WMU, Cooley Law School launch joint program

WMU students may now simultaneously earn law and Master of Business Administration degrees through a new partnership with the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

The partnership, announced May 13, will require 12 fewer credits for the joint degree than if the two degrees were earned separately. Those who successfully complete the program will earn a Juris Doctorate from Cooley and an MBA from WMU. Students will attend Cooley for their law classes and WMU for their MBA-geared classes.

“This is an example of a program designed to fulfill the needs of students who have unique career objectives that can be best met by completing two degrees instead of one,” says David P. Shields, dean of the Haworth College of Business. “Business and legal education clearly complement each other in many areas of employment.”

WMU’s MBA program is available in Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Mich. Jack M. Ruhl, accounting, is the program’s director. Cooley has campuses in three Michigan cities: Grand Rapids, Auburn Hills and Lansing.

Those planning to enroll in the joint-degree option may apply for admission to both programs simultaneously or while an actively enrolled student at either school. WMU MBA students may apply to the program after completing nine credit hours of courses. Cooley students may apply after earning 27 credit hours toward a J.D. University officials expect five to 10 Cooley and WMU students to take advantage of the program during the 2008-09 academic year.

“Both schools are focused on providing students with the knowledge and skills that will make it easier for them to succeed quickly when entering professional employment,” says William P. Weiner, associate dean of international programs at Cooley. “We believe that combining broad business and management education with a law degree can provide the competitive edge executives and attorneys need in a rapidly expanding global marketplace.”

The WMU joint-degree program parallels a similar arrangement that Cooley has with Oakland University for residents of Southeast Michigan.

President’s Grant for Study Abroad program awards $100,000

Thirty-nine students were recently awarded more than $100,000 to study a foreign language abroad through the President’s Grant for Study Abroad program.

The awards were announced during an April 17 awards ceremony, with WMU President John M. Dunn presiding.

The event also honored two students who received full-ride scholarships to study in Japan and Germany for the 2008-09 academic year. Janelle Garchow, a junior majoring in economics, will attend Keio University in Tokyo and David Gregg, a senior majoring in psychology, will attend Freie Universitat of Berlin.

In his remarks at the awards ceremony, Dunn emphasized his commitment to international education and said he hopes to “double or even quadruple” WMU’s current annual average of sending more than 500 students overseas to study or work.

The 39 president’s grant recipients are enrolled for summer, fall or academic-year overseas programs in various destinations to study such languages as Afrikaans, Arabic, Chinese, Mandarin, Spanish and Zulu.

Many students will complete additional non-language courses taught in the native tongue or English that are applicable to their WMU degrees. The Haenicke Institute for Global Education administers the president’s grants in two cycles each academic year from an endowment worth nearly $5 million. The education administers the president’s grants in two cycles each academic year from an endowment worth nearly $5 million. The

WMU Day waiting list growing

More than 700 WMU students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends have registered to convene on the grounds of Michigan’s Capitol from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, to highlight the successes of WMU as a premier research institution.

If you’re one of them, you should have received a confirmation e-mail with “WMU Day at the Capitol” in the subject line. If you haven’t, contact Donna Marks at donna.marks@wmich.edu or 387-2072.

Equally important, if you registered but can no longer attend, contact Marks to cancel your registration. There’s a waiting list of people who would like to participate.

New driving rule near Walwood

It’s now illegal for motorists to make a left-hand turn from southbound Oakland Drive onto Austin Street, the roadway on the south side of Walwood Hall.

Violators of the no-turn rule are being fined $110 and will have two points added to their driving records.

In addition, motorists should note that Oliver Street remained closed to through traffic at the intersections of Oakland and Stadium drives due to construction.

Fulbright applications sought

The Council for the International Exchange of Scholars in Washington, D.C., is seeking applications for the Senior Fulbright Scholar program for part or all of the 2009-10 academic year.

CIES, which is now part of the Institute for International Education, has posted the application online at www.cies.org under the “Fulbright Programs” link. The application deadline is Aug. 1.

Given that a campus letter of support will be needed to complete the application, those planning to apply are asked to inform Donald McCloud, dean of the Haenicke Institute and WMU’s Fulbright officer. Contact McCloud at dg.mccloud@wmich.edu to obtain more information or indicate your interest in applying.

Design OK’d for Ring Road signs

Results are in from a campus community survey to select a design for new signs along the campus Ring Road. The winner features an arrow forming a circle and the initials WMU.

New Ring Road signs will be installed by the end of August. Everyone who partici-pated in the survey, which was conducted in April, was entered in a random drawing for a $50 gift card at the WMU Bookstore.

Christopher Voss, University Recreation, won the drawing.
Gold Company to perform at concert featuring Johnny Mathis

It's not often you're invited to perform with a high-profile orchestra on the same bill as a legendary vocalist who's sold millions of records. But when you're a member of Gold Company, WMU's award-winning vocal jazz ensemble, you expect the unexpected.

