Western News going on hiatus

Today’s issue of Western News is the last issue for the summer. Western News will resume its regular publication schedule after Sept. 5—the start of the fall semester. During the hiatus, faculty and staff can keep up with everything happening around campus by visiting the WMU News Web site at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.

Two commencement times set

The University will hold summer graduation exercises Saturday, July 1, in Miller Auditorium.

President Judith I. Bailey will preside over two ceremonies. Faculty are asked to assemble in Shaw Theatre’s Green Room 45 minutes prior to each ceremony.

The morning exercise will start at 9 a.m. and is for graduates of the College of Education, Extended University Programs, the College of Fine Arts and the Hawsworth College of Business. The second ceremony will start at noon and is for graduates of the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Health and Human Services.

Trustees meeting set for July 14

The WMU Board of Trustees will meet Friday, July 14, in 157-159 Bernhard Center. The board’s formal public session will be held in the morning that day. Agenda items were not available at Western News press time.

Top staff awards announced

Four exceptional employees have received WMU’s prestigious annual Make a Difference award, which comes with a $1,000 prize. A luncheon has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 27, to honor the quartet for representing WMU’s most outstanding staff members.

The 2006 award recipients are: Donna Kim Ballard, Academic Support Programs writing lab; Brenda Case-Paris, Career and Student Employment Services; Judy Northey, University Dining Services-Parkview Campus; and Donald Scott Paff, physical plant-landscape services.

MAD is a campuswide recognition program for staff members that features two rounds of semiannual awards, from which four annual award winners are selected each year. More information is available online at www.wmich.edu/makeadifference.

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Western News
For and about WMU faculty and staff

Veteran administrator Darrell Johnson has been named to a two-year appointment as dean of Extended University Programs, effective June 15 and pending approval of the WMU Board of Trustees.

Johnson replaces Nicholas Andreadis, who had served as dean of EUP for the past three years. Andreadis announced last month he would step down for personal reasons and, after a six-month administrative leave, plans to return to the faculty in time for the spring 2007 semester.

“Darrell Johnson brings a wealth of experience in higher education and extensive knowledge of WMU’s regional efforts to his new position,” Provost Janet I. Pisaneschi said in announcing the appointment.

“He has earned the respect of the EUP staff, and I have great confidence in his ability to lead this important part of our University.”

Johnson served as director of WMU-Battle Creek and WMU-Lansing before being named associate dean of EUP earlier this year. He has been at WMU since 2000, spending his first three years on campus as a graduate student and completing a doctoral degree in counselor education in 2003. From 2001 to 2003, he served as a doctoral intern and then a doctoral associate in the Division of Multicultural Affairs.

Prior to coming to WMU, Johnson served from 1998 to 2000 as manager of recruitment and retention for the Graduate Education for Minorities Consortium at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. He also was coordinator of engineering recruitment and admissions at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Fla., from 1997 to 1998 and associate director of admissions and coordinator of minority recruitment at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., from 1990 to 1997.

In addition to his doctorate, Johnson has a master’s degree in counseling in higher education administration from WMU, a master’s degree in educational leadership and higher education administration from GVSU, and a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Michigan State University. He is a licensed professional counselor as well as a nationally certified counselor.

WMU DOYS HERE—A 142nd birthday party for founding president Dwight B. Waldo was held June 13 outside East Hall.

The event was sponsored by FOHEC—Friends of Historic East Campus—as a celebration of WMU’s contributions to higher education and a way to honor its first buildings. Waldo, who died in 1939 at age 75, served as president for 32 years. During the birthday celebration, a wreath was placed near the East Hall cornerstone overlooking Prospect Hill where his ashes are interred. David Issacson, emeritus of University Libraries, addressed the crowd as Waldo, whom he began portraying during WMU’s centennial celebration in 2003. Also making remarks were current president Judith I. Bailey; Randy Horvat, FOHEC chairperson; Dean Gray Waggoner, College of Education; and William Whitbeck, chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals and an alumnus of WMU’s Campus School and State High School. The WMU Choral Group provided the music. (Photo by Tammy M. Bonesburg)

New director tapped to oversee Battle Creek, Lansing campuses

The new director for WMU Battle Creek and WMU-Lansing is Sharon Russell, a business professional who has extensive background in finance and marketing and 16 years of experience at the University. Russell assumed her role with EUP on June 19. She will oversee both the Battle Creek and Lansing campuses and lead their strategic business development, community relations and marketing efforts.

