle also received a gift certificate from Best Buy. “These are very nice prizes,” Urdarevik said. The three-hour competition is held each semester. Students are required to draw a 3D solid model of a complicated part with three orthographic views and an isometric offset section of it. They must show all dimensions, symbols, and manufacturing notes. “They must draw the piece so that it is suitable for manufacturing,” Urdarevik said.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) has a new web page thanks to two members of WMU’s student chapter of Eta Kappa Nu electrical and computer engineering honor society, which volunteered to redesign and maintain the site. Society members Matt Stack, the current president, and Phil Warner, past president who was responsible for chartering and establishing the honor society, were credited for the new web site. Stack, a junior in electrical engineering with a math minor, has a web site business that he runs with a friend. “It’s small and doesn’t bring in a lot but it’s a nice hobby,” the Perry, Michigan, native said. Warner, a medallion scholar who is completing his senior year, said his academic specialties involve digital design of integrated circuits, control systems, digital signal processing, real-time communication systems, microcontroller applications, computer architecture, and information security. He is also an active member of Golden Key and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. Both students plan to continue their education in a master’s program. Then Stack would like to seek a position in Michigan and Warner would earn a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering and eventually teach at the university level. ECE office coordinator Janet Liebendorfer was pleased with the students’ work on the new web page. “They have done an excellent job,” she said.
Senior dance major Adam Crain was accepted by audition to be a summer apprentice with River North Chicago Dance Company.

Trumpeter Benje Daneman, a senior from Ada, Michigan, recently completed a three week engagement with the Doc Severinsen Big Band as part of Doc’s final tour. The national tour took Benje from the West Coast to the Southwest, performing to sold-out halls in Washington (Bellingham and Renton), Oregon (Medford), California (Modesto, Carmel, Palm Desert, and Cerritos), Georgia (Marietta), and Florida (Panama City, Jacksonville, Stuart, Key Largo, and Sarasota). Benje also was a finalist in the jazz division of the 2007 National Trumpet Competition. He will graduate from WMU on April 28 with a degree in music education.

Junior dance major Kristi Mountz has been selected as a technical production intern at the 2007 Jacob’s Pillow Summer Festival, in Becket, MA. Kristi was one of 11 interns selected from over 100 applicants. During her internship, Kristi will work with some of the most important international dance companies. Kristi is from Grand Rapids and has been mentored in dance technical theatre by assistant professor Megan Slayter.

WMU Theatre student Ben St. Louis is just completing a professional internship with Cirque du Soleil in Las Vegas and is being courted by Yale University and North Carolina School of the Arts for his graduate education.

In her NYC debut exhibition, Debra Wade (MFA 2006) explores the sounds of jazz heard throughout the city in her whimsical style. The exhibition of paintings and prints will be on exhibition April 6 - 30 at EZ’s Gallery in Manhattan.

Elizabeth (Beth) Ogren, a third year student in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology’s Au.D. program in the College of Health and Human Services, is a member of the National Association of Future Doctors of Audiology (NAFDA) Board of Directors and is Convention Director for the upcoming national NAFDA Convention in Denver. This year’s NAFDA convention will show Beth’s hard work when it is held in April, 2007 in conjunction with the Annual Convention and Exposition of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA). AAA claims to host the largest gathering of audiologists in the world. NAFDA is a non-profit professional student organization dedicated to education, research, and networking in audiology. Beth came to WMU after receiving her bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. This coming year she plans to participate in a fourth year externship at UCLA Medical Center and to graduate in June, 2008.

Kylie Schultz, a graduate assistant for the Holistic Health Care program, took second place in the Mid West University Speaking Contest held in Chicago in April 2007. Kylie has worked as a graduate assistant for two years in the HOL 1000 course and will be graduating next December.

Bridget Nolan, a graduate assistant in the HOL 1000 course this year, has been awarded the Master's Student of the Year for the Counseling Department. Bridget will be graduating from WMU in April, 2007.

At a March 22nd presidential scholars convocation, the following four College of Health and Human students were honored: Nicole Rivera (Presidential Scholar in Interdisciplinary Health Services); Tena Hoekstra (Presidential Scholar in Nursing); Valerie Burnsise (Presidential Scholar in Social Work); and Michelle Magalski (Presidential Scholar in Speech Pathology and Audiology).