Gold Company has been invited to perform with the Chicagoland Pops Orchestra in a concert featuring Johnny Mathis Saturday, May 31, in the Rosemont Theatre in Rosemont, Ill. WMU's globe-trotting, five-piece with the orchestra, some of the Chicago area's most prised of some of the Chicago area's most talented and experienced musicians and features world-class artists during its entire season. It performs a wide variety of works, stretching the boundaries of the traditional symphony orchestra.

There's a possibility Gold Company members may sing background vocals for 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and five years of service during May.

35 Years—Libby M. Cat, University Libraries, and Tommye E. Ragan, public safety.
30 Years—Betty J. McKain, grants and contracts.
25 Years—Rebecca A. Beech, English.
20 Years—Imtiaz A. Chaudhry, information technology; Deborah L. Plank, marketing; Lorrie A. Racine, admissions; and Tommey E. Ragan, public safety.
15 Years—Cheryl J. Lay, Extended University Programs.
10 Years—Kimberly A. DeVries, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Cathleen Fuller, Haenisch Institute; Kevin Hinds, public safety; Robert T. Kukuk, Human Resources; and Tina Lynn Thompson, Sindecuse Health Center.
Five Years—Keith J. Kelley, University Libraries, and Cornell T. Mann, intercollegiate athletics.

Current job opportunities at WMU are announced daily on the Human Resources Web site at www.wmich.edu/hr/careers-at-wmu.htm. Please note that applications must be submitted online by the stated deadline. Complete application procedures are included with each posting.
New unit focuses on campuswide communication efforts

Comprehensive oversight of WMU’s electronic communication initiatives is the focus of a new unit in the Office of University Relations that is being headed by a veteran WMU employee.

Supervising the electronic communication unit is Thomas A. Myers, who was recently appointed its director, formalizing and expanding the role he plays in overseeing the University’s public Web presence and other electronic communication tools.

In addition, Tonya R. Hernandez has been named assistant director of electronic communication and Deanne Molinari was hired as a specialist in university relations’ news and communications unit.

In addition to Myers and Hernandez, the electronic communications unit includes Web manager Bradley Horstman. Together, this team is guiding redevelopment of the University’s Web presence and implementation of a new content management system that will bring a greater level of consistency and accuracy to WMU’s campuswide Web presence.

The team also is responsible for WMU News, the University’s online news site; WMU Today, the informational e-mail sent periodically to faculty and staff; and announcements in GoWMU, the University’s intranet portal.

“For many years, Thom Myers has been our point person in balancing the technical aspects of emerging media with the professional communication demands so often neglected as organizations embrace electronic tools,” says Cheryl Roland, executive director of university relations.

“More recently, he has taken on the critical job of restructuring the University’s Web presence and bringing to that medium the level of quality, accuracy, visual appeal and consistency that will best showcase this university’s stature. The team approach and staff additions will allow him to spend more time on developing and maintaining the quality of the tools already in place.”

Myers has been a WMU employee since 1987 and Horstman since 2001. Hernandez and Molinari have held part-time posts since fall 2006.

Annual luncheon celebrates camaraderie, outstanding staffers

The May 16 Awards and Spring Luncheon sponsored by the Administrative Professional Association and Professional Support Staff Organization featured the theme “Getting to know downtown Kalamazoo.” As part of the festivities (top photo), attendees played the WMU Fight Song on kazooz, led by, from left, Kalamazoo Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell along with WMU President John M. Dunn and WMU Vice President Lowell P. Rinker. Recieving 2008 awards (bottom photo) were, from left, Mary Escobedo, University Counseling and Testing Services, PSSO Service Award; Michael Vlassis, Miller Auditorium, APA Outstanding New Professional; Carol Marlin Viteri, College of Education, PSSO Service Award; Vicky Menem, accounting services, luncheon committee WMU Spirit Award, Faith Wickland, Miller Auditorium, APA Tony Griffin Service Award; and Thom Myers, University Relations, APA Outstanding Professional. (Photos by Tammy M. Boneburg)

Dean’s list available online

The spring 2008 dean’s list is now available online.

Members of the media and general public may view the list at www.wmich.edu/registrar/deans-list as well as copy information from the site.

A drop-down menu allows visitors to view dean’s lists from previous academic terms.

To be eligible for the dean’s list, students must have earned at least a 3.5 grade point average in at least 12 hours of graded class work.

Exchange


For sale—2003 Open Road 36-foot fifth-wheel with three slides as well as site and membership at Sandy Pines in Dorr, Mich. This luxury, family-oriented campground site includes large deck with cabana, sprinkler system, fire pit area and shed. Will sell together or separately. Call 567-5987 (day) or 375-2647 (eve.) for details and/or photos.

For sale by owner—Charming cape cod at 426 Oakhurst Ave., Kalamazoo. Buyer’s market; priced at $18,000 below appraised value at $107,000. 1,250 square feet, three bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, central air and large fenced yard. Move-in ready condition with fresh paint throughout. All appliances and window treatments stay. Special features include hardwood floors throughout, an arched doorway, built-in storage. Visit https://www.forsalebyowner.com/21563715 for more information and pictures. To schedule an appointment, contact Kim at Kimberly. ritter@wmich.edu or 385-3892.