In addition to professional staff positions with the Department of Theatre and Alumni Association, Russell has served the Division of Student Affairs as director of development and marketing and, most recently, as the business manager for University Recreation. In addition, she is a part-time faculty member, teaching courses in interpersonal communication and public speaking. Russell earned a bachelor’s degree in theatre arts from Loyola University in Chicago and a master’s degree in communication from the University of Illinois.

Andreadis replaced Nicholas Andreadis, who had served as dean of EUP for the past three years. Andreadis announced last month he would step down for personal reasons and, after a six-month administrative leave, plans to return to the faculty in time for the spring 2007 semester.
Merrion leads search committee for provost

Dean Margaret Merrion, College of Fine Arts, has been appointed head of the provost search advisory committee.

WMU launched its search for a new provost June 15 with a public forum featuring a consultant from one of the nation’s leading academic search firms.

James B. Appleberry of Academic Search Consultation Service led the forum, during which attendees were invited to offer opinions of the types of experiences and qualifications that would be desirable in a candidate, issues a new provost must address, and reasons why top-flight candidates would vie for the position at WMU.

Appleberry has been hired to assist the University in its search to identify a successor to Janet I. Pisaneschi, who late last month accepted a one-year appointment as provost and vice president for academic affairs after the resignation of Linda M. Delene. While on campus for the forum, he met with WMU and Kalamazoo community members as well as the campuswide advisory committee assisting with the search.

A Web site detailing the provost search process will be available soon. The site will include a timeline, the position description, the charge to the committee and the ethics statement each committee member was asked to sign.

The 23-member search committee includes faculty, staff, administrators and students. For a complete list of committee members, go online to www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2006/06/029.html to read a news story about the launch of the provost search process.

New Undergraduate Program Review details explained

Provost Janet I. Pisaneschi announced three measures on June 16 that will affect the comprehensive Undergraduate Program Review scheduled for 2006-07.

The measures, which are designed to help faculty, staff and administrators plan their work for the coming academic year, are:

• The review will be deferred until the Graduate Program Review concludes and attendant curricular and organizational changes are in place.

• During 2007-08, the new provost will confer with appropriate administrative and faculty governing bodies to establish the timing and parameters of the undergraduate review process.

• The regular University curriculum review process will be reopened to receive all program proposals at the beginning of the 2006-2007 academic year.

HCOB senior earns prestigious management scholarship

For the second year in a row, a student in the Haworth College of Business has been awarded a prestigious R. Gene Richter Scholarship, named for a leading force in the supply chain management profession.

Elizabet Aven, a senior from Edwardsburg, Mich., is one of six students nationally-wide to receive the honor for 2006. Other 2006 recipients represent schools including the University of Maryland and Arizona State and Pennsylvania State universities.

Richter Scholars are selected based on their academic achievement, leadership potential and high ethical standards from some of America’s top-accredited university supply chain management programs.

The 3-year-old Richter Scholarship Program is the largest nationally recognized scholarship program in the field of supply chain management. It was created to identify future supply management leaders and fast-track them into the profession through a combination of tuition assistance and mentoring programs.

Aller awarded two new grants

Betsy Aller, industrial and manufacturing engineering, has received a grant from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium for her project “Engineering as an Everyday Activity: Community Outreach and Exploration.”