Mr. Henry Seo, a WMU-Southwest student in the 18-Hour Teacher Certification program and Buchanan High School Korean Language teacher, received top honors from the University Centennial Anniversary Ceremony in Seoul, Korea. University President Dr. Kwang Soo Seo recognized Henry as an educator who makes the university proud by his work in education and surrounding communities. Mr. Henry Seo is a prime illustration of the university’s motto “Truth, Love and Service to the World.” Along with his help in the development of the Korean Language Program at Buchanan High School he has conducted numerous teacher training workshops in the nation; he developed a mnemonic chart for vowels and consonants, vowel exercises, and a song for teaching the Korean alphabet easily. He has also coordinated Korean War Veteran appreciation dinners, Korean Cultural presentations, and Korean Cultural programs for more than 16 years. Mr. Seo modestly said, “I am lucky to have wonderful teachers who provide good education and supporters who helped and encouraged me to continue my work and service to the communities. I am thankful for these people. Without them I could not imagine receiving such an honor.”

Of the recently named Presidential Scholars, nineteen out of twenty of the awarded students are from the College of Arts and Sciences. One Presidential Scholar, Jaime Timmins, served as a College of Arts and Sciences student ambassador in 2006. The Presidential Scholars convocation is an annual event which has been instituted to honor WMU’s outstanding senior students, as nominated by the faculty of each academic department. The award is WMU’s highest honor presented to a senior. The scholars are chosen on the basis of their general academic excellence, academic and/or artistic excellence in the department’s program, and their intellectual and/or artistic promise. This year’s recipients are:

- Michael R. Carpenter
- Shruti Sevak
- Loren M. LaPoinle
- Christopher F. Sell
- Leah L. DuBuc
- Jeremy T. Sikkema
- Caitlin E. McAndrew
- Jaime E. Timmins
- Amber R. Suggitt
- Kenneth W. Hilker
- Joshua P. Kirschner
- Caitlin B. Murphy
- Marguerite A. Arthur

- Anthropology
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Communication (School of)
- Comparative Religion
- Economics
- English
- Environmental Studies Program
- Foreign Languages
- Geography
- Geosciences
- History
- Mathematics

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Since 1989. Serving as a communications and hospitality center for journalists, publicists, celebrities, and film industry's presence at the Cannes International Film Festival in Cannes, France, held during May 2007. The American Pavilion has been the focus of the U.S. Program of the American Pavilion of the widely acclaimed Marché du Film, the Cannes Film Festival, the Palais des Festivals (the main Festival venue for screenings and special events) and the Marché du Film, the Cannes Film Festival in the summer of 2006 to bring arts appreciation to the community. Jacob is pursuing a Bachelors of Arts in Film, Video, and Media Studies, in the School of Communication.

**Student Accolades Continued...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Erica E. Kring</th>
<th>Philosophy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel F. Garvin</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td>Andrea N. Vogler</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<td>Rachel L. Clark</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Andrew D. Mannes</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
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<td>Megan L. Donajkowski</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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Career Development Awards have been presented to twelve students in the College of Arts and Sciences. This award is intended to help undergraduate students advance and develop their career preparation by providing funds for travel to conferences, research equipment, publication expenses, or other funding needs related to their career development. Individual awards are limited to a maximum of $500. Recipients and their departments include:

- Skylar Bre’z, Gender & Women’s Studies
- Karen Lewis, Mathematics
- Danielle Webber, Mathematics
- Michelle Nichols, Mathematics
- Violeta Kovacev-Nikolic, Mathematics
- Caitlin McAndrew, English
- Scott Williams, English
- Daniel Kenzie, English
- Beth Broadhurst, English
- William Bradley, English
- Jennifer Dempsey, English
- Hason Hescock, English

Jacob Durrett, a first-year student in the School of Communication, was competitively selected to the Student Program of the American Pavilion of the widely acclaimed Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France, held during May 2007. The American Pavilion has been the focus of the U.S. film industry’s presence at the Cannes International Film Festival since 1989. Serving as a communications and hospitality center for journalists, publicists, celebrities, filmmakers and motion picture executives working at the Festival, The Pavilion is centrally located on the beach beside the Palais des Festivals (the main Festival venue for screenings and special events) and the Marché du Film, the Cannes Film Market, which boasts 2,612 companies from 74 countries. For the past 19 years, The American Pavilion has offered film students the chance to participate in its Student Program, a work-study program that takes place at the Cannes Film Festival in May. Students who are accepted stay in Cannes for the duration of the Festival, completing a work placement and participating in educational workshops, seminars, pitch sessions, roundtable discussions and screenings. Each Program participant is given an official accreditation badge, allowing access to the Festival and Film Market that is otherwise available only to industry professionals. Approximately 140 students are accepted each year. Because the Festival is not open to the general public, this work-study program is unique and highly competitive. “Jake showed a great passion for film and video from the first week I met him in Fall semester.” says Dr. Jennifer Machiorlatti, associate professor of film, video and media studies. “He edited the final video of our Alumni Keynote speaker Ed Gordon, and demonstrates such potential...this is really a once in a lifetime opportunity for him. There will be students from all the major film schools, many at the MFA level. I am proud that he is representing Western Michigan University.” Durrett graduated from Lakeview High School in Battle Creek. There he was the lead student videographer, independently studying film and assisting in the instruction of other video production classes. He was president of his class for two consecutive years, involved in many different productive student groups, as well as being a four-year member of the school’s show choir. Additionally, Jacob founded his own film production company his junior year in high school and started to serve the community and his school by providing full video services, competitively and professionally. He co-founded the Battle Creek Film Festival in the summer of 2006 to bring arts appreciation to the community. Jacob is pursuing a Bachelors of Arts in Film, Video, and Media Studies, in the School of Communication.

