WMU gets cutting-edge aviation training devices

WMU’s College of Aviation will be the launch site for Aerosim Technologies’ new line of advanced flight training devices. The University will receive two Aerosim AATDs—Advanced Aviation Training Devices—which are also known by the name “Aviator.” In addition, Aerosim’s Cirrus Avionics Systems Trainer is already in use in several WMU classrooms.

“We are pleased to have Western Michigan University’s prestigious aviation training program as our launch customer,” says Eduardo Carrasco, Aerosim business development manager.

“Industry reception to this line of trainers has been strong.”

The Aerosim AATD replicates the Cirrus SR22 aircraft by using computers along with specialized hardware and software. Students use the device to develop the psycho-motor skills associated with manipulating the controls in the cockpit. The cockpit’s specific design, combined with an innovative desktop training compliment, is what sets the Aerosim trainers apart, says Capt. Steve Jones, WMU’s director of safety and simulations.

“We were looking for an innovative training device, and the Aerosim AATD, combined with the Avionics Systems Trainer, really fit our requirements,” Jones says. “The Aerosim team has been very responsive to our extremely pleased to have them as a key vendor for training products.”

Aerosim Technologies, based in Burnsville, Minn., designs, manufactures and markets a line of advanced flight training devices.

Two more issues of Western News will be published in 2006. The paper will come out on Thursday, Nov. 30, and Thursday, Dec. 14 (not Dec. 7 as previously reported). The deadline to submit items for Western News is 5 p.m. Friday the week preceding publication.

Football team could get bowl bid

With an overall record of 7-3, the WMU football team is near the front of the line for one of several bowl opportunities for Mid-American Conference teams this year. As soon as the Broncos accept a bowl bid, complete information will be available on the Web, including links to purchase game tickets and to make reservations for lodging and pre-game events. Up-to-date information is available now at www.wmich.edu/gobroncos.

Newsletter survey due Nov. 17

The Office of the Provost is seeking input on its newsletter, PRISM. Now in its second year, PRISM has been a successful way of sharing and celebrating academic accomplishments—due largely to reader submissions and support. Now, Provost Janet I. Pisaneschi is giving readers a chance to assess the publication and suggest changes.

Tomorrow is the deadline to complete the survey, which is available online at www.survey.atis.wmich.edu/other/prism/prism.htm.

The October and November issues of PRISM will be combined into one issue, the deadline for which is Tuesday, Nov. 21. The newsletter is not published in December. The January issue will incorporate survey changes and suggestions.

New graduate catalog goes online

WMU has debuted a new Web-based graduate catalog early this month that is completely searchable by program, course and other criteria, any time from anywhere with Internet access. A similar version of the undergraduate catalog went online in July.

The Web-based catalogs, which will be updated each year in May, completely replace the paper catalogs that had been published every two years. Both catalogs are available at www.wmich.edu/catalog.

The e-catalog is easy to search, are formatted for easy printing, and have a feature that allows users to save information on a particular program or other listing to a personal portfolio for future use.

Reddy to launch

Aerosim’s Cirrus Avionics Systems Trainer is a revolutionary new methods of instruction designed to improve a pilot’s ability to fly and to work efficiently with a crew. (Photo by John Gilroy)

MLK celebration committee selects kick-off speaker

A dynamic motivational speaker and innovative educator has been selected to kick off a two-week, communitywide observation Jan. 14-26 honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The event is being sponsored by WMU, the Northside Ministerial Alliance and the city of Kalamazoo.

This is the fifth year that WMU and the ministerial alliance have teamed up to honor the slain civil rights leader and the first time the city has joined the partnership.

WMU departments, programs and registered student organizations have been invited by the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee to participate by submitting proposals for their own activities, programs and workshops.

A list of these special events, which are to be relevant to this year’s theme of “Empowering the Dream: Living, Engaging, Connecting,” will be announced later and posted on the MLK Web site at www.wmich.edu/mlk. The deadline for submitting proposals has been extended to 5 p.m. tomorrow. For more information or a proposal form, contact Eva Jerome at eva.jerome@wmich.edu or 387-8191.

Presidential search process emphasizes gathering broad input

Students, staff, faculty and alumni, as well as members of the Kalamazoo community, helped launch the University’s search for its eighth president by offering their views Nov. 1 on the qualities the ideal candidate will have.

In three public sessions, attendees expressed their views to members of the University’s Presidential Search Advisory Committee; Trustee Ken Miller of Kalamazoo, the committee’s leader; and representatives of Baker Parker Associates of Atlanta, the firm the University has hired to help coordinate the search process.