The project, which started last month, includes offering a series of discussions and hands-on engineering activities at the Parkview Campus to teachers and parents, who studies show have a low understanding of engineering. The goal is to improve those groups’ understanding of engineering so they can promote and support students going into the field.

Aller, along with co-principal investigator, Larry Mallak, industrial and manufacturing engineering, has also received a grant from AlcoaEPCo/Mattawan, Mich., for “Improving Global Workplace Skills Through the Enhancement of the Senior Engineering Technology Experience.”

Carr, LeBlanc named editors of national psychology journal

James Carr and Linda LeBlanc, psychology, have been appointed associate editors of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis. Applied Behavior Analysis is the flagship applied journal in the behavior analysis discipline.

The duo has also been named to the editorial boards of Research and Developmental Disabilities and Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders, which are published by Elsevier, the world’s largest scientific journal publisher.

Carr and LeBlanc co-direct the WMU 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.

Lancendorfer study goes mobile

Karen M. Lancendorfer, marketing, has won a Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund grant to collect data this summer in South Korea. Lancendorfer is collaborating with Byoungkwon Lee in Hanyang University’s advertising department.

Her research will explore the effectiveness of advertising on mobile devices, and consumers’ perceptions of such advertising. Mobile commerce, which is known as m-commerce and has emerged as a new type of e-commerce transaction, refers to any transaction with monetary value that is conducted through mobile devices using wireless telecommunications networks.

Exchange

For Sale—Barska 8X32 roof prism binoculars with 3.0 megapixel digital camera. Hardly used. 580. E-mail miclin@wmich.edu or call 345-6541.

For Sale—Newly remodeled manufactured home in Oshtrme, Kalamazoo Promise eligible, 10 minutes from campus. Includes 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, central air, ceiling fans, skylights, fireplace, patio and deck. Excellent condition, must be seen. Asking $69,900. Call 375-2052.
Audy J. Davidson, emerita in music, died June 11 at her home in Kalamazoo. She was 75.

A WMU faculty member from 1965 until her retirement in 1999, Davidson was a renowned musicologist and expert on early music. She helped build WMU’s Congress on Medieval Studies to international stature and founded the Society for Old Music, which performed under her direction for some 25 years.

Davidson was a frequent traveler to international conferences and workshops, in spite of her increasing reliance on a wheelchair because of a hereditary bone disease. An inveterate researcher in libraries in England, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, she was a “regular” at the British Library music reading room nearly every summer for 20 years. In addition, she was an activist for the rights of the disabled.

Her numerous publications include a performing edition of Hildegard of Bingen’s “Ordo Virtutum” which has been used as a basis for performances at Lincoln Center in New York, at Atlanta by the Atlanta Camerata, at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, and at other locations. Her most recent book, “Olivier Messiaen and the Tristan Myth,” was a study of the modern French composer and mystic. A Minnesota native, Davidson attended Berhel College, St. Cloud State College and Wayne State University, where she earned both a bachelor’s and master’s degree. She earned a doctoral degree from the University of Minnesota.

Conference teaches importance of link between health, literacy

A conference on “Linking Literacy and Health: A Formula for Quality Care and Patient Safety,” will be held Thursday and Friday, July 13-14, in the Fetzer Center.

The conference recognizes that a high level of health literacy is essential for patients in the United States to understand instructions well enough that they can safely follow prescribed regimens and, ultimately, improve their health.

The event will provide an easy and cost-effective way to learn more about health literacy, successful strategies to use with patients, and activities taking place at the local, state and national levels.

Training sessions throughout the conference will address getting started—within health professions education programs as well as in clinical settings—and will teach participants how to write materials at appropriate literacy levels. These sessions make “Linking Literacy and Health” an important conference to attend for anyone involved in health care and health care education.

For cost and other information or to register, visit www.wmich-aahe.org or contact Cheri Lay by sending an e-mail to cheri.lay@wmich.edu or calling (269) 387-4174.

On campus memorial service being planned for Judy Wolpe

A memorial service for Judy Wolpe, wife of former state and U.S. Rep. Howard Wolpe, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 24, in Miller Auditorium.