**Haworth College of Business**

The Department of Accountancy co-hosted the 2007 MACPA High School Leaders Conference on February 21, 2007. Participants learned about the accounting profession and the requirements to earn a degree in Accountancy at WMU. Approximately eighty high school students and their teachers participated in this event. Professors Ola Smith and David Rozelle coordinated this event with the MACPA.

Mr. Colin Hopper is the Presidential Scholar in Accountancy for 2007. Originally from Jackson, Michigan, Colin is a member of the Lee Honors College and is majoring in accountancy with a minor in economics as well as philosophy with a concentration in applied ethics. Colin expects to graduate in April 2007 and plans to work at PricewaterhouseCoopers. He is a member of Beta Alpha Psi and Beta Gamma Sigma.

Mr. Jeremy Sikkema is the Presidential Scholar in Economics for 2007. Originally from Kalamazoo, Jeremy is majoring in Accountancy and Economics. He plans to pursue a master’s degree. Jeremy has had internships with EMM Group, Dana Corp., and Plante & Moran. He will complete a fourth internship this summer with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Jeremy has received the University’s Haworth College of Business Achievement Award, a PricewaterhouseCoopers Accountancy Scholarship, and a Global Economist Scholarship.

The Accountancy Department awarded the following scholarships at the Beta Alpha Psi Spring Banquet held on April 9 at the Radisson:

- Ernst & Young Award, Heidi Uphues; Robert Wettwight, Benjamin R. Barrone; Rozelle Award, Cheryl L. Chadderdon; Siegfried, Crandall, Vos & Lewis, Steven R. Fitzsimmons; David & Sandy Rozelle, Andrew T. Marshall; Maner, Costerisan & Ellis, Robert J. Ozdych; Fred Everett, Florentina Marconi; Robert Neubig, Matthew J. Miller; Doeren Mayhew, Trevor R. Smith; Crowe Chizek & Co., Katherine D. Kistler; Yeo & Yeo, Adam K. Diekelman; Jansen Valk Thompson & Reahm, Sara W. Fette; Plante & Moran, Casey M. Franssen; BDO Seidman, Ola Smith; KPMG, Armando J. West; William Maze, David T. Benesh; Deloitte, Kayla N. Boocher; Ernst & Young, Quang Nguyen; Seber Tans, Alicia M. Flint; PricewaterhouseCoopers, Rebecca L. Highett; Roger & Kim Pitzer, Jeremy T. Sikkema; FSA Student, Tiana Ross; Presidential Scholar, Colin Hopper.

**Upcoming Events**

**HAWORTH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

The Haworth College of Business and Keystone Community Bank invites you to attend the seventh presentation of the Seventh Annual Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series. This event will take place in the Dean's Conference Room (Room 2150 Schneider Hall) of the Haworth College of Business on Friday, April 27, 2007 beginning at 8 a.m. The speaker is Mr. Frank J. Sardone, President and CEO of Bronson Healthcare Group, Inc. His presentation is entitled, “Achieving Business Excellence the Baldrige Way.” Frank Sardone joined Bronson in 1988 and assumed his current role in 1996. He has received the Michigan ACHE Regent’s Young Healthcare Leader Award as well as the 2006 recipient of the Center for Health Design’s Changemaker Award. Mr. Sardone has served with numerous professional organizations including the Center for Health Design, Center for Healthcare Governance, Michigan Hospital Association and Michigan Hospital. He currently sits on the board of the Greater Kalamazoo United Way, Southwest Michigan First and Downtown Kalamazoo, Inc. Mr. Sardone earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1979 and an MBA in 1981 from the University of Kentucky. The Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series is underwritten through the generosity of Keystone Community Bank. The series provides an opportunity for the local community to hear prominent business leaders, WMU faculty, alumni, and friends of the College of Business discuss current business issues, corporate strategies as well as key information regarding the continuing progress of the business college. Parking will be available in the Fetzer Center parking lot. Please RSVP to the Office of the Dean at 269.387.5050. Complimentary breakfast will be available beginning at 7:30 a.m.

