Beautification efforts to stretch over three days

Flower plantings at 11 key building sites will be the focus of activities as the sixth annual Campus Beautification Day is stretched into three consecutive days of effort Wednesday through Friday, May 25-27.

Working with building coordinators at the selected sites, the Campus Beautification Committee is enlisting the help of each building’s staff members to participate in plantings and to take an interest in the flowers. For the rest of the summer, says Thomas E. Coyne, director of Campus Planning and Facilities Services and committee chairperson, “We’d like to have people really take a proprietary interest in the flower plantings and the care of those flower beds,” Coyne says. Planting guidelines for individual buildings have been developed and within those guidelines, he noted, there is plenty of flexibility for participants to make choices to know what variety of flowers to plant.

The 11 sites where flower beds will be planted are: the Dalton Center; the Friedman-Humbert/John Knauz Center; Ellsworth Hall; Faunce Student Services Building; Hillside offices; McCracken Hall; Seiberling Administration Building; the Speech and Hearing Center; the Walnut Hall and Wood Hall. Flowers will be planted at Faunce, Hillside and Waldo on Wednesday during University business hours. The remaining sites will be planted Friday and Saturday.

John T. Houdek, history, will supervise distribution of plants to the various building coordinators who will deliver plants to the buildings, giving planting tips to volunteers and offer maintenance tips and directions to those who wish to continue to care for the plants.

Campus beautification began in coordination with Kalamazoo’s Flower Fest this year. The 11 campus flower beds were among city beautification efforts that received Flowerfest awards.

Those who wish to take part in this year’s effort should contact their building coordinators.

Competitiveness hinges on higher education support

The immediate effect of Gov. James J. Blanchard’s 1988-89 budget recommendation could be a 14 to 15 percent tuition increase for WMU students. But the long-term consequences of the state’s universities not receiving more support may decrease economic competitiveness and a lower quality of life for Michigan’s citizens.

These were the words of caution he delivered during his testimony before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education in Lansing May 10. President Haenicke responded to questions from legislators on topics ranging from faculty and staff salaries to the academic preparation of entering students.

When asked about the status of fall admissions, he indicated that WMU had not closed admissions for the fall semester because he believed that “a public institution should remain accessible to the extent that it does not adversely affect the quality of its instruction.”

He also told legislators that salaries for Western’s faculty and staff rank sixth among Michigan public institutions, and the University is an “above average” student member of the Mid-American Conference; and that 63 percent of WMU students receive financial aid in one form or another.

Rep. Mary Brown (D-Kalamazoo) asked what effects the University’s budget would have if the Legislature was only able to provide a 1 percent appropriation increase.

Haenicke responded, “The cuts would be very bad; they would seriously cut in the personnel areas, we wouldn’t fire anyone — we’d simply manage with attrition. We’re not overstaffed, but there’s room for a groundsperson, secretary or faculty member.”

B. Donald Gilmer (R-Augusta) and Morris Hood Jr. (D-Detroit), who chair the higher education subcommittee, asked about the quality of K-12 instruction and the level of preparation students have when entering Western.

We do not go exclusively with grade-point average,” Haenicke replied. “We look at many, many other things to aid in the diversified budget.

Haenicke describes response to budget situation

A tuition increase in the range of 10 percent during the next fiscal year is the outcome of a recommendation from the State Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education. Haenicke, who is chairperson of the higher education budget subcommittee, asked about the quality of K-12 instruction and the level of preparation students have when entering Western.

"I take particular pride in these accomplishments because I believe that they reflect well upon the efforts of our faculty and staff to serve the needs of all the people of Michigan," Haenicke said.

However, he said the University’s ability to accommodate the state’s citizens would be severely hampered by the budget recommendation for next year.

"If the funds are targeted to operations, we still need a significant tuition increase to maintain existing programs," he said. "Such an increase will further impede the capacity of many families to finance their child’s education, will add to the swelling burden of the graduates and compromise the students educational experiences because of the pressure to work added hours at part-time or full-time jobs to pay the expenses.