Those attending called for a broad range of skills and qualities, including sterling academic credentials, international experience, a respect for the institution’s traditions, an appreciation for the complexity of the institution, the ability to offer a leadership vision the campus can embrace, and a demonstrated love for higher education and for meeting student needs.

The committee and search firm representatives posed follow-up questions throughout each forum and made it clear they want the campus engagement to continue.

“This is not a search firm-driven process. This will be a committee-driven process,” said Miller in introducing the Baker Parker representatives. “WMU is a large, complex
Work by Ovid subject of talk
Kristopher Fletcher, foreign languages, will present “Metaphor in the Metamorphoses: Ovid’s Translator of Greek Myths” from 11 a.m. to noon Friday, Nov. 17, on the 10th Floor of Sprau Tower. Fletcher will speak about the process of translation and interpretation in Ovid’s “Metamorphoses.”

“The work is a diverse yet unified collection of myths in Latin inspired by the Greek mythological tradition, but reflecting Roman values. Fletcher’s talk is part of the Department of Foreign Languages’ Faculty Colloquium Series.

Two more physics colloquia set
Bruce A. Bunker from Notre Dame will present “Environmental Science on the Molecular Scale: How Can a Physicist Help?” Monday, Nov. 20. Bunker will describe how synchronized x-ray techniques have been used to study the interactions of metals with bacteria and mineral surfaces, and how physicists can add to collaborations of environmental scientists, geologists, chemists and biologists.

His presentation is part of the physics department’s fall colloquia series, which takes place Mondays at 4 p.m. in 1110 Rood Hall. Next up Nov. 27 will be “The Search for Dark Matter with Superheated Fluids” by Ilan Y. Levine from Indiana University. The next talk in the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society fall lecture series is titled “In Defense of Gay Marriage” and will be presented by Russ Shafer-Landau from the University of Wisconsin-Madison at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, on the Bronco Mall Center Stage. The free, public event is being sponsored by the Student Entertainment Team.

Ethics series eyes gay marriage
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Artist invited to lecture worldwide
Caroline Gore, art, was invited to make presentations around the globe earlier this year, including at the Studio Art Centers International and Fuji Studios in Florence, Italy; Metropolitan University in London; and Sydney College of the Arts in Sydney, Australia. She also had work reprinted in “The Art & Craft of Making Jewelry,” published by Lark Books.

Gore serves as WMU’s area coordinator for the metals/jewelry program and as faculty director of its Studio Art Centers International Study Abroad Program in Florence. The outcomes of her studio practice vary in media, scale and implementation and range from small-scale battered and sculptural installations to large sculptural installations. Her work has been widely exhibited in national and international venues since 1996.

Haworth duo co-write new book
Andrew Targowski and Michael Tarn, business information systems, have co-written a new book titled “Enterprise Systems Education in the 21st Century.” The book, which is the first scholarly work in enterprise systems education, presents methods of reengineering business curricula in order to use ES solutions.

Several Haworth College of Business faculty members are among the book’s worldwide contributors. They include Kuanchin Chen, James A. Banana, Bernard Han, Muhammad Riaz, Thomas Rienzo, all of business information systems, and Satish Deshpande and Brett Wagner, management.
WMU’s New Issues Poetry & Prose to release six new poetry collections

The nonprofit, WMU-based publisher New Issues Poetry & Prose, is releasing six new collections of poetry.

One of the books, “The Mending Worm” by Joan Houlihan, won New Issues’ 2005 Green Rose Prize, which is awarded for a full-length collection of poetry by an established poet. Houlihan is the founding director of and teaches at the Concord Poetry Center in Concord, Mass.

Four additional books will be released. “Nude with Anything” is James D’Agostino’s first collection of poetry. WMU’s Nancy Eimers, English, lauds the title written by Keplinger. D’Agostino’s first collection of poetry. Surrealist artists like Dali and Hans Bellmer make appear-ances in the strange worlds presented in the poetry of McGath, who works as a librarian and lives in Kalamazoo, Mich.

“Only The Senses Sleep” by Wayne Miller is another first collection of poetry. Although the author is no stranger to publishing, Miller teaches at Central Missouri State University.

For more information about New Issues Poetry & Prose and its numerous titles, visit or call Marianne Swierenga at the press’ Web site at or 269-387-8185.
Aviation

markets PC-based flight simulation software used around the world by aircraft manufacturers, commercial airlines, flight training centers and universities for training of flight management procedures, flight operations and maintenance. The company provides training solutions to the air transport, business aviation and general aviation industries as well as the military.