Judy Wolpe, 62, drowned in a vacation swimming accident June 16 in Guatemala. She was regional outreach director for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Arlington, Va., and was a cabinet member of two former governors—Michigan’s James Blanchard and Indiana’s Evan Bayh.

Judy was a frequent traveler to international conferences and workshops, in spite of her increasing reliance on a wheelchair because of a hereditary bone disease. An inveterate researcher in libraries in England, Sweden, Denmark and Germany, she was a “regular” at the British Library music reading room nearly every summer for 20 years. In addition, she was an activist for the rights of the disabled.

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The Wolpes were married in 1992 at WMU. Judy earned a master’s degree from WMU and a bachelor’s degree from Michigan State University.

Howard was a member WMU’s political science faculty from 1967 to 1972 and was named the University’s first distinguished visiting professor in 1993. He is director for the Africa Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

For more funeral details, visit www.judywolpe.homestead.com.
Czech literary, political figures to receive honorary degrees in July

WMU will present honorary degrees in Prague July 3 to two leading Czech figures who have distinguished themselves in both literature and politics.

The degrees are being awarded to Vaclav Havel and Arnost Lustig and stem from the duo's association with the University's Prague Summer Program. PSP, which WMU has administered since 2002, is the premiere summer creative writing program in the Czech Republic. It will run from July 1 through 29 this year.

Havel has garnered numerous national and international honors, including receiving the Freedom Medal from the U.S. president and international honors, including receiving the Nobel Peace Prize and Nobel Prize for Literature. He, too, has been on the short list for the Nobel Peace Prize and Nobel Prize for Literature.

Many consider Havel the father of his country. He was its first president and in 1989, led what he termed the Velvet Revolution, the bloodless movement resulting in the republic's independence and peaceful dissociation with the association with the Slovaks. He is one of the most celebrated dissidents of his generation and spent several years in communist prisons.

A playwright, Havel penned such major works for the stage as "The Memorandum," "A Hotel in the Hills," and "Protest." His many essays include "Letters to Olga," the collected letters to his wife from prison.

Lustig, who has been on the PSP faculty since the program's inception 13 years ago, is professor of film and literature at American University in Washington, D.C. He founded the celebrated Czech New Wave cinema in the 1960s, and is the author of numerous stories and 14 books, five of which were made into films in the Czech Republic.

Lustig opposed the communist government's anti-Israeli policies and in 1967, was proclaimed an "enemy of the people." He is a survivor of Theresienstadt, Buchenwald and Auschwitz, and has made the Holocaust the exclusive subject of his fiction.

Hearing aid semi-finalist in 'Modern Marvel' challenge

A hearing device developed by a Kalamazoo businessman with the help of a WMU engineering student was recently named a semi-finalist in The History Channel's Modern Marvels Invent the Now Challenge.

Known as the "Liperator," the computerized device attaches to a telephone and uses sound from the phone to generate realistic lip movements on a video screen, enabling someone with a hearing impairment to lip-read their phone conversation.

The Liperator was one of 25 semi-finalists in the Modern Marvel contest, which drew more than 4,000 entries. Four inventions were named finalists and one was chosen as the 2006 Modern Marvel of the Year. All of the inventions named as finalists and semi-finalists were included in an exhibition traveling across the country to five major cities. The exhibit currently is at the National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron, Ohio.

The Liperator was developed in the early 1990s by Yair Mendelowitsch, who was then studying for a master's degree in electrical engineering at WMU, and Robert E. Slager, then a hearing aid specialist at the Hearing Aid Center of Kalamazoo. Slager came up with the idea for the product and enlisted the aid of the University's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Slager's idea came from his own experience. After he began losing his hearing, he learned to lip-read, but could not do that over the phone. He began looking for ways to make lip-reading over the phone possible. Mendelowitsch received his master's degree from WMU in 1991.