Trustees give Dunn high marks

Praising WMU President John M. Dunn for his leadership, commitment and accessibility, WMU trustees voted unanimously Sept. 17 to extend his contract for an additional two years and increase both his base salary and deferred compensation.

The move extends Dunn’s contract through June 2014 and raises his base salary by 2 percent to $362,457. Dunn and his wife, Linda, plan to donate the full amount of the salary increase—just over $7,100—to student scholarship funds at the University. The couple made a similar donation in 2008 after the board increased Dunn’s salary.

Work-study hiring deadline nearing

Career and Student Employment Services reminds faculty and staff members that many federal work-study recipients as well as other WMU students are looking for campus employment. Federal work-study recipients must receive a University paycheck by Tuesday, Oct. 13, or their work-study awards will be removed from their financial aid packages. For more information, contact Brenda Case-Parris at 387-2725.

Staff award nominations due Oct. 31

Nominations for the fall round of WMU’s semiannual Make a Difference awards are due by Saturday, Oct. 31. Visit www.wmich.edu/hr/makeadifference for more information, or to submit a nomination online. Nominations may also be submitted by e-mail to make-a-difference@wmich.edu or via campus mail to Mail Stop 5217.

Recreation center open house slated

University Recreation will host an open house in the Student Recreation Center from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, for WMU employees and retirees. Attendees will be able to tour the SRC and use its facilities as well as obtain information about SRC memberships and the University’s Zest for Life wellness program.

From 2 to 6 p.m., those attending will be able to check out the SRC’s new WMU Athletic Training Lab/WMU Sports Medicine Clinic, which provides services for faculty and staff members. There also will be door prizes and refreshments.

College name change approved

WMU trustees have signed off on changing the name of the College of Education to the College of Education and Human Development to better reflect the diversity of programs that the college provides.

The college prepares students for roles in K-12 schools, plus offers many programs that do not require teacher certification. Non-teaching programs include athletic training, counseling psychology, dietetics, early childhood and family relations, exercise and sports medicine, human resources development, interior design, and recreation.

WMU in forefront of sustainability efforts

As the campus becomes increasingly greener, WMU is gaining wider recognition. Most recently, Business Review West Michigan awarded its inaugural Green Award in the Greatest Green Initiative category to WMU. The University was one of 10 award winners and the only higher education entity honored.

WMU’s work was profiled in the Sept. 3 issue of the business magazine, and campus sustainability efforts will be honored today during an award ceremony in Grand Rapids that will also single out office furniture giant Herman Miller and the city of Grand Rapids.

The award recipients constitute a select group of West Michigan individuals and organizations that “exemplify the spirit of sustainability.” The publication cited the past year of work at WMU as “a significant point in Western Michigan University’s sustainability journey” and pointed to a number of green awareness initiatives.

Those initiatives included:

• Launching a comprehensive Web site at www.wmich.edu/sustainability.
• Initiating an LED pilot lighting project.
• Purchasing electric vehicles to begin transforming the campus maintenance fleet.
• Committing to the Southwest Michigan Region Sustainability Covenant.

Top Extended University Programs position filled

A seasoned administrator has been named to head WMU’s off-campus programs.

Dawn M. Gaymer has been named associate provost for Extended University Programs, effective Oct. 1. Gaymer has more than 20 years of experience in such areas as adult student recruiting, graduate program leadership and international education.

In her new post, she will lead the University’s six regional sites as well as its online, continuing education and conference programs.

Prior to coming to WMU, Gaymer was at Eastern Michigan University. She joined EMU in 1999 as assistant dean for credit programs in the school’s continuing education operations, and since 2005 has been assistant dean of graduate programs in EMU’s College of Business.

Gaymer also has been director of international admissions at the University of Toledo, a program coordinator at Golden Gate University and an admissions specialist at Brevard Community College.

She succeeds Darrell Johnson, who left WMU at the end of 2008 to accept a position at Ohio State University. Since his departure, EUP has been led on an interim basis by Craig Kaml.