For sale—2005 Honda CRF 70. Bought new in 2006 from dealer stock. Well maintained, clean, low hours, stored inside and just serviced. Four-stroke, just add gas. Easy to start. Comes with adult lock-out key, so you can control when they ride. Only 2005 hours. Great way to start. Comes with adult lock-out key, so you can control when they ride. Only 2005 hours. Great way to start. Call 806-9000 or 385-3892 for more information.

WMU-Grand Rapids site for Midwest counseling meeting

The doctoral program in counseling psychology will be hosting the 2008 Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology Conference Friday and Saturday, June 6-7, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Registration is required for the event, which will be held at the University’s Grand Rapids branch campus in the Graduate Center-Downtown. Registrations are being accepted now through the morning of the conference.

This year’s conference theme, “Counseling Psychologists as Scientist Practitioners in a Changing World, celebrates counseling psychology’s role in an increasingly global society through scholarship and practice as well as the profession’s work in bridging differences and developing more effective interventions.”

Go to www.wmich.edu/coi/ccp/great-lakes/index.htm for more information.

Obituary

Alfred L. Edwards, a longtime WMU trustee, died Jan. 26 in his sleep, it was recently learned. He was 86.

Edwards served on the WMU Board of Trustees for 16 years, starting in 1981. The board granted him the title of trustee emeritus in 1997 in recognition of his service.

The resolution recommending him for that honor cited his “long, dedicated and faithful service to WMU and to the people of Michigan.” It also praised him for serving on board chair four times as well as numerous other occasions, “always with wit and good humor, while providing valued continuity and perspective.”

Edwards was professor emeritus of business administration at the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business.
As projects coordinator for the Digitization Center in Waldo Library, Lou Ann Morgan opens up WMU’s resources and expertise to people around the world.

Her main duty is to coordinate digitization projects for the center, University Libraries and other campus units. Most projects are grant driven or WMU funded. Two of the most successful efforts have been digitizing eight Civil War diaries written by Michiganders and a fragile copy of the “Michigan Manual of Freedom’s Progress,” a 1915 book detailing the progress of African Americans in the state.

“Our overall purpose is transforming materials from analog to digital so they are preserved and accessible, and can support the WMU curriculum campuswide,” Morgan says. “The center is a new, exciting area to serve campus and support faculty and staff. But it’s a team effort. We work in conjunction with people all over campus.”

Morgan has been serving full time in her current post since 2005. She was initially hired in 2003 as the Digitization Center’s part-time coordinator through a Making of Modern Michigan grant, which also funded some of the three rooms in Waldo Library that constitute the Digitization Center.

One of those rooms is the 3-D lighting studio for digital photography of books, anthropological artifacts and other items. The items can be turned into 3-D images, and objects up to 42-inches can also be scanned and printed.

Among her many project-related tasks are providing technical assistance, consulting on grant applications, ensuring proper documentation, providing team coordination for digitized metadata (descriptive information that is searchable), and incorporating existing national standards for the emerging field of digitization.

For the Digitization Center’s operations, Morgan also provides customer service, handles marketing and promotion, and helps develop policies and project plans for on- and off-campus clients.

Morgan, a former graphic designer, earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degree from WMU. Over the years, she’s been affiliated with the University in 12 ways, from student, student worker and parent of a student to graduate assistant, Web design consultant and full-time employee.

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The University opened the doors of its East Beltline Campus in Grand Rapids, Mich., to prospective graduate students this week, starting with a “drop-in” open house May 19.

For flexibility and convenience, the open house is continuing from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through today.

Those who attend can obtain information on available graduate programming and application requirements, and they can take a complimentary career assessment test.

The Graduate Center-Beltline offers some two dozen graduate degree and certificate options, including programs in education, business, engineering, social work and wellness.

Additionally, James Schultz, WMU-Grand Rapids campus director, notes that a new health care degree program will be offered soon in Grand Rapids, as well.

The University’s renowned master’s degree program in occupational therapy is about to expand and for the first time, it will be offered at the Graduate Center-Beltline.

“We are extremely pleased to offer such a well-respected program to the expanding health care mix in the Grand Rapids community,” says Schultz.

“The OT program has existed in Kalamazoo for over 85 years and will start in Grand Rapids with the fall 2009 semester. Those needing prerequisites can begin taking them here in fall 2008. This master’s program is designed as a way for anyone possessing a bachelor’s degree in any field to make a career change into health care.”

Jean Hibbard, student services coordinator for WMU-Grand Rapids, says the University is providing an added incentive for people to pursue a degree through the branch campus in Grand Rapids.

She notes WMU will pay the application fee for all students who attend the graduate program open house and apply to a Grand Rapids-based program by May 30.

Go to www.eup.wmich.edu to learn more about the programs, facilities and people associated with the University’s eight branch campuses in Michigan.