With the governor’s proposed 1.05 percent increase, Haenicke said he would need a 14 to 15 percent tuition increase to meet salary obligations and to provide nominal increases to supplies, utilities, physical plant, library and program development budgets.

"That level of tuition increase is prohibitive," he said. "We’re in the process of developing a tuition recommendation for consideration by the University’s Board of Trustees."

Western a 3 percent increase. It placed WMU in a category with the state’s other four graduate-intensive universities: Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

During the more recent House Appropriations Committee meetings Haenicke highlighted several accomplishments to demonstrate the University’s continuing effectiveness and a positive, effective and responsive manner.

"It is, of course, very good news to realize that we are an institution that is

(Continued on page four)

SIGN OF THE TIMES -- Stephen B. Stratton, a senior from Dimondale, may have been wondering whether he should swap his bicycle for a horse and his jeans for a suit as these signs recently appeared on campus. The directions for participants in the 23rd International Congress on Medieval Studies raised a few eyebrows. The congress, sponsored by WMU’s Medieval Institute, attracts the largest annual gathering worldwide of specialists in the history and culture of the Middle Ages. Nearly 2,000 scholars from the United States and 29 other countries participated in the May 5-8 event.
Western News

GIFT TO GO TOWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

A retired painter and illustrator from New Mexico has made a $100,000 living bequest to Western’s Department of Art to provide scholarships for promising art students.

James Wilfrid Kerr, of Albuquerque, made the gift "to the very best students in the department." The gift, which will be divided among students over a three-year period, is designed to aid graphic design students in particular, but is open to all students in that field.

"The gift," says Melvin N. Straw, chairman of art, "will enable us to give scholarship aid to some promising students that we might not otherwise have been able to assist. It’s a very generous open gift that will encourage quality and high achievement among our best students."

The Kerr connection with the University dates back to 1910, when Kerr’s late wife Rose Nezzor Kerr received her degree from Western Michigan Normal School. She joined the WMU faculty in the art department in 1923 when she left the University. Mrs. Kerr went on to enjoy a career as an artist and free-lance writer and, in 1953, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for her illustrated work, "100 Years of Costume in America."


James Kerr has maintained close ties with WMU over the years, funding an annual art scholarship and making repeated gifts of artwork to the University. The University now has 19 works by James and Rose Kerr in its permanent collections. Some of those works are displayed on campus in such locations as the Seibernt Administration Building and Western Michigan University’s Song and Dance Center.

Strawn says that he expects the first student awards from the gift to be made during the 1988-89 academic year, probably during the winter semester.

The gift, he says, will be set up in an endowment fund and interest from the principal will be used for student scholarships.

The Department of Art currently has about 380 undergraduate and 22 graduate art majors. Straw says that slightly more than half of the current students are majors in the field of graphic art.

Strawn praised both the generosity and the openness of the gift saying that it will allow Western to provide scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of ways. The University, he says, intends to honor the Kerrs by naming a gallery for them if a new art facility is added to the campus in the future.

Spring commencement ceremonies are set for Saturday, June 25, at Miller Auditorium. The date is changed from May 31 to give graduating students more time to go to the U.S. Navy University catalog.

Students planning to graduate in June need to be eligible for the June ceremonies. However, they may apply for graduation by Wednesday, June 1.

Tuition subsidy applications due

The deadline for faculty members to apply for tuition subsidies for the 1988-89 academic year is coming up. The Faculty Tuition Subsidy Program supplements the regular staff benefits, with a focus on retaining faculty members and reducing the remaining tuition costs for up to three quarters of each faculty member’s professional development purposes. Student and general computer fees also are covered.

Applications are available from the Office of Faculty Development at 7-5305.

Students granted charter

The University’s Collegiate Women’s Study Center has been granted a charter as a student chapter by the Associated General Contractors of America.