WMU’s ‘American Idol’ honored at CommUniverCity

Fans and friends attending the CommUniverCity Night football game Sept. 19 were treated to an appearance by “American Idol” star and WMU alumnus Matt Giraud, center. Giraud was recognized during halftime. President and Mrs. John M. Dunn were among the singer’s well-wishers. (Photo by Sarah Troup)
Dedication event showcases new Statistical Consulting Center

The Department of Statistics will showcase its new Statistical Consulting Center with a dedication and open house from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25, in 3379 Rood. The dedication and open house from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25, in 3379 Rood. The dedication and open house will be topped off with a public exhibition of students' work. The dedication event showcases new Statistical Consulting Center.

For enrollment information, go to cfa.wmich.edu/art or e-mail jeanne.baron@wmich.edu. Details on the dedication event can be found at the Department of Statistics’ home page on the WMU website. E-mail requests for information and a third covering operating details.

BIS prof earns coveted certification

William Bonofiglo, business information systems, has been awarded the Microsoft Certified Trainer title. This prestigious certification from Microsoft recognizes trainers as being technical and instructional experts in Microsoft solutions and that the individual is authorized to deliver training for Microsoft certification.

Bonofiglo had to pass three exams, two covering CRM information and a third covering operating systems and networking.

Students taking the Customer Relationship Management class this fall will benefit from having unrestricted access to the Microsoft Learning Library and will pay a reduced rate for corresponding Microsoft Certification Exam.

Counselor elected to national board

Lonnie Duncan, counselor education and counseling psychology, has been elected to a three-year term on the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs Board of Directors. CCFTP is the national organization of counseling psychology training programs, and its membership includes the training directors of U.S. and Canadian counseling psychology doctoral programs.

Duncan is co-training director for WMU’s counseling psychology doctoral program and a recipient of the University’s Griselda Daniel Award.

His professional interests include the role of race, ethnicity and gender on personality development; Christian psychology; black male development; outreach and prevention; scale development and validation; minority mental health; and supervision and training.

Counselor named to national group

Head men’s soccer coach Stu Riddle has been selected as one of nine NCA DIvision II head coaches to serve on the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Men’s National Rankings Committee.

The 203 participating NCAA Division I schools are broken down into eight regions. Riddle will serve as committee head for the 61-team Great Lakes Region, reporting weekly to National Chair Carl Rees with a national top 25 and regional top 10 vote.

Riddle has been at WMU since early this year. He has worked at institutions such as the University of Evansville, served as head coach for the Kalamazoo Kingdom PDL and developed the Kalamazoo Outrage soccer program.

Holistic health exhibit opens

An art exhibit depicting new holistic healing methods is on display through Thursday, Oct. 15, in the College of Health and Human Services Building’s second-floor art gallery. The exhibit, “Journey to Self: An Illustrated Guide to the Inner Life,” stems from a book written by Tom Holmes and illustrated by Sharon Eckstein. It may be viewed from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Neutron star focus of physics talk

A physics colloquium titled “Journey to the Core of a Neutron Star” will be presented by Edward Brown from Michigan State University. The event will start at 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28, in 1110 Rood. Visit http://tesla.physics. wmich.edu/Colloquia.php?PG=1 for more information.

Provost leads off speaker series

Provost Timothy J. Greene kicks off the 2009-10 Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Speaker Series with an 8 a.m. talk Friday, Oct. 2, in the Dean’s Conference Room of Schneider. Titled “WMU—Providing Higher Education Leadership,” the free event will begin with a 7:30 a.m. breakfast and requires reservations, which may be made by calling 387-5050.

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For enrollment information, go to cfa.wmich.edu/art or contact Charland.

Study, Intern Abroad Fair scheduled

The 203 participating NCAA Division I schools are broken down into eight regions. Riddle will serve as committee head for the 61-team Great Lakes Region, reporting weekly to National Chair Carl Rees with a national top 25 and regional top 10 vote.