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

On May 1-2, the latest version of WMU’s Sunseeker solar car is headed to the Allegan Eco-Expo, which is being held at the US 131 Motor Sports Park in Martin. Abe Poot, advisor to WMU’s solar-car project, said the event focuses on the efforts of area middle and high school students. The feature event on the first day is a Trash Dash, a race of little cars that are made out of junk, powered by a battery and hobby motor and that run along a string. The second day feature is Sun Sprint for small cars powered by a solar cell instead of a battery. Poot said that WMU plans solar car demonstrations each day. Sunseeker was recently featured at Battle Creek’s Lakeview Square Mall as part of the first community event sponsored by the Battle Creek-based Climate Change Coalition, which offered shoppers ideas for reducing energy usage and installing alternate energy sources such as wind generators and solar panels. Several Hybrid cars were also displayed. Poot and five CEAS student members of the solar car team showcased the vehicle to shoppers. Participating students included David Ludens, Brendan Hill, Nicholas Killoran, Cameron Nicholson, and Alex Hoeksema.

**Troy Place will be holding the first local book signing for his novel Pizza Pie and Politics: How Mitchell Moon Lost His Childhood at the Barnes and Noble on South Westnedge in Portage on May 26th from 2-4 p.m.**

**Michael Kruse and Lawrence Pitcher, industrial engineering seniors who graduate in April, are headed to the IIE National Conference in Nashville on May 20, 2007, to present their regional award winning paper, which they authored with IE senior John Knapp. The paper, "Analysis of Forecasted Capacity Utilization through a Simulated Environment of an Outpatient Pharmacy," won first place in the technical paper contest at the 2007 IIE Region IV Conference held at Ohio State University, in Columbus, OH, in March. The paper explores a SW Michigan hospital's outpatient pharmacy and uses work design and a simulated environment to develop models, analyses, and recommendations to improve the workflow and customer wait time. Kruse and Pitcher recently honored an invitation to present the paper at the 13th Annual Industry, Engineering and Management Systems Conference in Cocoa Beach, FL.**

**Michael Kruse (left), and Lawrence Pitcher, industrial engineering seniors who graduate in April, are headed to the IIE National Conference in Nashville next month to present a paper that won first place in the IE regional competition and that was recently presented at the 13th Annual Industry, Engineering & Management Systems Conference in Cocoa Beach, FL.**

**How Mitchell Moon Lost His Childhood** by Troy Place is a faculty specialist in the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering who teaches technical communication and report writing. Pizza Pie and Politics, a coming-of-age-story, takes place in Battle Creek and Chicago. The novel can be purchased at PublishAmerica.com, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. It can also be ordered at any Barnes and Noble location.

**TeWhan Hahn, Michele O’Neill, and Dr. Judith Swisher** (Finance and Commercial Law) entitled “Risk-Adjusted Performance of Value and Growth Strategies: The Effect of Monetary Policy,” will be published in Journal of Investing, forthcoming (Fall 2007).
EXTED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

The Graduate Center-Downtown at Western Michigan University’s Grand Rapids Campus will hold an MSW Continuing Education (CE) training session on Friday, May 18 from 8:15 a.m. to noon at 200 Ionia SW in Grand Rapids. The program is called “When Tragedy Strikes: An Introduction to Critical Incident Response in the Workplace” and is being sponsored by the WMU School of Social Work in Grand Rapids. The trainer is Jeff Gorter, National Account Manager for Crisis Care Network and Adjunct Professor at the WMU School of Social Work in Grand Rapids. The training will provide an overview of trends in the occurrence of critical incidents as well as giving participants an understanding of how to organize response to such incidents and how to serve in a consulting capacity in the workplace. The session will provide attendees with 3 hours of continuing education. The State of Michigan now mandates 45 hours of CE over a 3 three year period for licensure renewal. This training will be promoted to MSW alumni as well as local social service agency personnel as an affordable option to traveling to Lansing or Detroit for CE credits. The cost is $55.00 which includes continental breakfast, parking and CE certificate. A special rate of $45 is being offered to WMU alumni. For more information, please contact Jean Hibbard at 616.771.9470 or by email at jean.hibbard@wmich.edu. Registration deadline is May 11, 2007.