WMU’s comprehensive aviation program, with about 700 undergraduate students, is one of the top three aviation programs in the nation. Backed by more than 60 years of history and a strong industry reputation, the College of Aviation is fast becoming a powerful force in the future of aviation training.

MLK celebration

A focal point of the 2007 communitywide celebration will again be the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation, which will begin at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14, in Miller Auditorium and feature keynote speaker Zenobia Lawrence Hikes, vice president for student affairs at Virginia Tech.

Hikes has been featured as a keynote speaker and workshop facilitator to audiences nationally and internationally. She specializes in student success and leadership, and professional development for universities, corporations and organizations.

At Virginia Tech, she provides leadership oversight for 15 university departments, is responsible for an annual budget of $82 million and 2,000 employees, and works in collaboration with universitywide teams to create an invigorated college experience. She is the university’s first African American female vice president.

Previously, Hikes served as the vice president for student affairs and dean of students at Spelman College in Atlanta and founded the Women of Excellence Leadership Series. She also served in admissions and student life.

At the University of Delaware and in the field of public relations in Okinawa, Japan. Driven by her background in enrollment management and student affairs, she has extensively researched and developed a successful race-specific recruitment and retention model for African American students. Her research on student recruitment and retention, maximizing student success, and first-generation college admissions has appeared in leading education journals.

Hikes has provided expert commentary to CNN, NBC News, CBS News, Fox News and national television and radio stations regarding the images of women in hip hop music and its impact on society. She is a Spelman College alumna and earned a doctorate from the University of Delaware.

A keynote speaker also has been named for the community event at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, in Kalamazoo’s Gailee Baptist Church. Information about this speaker, as well as the long list of special events taking place on campus in January in honor of King, will be detailed in the next two issues of Western News.

On Campus

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My son thinks I should get a life," Rosanna Metoyer admits. "Whenever we go somewhere, I can’t pass a vending machine without checking it out. I’m continually assessing different types of machines and looking for new products to put in them."

Metoyer serves as coordinator of business operations and vending in Auxiliary Enterprises. She primarily oversees the Oaklands’ operations and the University’s contracts and sole for its beverage and snack vending machines as well as its coin- and card-operated laundry facilities in the residence halls.

The Kalamazoo resident joined WMU in 1988 as a fiscal assistant who rotated among such units as telecommunications, plant accounting and University budgets, then worked in purchasing for 13 years before moving to AE in 2003.

“I love my current position because it allows me to use my creative side,” Metoyer says. “I’m able to develop new operating processes, work with marketing to devise new promotional ideas, and attend events like Bronco Bash, where I can get informal feedback and suggestions from students, faculty and staff.”

Metoyer, who has a Master of Business Administration degree from WMU, also actively promotes her unit’s LaundryBUCKS program and Smart Snacks program, which provides healthier food options in campus vending machines.

Plus, she’s been busy with initiatives to improve services at the Oaklands, update AE business procedures, and improve the Web sites for the Oaklands (www.wmich.edu/oaklands) and Vending Services (www.wmich.edu/vending).

The latter site now offers a convenient comments section as well as a reporting section that facilitates making repair, refill and refund requests.

In her off hours, Metoyer focuses on her husband and two sons, one of whom is attending WMU. She also is a movie buff, enjoys walking for exercise and has become more involved in a variety of campus events and committees, especially the University Wellness Committee.

Presidential search

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Dr. Jack Miller, president of the Western News at WMU, said the committee will move quickly to draft a position description using the input secured from the three forums and other meetings on the campus and in the community. The plan, he noted, is to have finalists on campus in April, with the hope of having a new president in place by July 1.

“We’ll be working throughout the process to strike a balance between protection and discretion and transparency,” he said. “If you become a finalist, you will be publicly vetted through visits and presentations on campus.”

Dan Parker, a principal with the search firm, will coordinate the WMU effort. During the Nov. 1 forums, he repeatedly asked those attending to send suggestions and candidate nominations to dparker@bpasearch.com.

“We are an inclusive search firm,” he said. “We will consider, on behalf of the committee, any candidate suggested. Our job is to recruit, advise and facilitate. We will deliver a broad and diverse pool of candidates for consideration.”

Miller added that people should feel free at any time to contact him directly to make suggestions about the process and the kind of candidates the University needs. His e-mail address is Kmill6835@aol.com.

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