Riddle has been at WMU since early this year. He has worked at institutions such as the University of Evansville, served as head coach for the Kalamazoo Kingdom PDL and developed the Kalamazoo Outrage soccer program.
Board of Trustees approves several faculty, staff retirements

The retirements of three faculty members and seven staff members were approved by the WMU Board of Trustees at its Sept. 17 meeting. Trustees also accepted the resignations of four faculty members and one staff member.

All of the faculty members who are retiring are doing so with emeritus status. Their names, positions, years of continuous service and effective dates of retirement are:


Enrollment dips slightly overall; up in some categories

More than 24,500 students have enrolled at WMU for the fall 2009 semester. The University’s official total enrollment is 24,576. That figure includes a main campus enrollment of 22,623. The fall total also includes an enrollment of 3,616 in online programs and at regional sites.

The enrollment data is from WMU’s fall census, conducted Sept. 15. This fall’s numbers are within 1 percent of the previous year’s enrollment of 24,818 and show:

• A 1.3 percent increase in graduate enrollment, including a 4.7 percent increase in the number of doctoral students. At 900, the number of students pursuing doctoral degrees reflects an increase of more than 65 percent in the past decade.

• An 11.2 percent increase in the number of nonresident undergraduates, pointing to stay home and follow the instructions posted on the University’s Flu Information Web site.

Beginning freshman enrollment this fall is 3,267, down in size from last year’s large entering class. The decrease was predicted by campus enrollment officials because of the economic downturn and the decreased number of graduating high school seniors in Michigan.

University accelerating flu prevention efforts

WMU has placed signs at all entrances to its buildings urging those with flu symptoms to stay home and follow the instructions posted on the University’s Flu Information Web site.

In related news, the Fox-Eldridge residence halls have been readied to isolate students with the flu from others living in University housing. Some students are questioning the seriousness of the situation, since H1N1 has many of the characteristics of seasonal flu, and the treatment is largely the same.

“What most people don’t seem to understand is few of us have any immunity to H1N1,” says Lisa Marshall, WMU medical director, “while many of us have built up considerable resistance to seasonal flu. Unless those with the H1N1 virus are isolated from others, this could spread very rapidly and affect a much larger percentage of the campus community than we have ever experienced with seasonal flu.”

Employees and students with obvious flu symptoms are being asked to voluntarily stay home. If they do not, supervisors and instructors are asked to send those individuals home. Visit the Flu Information Web pages at www.wmich.edu/flu for more information and instructions for employees and students.

WMU marking 100th year in Grand Rapids with event

Next month will mark the 100th anniversary of WMU providing academic offerings in Grand Rapids.

To celebrate its centennial milestone, an open house for prospective students will be held 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, in the Graduate Center-Downtown, located at 200 Ionia Ave. SW. Visit www.wmich.edu/ grandrapids/100 to make a reservation to attend the open house. WMU-GrandRapids will pay the application fee for attendees who apply to a program by Oct. 16.
Three to receive Distinguished Alumni Awards

The WMU Alumni Association has selected three prominent WMU graduates to receive its most prestigious honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award. The 2009 award recipients are: Susan Martin Bunda, executive vice president of content development and strategy for CNN Worldwide in Atlanta; Nancy J. Diehl, recently retired chief of the Felony Trial Division for the Wayne County (Mich.) Prosecutor’s Office; and Kenneth V. Miller, vice president, chief operating officer and co-owner of Haveico in Kalamazoo and chair of the WMU Board of Trustees.

This year’s recipients will be recognized during an on-campus reception and dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. Reservations may be made by visiting www.wmich.edu/alumni and clicking Events or by calling (269) 387-8772. Online reservations will be accepted through Friday, Oct. 9, and phone reservations through Oct. 16.

Green initiatives

• Achieving LEED-EB gold certification for the Health and Human Services building and transferring the practices and materials used in that building to facilities campuswide.

The Green Award honor follows closely on news received in August that the WMU Alumni Review—the University’s media guides for its 16 varsity sports. For many years, she was “instrumental” in various church services, sometimes playing the guitar and singing and sometimes planning the musical program.