The student charter is one of only two on the nation’s college campuses. The other was at Ferris State University.

Most of the 40 members of Western’s charter are students in the construction supervision and management program in the Department of Engineering Technology. A few are interior design majors.

Applications are available from the Office of Faculty Development at 7-5305.

Sahin selected for summer naval research

Iskender Sahin, mechanical engineering, was awarded a 1988 summer fellowship by the U.S. Navy-Northrop Group which associates Sahin with the U.S. Navy-American Society of Engineering Education Summer Faculty Research Program.

The 10-week research fellowship, which is offered to the nation’s college professors in mechanical engineering, is awarded by the Naval Coastal Systems Center in Panama City, Fla., through the Office of Naval Research. The fellowship is designed to enhance the interaction between higher education and the Navy.

Sahin was chosen as one of 15 professors selected nationwide for the program’s senior level. He and the others will work at the research center beginning June 27.
Graph conference expected to attract mathematicians from around the globe

More than 200 mathematicians from around the world will assemble at the Fetzer Center to learn about the role of the federal government in American education during the 92-93 academic year. The event, entitled "The Washington Seminar," will feature a trip to the nation's capital during the month of February, according to its originator, Lawrence B. Haenicke, WMU vice president for human service operations.

"Most people say they want education, but when you bring it to them, they don't want to pay for it," Haenicke said. "We have spent $550,000 advertising to the entire community, has been set for Thomsen from 3:40 to 4:10 p.m. Thursday, May 28. Following the reception, Thomsen will conduct a session on "The Kirsch Auditorium of the Fetzer Center. The center is in the basement of the Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Washington, D.C., area. Haenicke said he expects three hours of graduate credit for this course, offered through the Department of Educational Leadership and the Division of Continuing Education.

The event will be open to journalism and to register, persons should contact the Office of Kalamazoo Off-Campus Programs at 7-4170.

Paersonal

Summer flexitime begins June 6

Although the University's regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. remain unchanged, employees may arrange for flextime on the first Monday in June through the last Friday in August under certain conditions. This year, flextime will begin June 6. All arrangements require approval of the immediate supervisor and the unit vice president.

A discussion of the recombinant DNA policy and a faculty skills inventory.

Media

The listing below is currently being posted by the University employment office. Interested regular full-time or part-time employees should submit a job application during the posting period. Those offices designated as essential for the University's operations are Blood donors. "We're seeing some renewed interest in intercollegiate Athletics can require something exciting."
MUSEUM DEDICATED TO SCHMALTZ -- The Department of Geology's museum on the ground floor of Rood Hall was dedicated in recent ceremonies to Lloyd J. Schmalz, ex-secreary of the museum until his death last year. Here, Schmalz, right, a WMU faculty member since 1959, views the displays of fossils and mineral specimens with W. Thomas Straw, interim chairperson of the department.

House hearing (Continued from page one)

concerned to anticipate a relatively steep increase," he said. "I intend to keep the increase as low as possible, but I must emphasize that our ability to support higher education over the next four years, Western's fiscal needs go back to an inadequate base budget and does not address the University's mission, program mix and enrollment.

"The executive budget recommendation will seriously -- and let me underscore seriously -- restrict our ability to assure student access and to provide the range of academic programs and services commensurate with our mission," he said. "We must protect program quality, maintain and upgrade our core programs, meet market demands for salaries and provide the services expected of a Carnegie Doctoral I University, the only one of its kind in the state. We cannot do less and fulfill our responsibility to the state.

Haenicke said he does not intend to blame state government for lack of support because he understands the difficulties governments face.

"I understand well the dilemma that confronts people in positions of authority who must make decisions about priorities," he said. "In that regard, I pledge to do all that I can to help perform the citizen's role of the state of Michigan in the need to increase student revenues so as to provide adequate support for education.