The WMU-Battle Creek Campus will host a presentation on the future of manufacturing in Calhoun County. A presentation by George Erickcek will address economists’ predictions of promising nationwide growth in 2007, despite worrisome signs across a variety of sectors, including manufacturing. A senior regional analyst with the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Erickcek will speak to a room of Battle Creek area manufacturers at noon on Wednesday, May 2 at the Kendall Center at 50 W. Jackson Street. Erickcek will discuss reasons why manufacturing matters to Michigan’s future, impacts of the Big Three’s losing battle for market share, and areas for consideration in tomorrow’s high-growth manufacturing sectors. In addition, Dr. Tim Greene, Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at WMU, will also address the audience briefly to discuss WMU’s response to the state’s need for an educated manufacturing workforce. Visit http://bc.wmich.edu/manufacturing/ for details.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The following research projects will be presented by athletic training graduate students and faculty in June at the NATA national convention:

“A Comparison of Tissue Temperature Differences between the Midpoint and Peripheral Effective Radiating Area during 1 and 3 MHz Ultrasound Treatments” by Michael G. Miller, Janae R. Longoria, Christopher C. Cheatham, Timothy J. Michael, and Robert J. Baker.


COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

The College of Fine Arts will host the Michigan Youth Arts Festival May 10-12, 2007. The festival brings approximately 1,000 of the most talented high school students in the arts to campus to rehearse, perform and exhibit their talents while participating in master classes. A schedule of public performances is available on the website at www.myaf.org.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Professional development is an ongoing endeavor for teachers in Michigan, and a primary objective of the Mallinson Institute for Science Education (MISE) at WMU. With the collaborative assistance of area ISDs, math/science centers and school agencies, MISE has scheduled specifically designed workshops/courses that are aligned with Michigan’s Benchmarks and Standards for Science Education to help K-12 teachers update their content knowledge. The 2007 Summer II science workshops are also a convenient and fun way to advance your education. The workshops combine practical knowledge with exciting hands-on coursework in a variety of interesting subject matters. Summer II 2007 workshops have been scheduled at the following WMU Extended University Programs (EUP) branch campuses: Battle Creek, Grand Rapids: The Graduate Center-Beltline, Kalamazoo, Holland, and Southwest. Please refer to www.eup.wmich.edu/scienceeducation for specific course information.

On April 26 a retirement reception for Carolyn Hornev from Career and Student Employment Services will take place at The Oaklands from 4 to 6 p.m.

On May 10-13 the International Congress on Medieval Studies will take place, sponsored by the Medieval Institute of Kalamazoo. This is the 43rd congress and will feature more than six hundred sessions. These sessions feature scholarly papers, panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, and performances. As in years past, congress registration is free for Kalamazoo County residents and members of the WMU community. If registered after April 15th, a $25 late fee will be assessed.

On June 23-24 the Archaeology Open House will take place at Fort Saint Joseph from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The address for the open house is Bond Street City Park, Niles, Michigan. The event is free and open to the public. The event features open excavations, an outdoor museum, a display of recently uncovered artifacts, a living history village, informational

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Upcoming Events Continued...

lectures, demonstrations of life in New France, crafts and activities for youth, raffles, items for sale, and informational tables. Sponsoring organizations are the City of Niles and Western Michigan University. For directions to the event please see the Fort St. Joseph Museum website: http://www.ci.niles.mi.us/Living/Museum.htm. For questions, please call the museum director Carol Bainbridge at 269-683-4702, or email WMU graduate student Lisa Marie at lisamariemail@yahoo.com.

What We’re Reading

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

Cynthia Halderson, Senior Research Assistant at SAMPI (an acronym for Science and Mathematics Program Improvement), is reading Pizza Pie and Politics: How Mitchell Moon Lost His Childhood, the debut novel by Troy Place, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering. Here is her review: As the title suggests, this is a coming-of-age story of a college graduate and two buddies who decide to spend one last summer in the pizza shop where they’ve worked since high school. Next steps – self-awareness, relationships, careers – can be postponed for a few more months of ritualized “guy stuff.” But weddings, break-ups, and job offers push Mitchell and his friends along paths of discovery to destinations they didn’t expect. Mitch and his friends are insightful about some things and completely naïve about others. It is a good read – well-crafted, funny as slapstick at times, and faithful to the bumpy road of human understanding. The book is available online at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Borders, or it can be ordered at any Barnes and Noble location.