Haenicke cited these statistics from a 1987 report on financing public higher education by Kent Halstead of Research Associates in Washington D.C.:

- Michigan ranks fifth in the nation in terms of total tax effort (the burden imposed upon its citizenry by capacity to pay), 11th in total tax revenue, but 28th in state allocations to higher education.
- Michigan ranks 25th in terms of dollars expended per student in higher education, well below such competitor states as California, Massachusetts and Minnesota.
- Tuition accounts for 34.1 percent of the support of higher education in Michigan, highest among all states.
- Michigan ranks 16th nationally in terms of total support for higher education.

"These comparisons suggest that Michigan must attempt to do better in order to compete nationally," Haenicke said.

"While we appreciate the state's very difficult economic situation, we also believe that investments in higher education represent perhaps the best possible strategy for the state to follow for the development of human resources will make the competitive difference over the long term."

"Unless we make investments now, then surely the citizenry will pay later.

Questions (Continued from page one)

Choice Behavior Under Concurrent-Chains Schedules, Stephen P. Starin, Ph.D., Psychology, 283 Wood Hall, 1:30-4 p.m.

Seminar, "Inexpensive Justice," teleconference with Robert L. Spurrir Jr. and discussion by a panel of experts, Red Rooms, Bernhard Student Center, 12:30-5 p.m.

Doctoral oral examination, "Graph and Directed Graph Augmentation Problems," Zhuguo Mo, mathematics, Mathematics Commons Room, sixth floor, Everett Tower, 3 p.m.

Wednesday/25

( thru 27) Campus Beautification Days.

Thursday/26

Staff training seminar, "Eliminating Self-Defeating Behaviors, Part II," Milton R. Cudney, Counseling Center, Red Rooms, Bernhard Student Center, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Doctoral oral examination, "Out-of-Home Care, Selected Education Settings and School Readiness for Four-Year-Olds," Joan C. Sergent, educational leadership, Tate Center, 3210 Sangren Hall, 10 a.m.

Doctoral oral examination, "An Investigation of the Traditional and the Non-Traditional College Student," Judy Moonert, Bentley Administration Building, 3:30-4 p.m.

Doctoral oral examination, "Effects of Participative Management on Teacher Satisfaction During Periods of Organizational Decline," Robert O'Brien, public made to Two Rivers Public Schools, Hillside B-1, 1 p.m.

Staff training seminar, "Western and You," new employee orientation, Red Rooms, Bernhard Student Center, 1:30-4 p.m.

Doctoral oral examination, "The Relationship of Quality Circles in Nursing to Leadership, Job Satisfaction, Patient Care and Cost Containment," Shirley A. Peterson, Milton R. Cudney, Counseling Center, 9:30-11 a.m.

Meeting, Graduate Studies Council of the Faculty Senate, Conference Room A, third floor, Seibert Administration Building, 3 p.m.

Friday/28

Baseball, WMU vs. the University of Illinois at Chicago, Hyames Field, 3 p.m.

Monday/23

Staff training seminar, "Performance Review," for supervisors of non-bargaining unit employees, 204 Bernhard Student Center, 1:30-4:30 p.m.


Tuesday/24

Doctoral oral examination, "Effects of Terminal-Link Response Topography on student mix. Most schools try to do a good job, but they're up against terrible odds, 20 to 25 percent of our entering students need review or non-credit remedial courses. I personally believe very strongly that we have to develop a college preparatory program and we've got to get to them (K-12 students) earlier.

Students shouldn't take a senior year sabbatical -- sitting on the lawn after 11 o'clock each day," Haenicke continued. "They should take core courses all four years of senior high school and if they don't they should be conditionally admitted to college.

He noted that the Presidents Council of State Universities issued a guide to parents two or three years ago, advising them on what their children should be doing in high school to become better prepared for college.

Hood asked Haenicke what he believed high school students are lacking most when they enter college.

"Study habits or learning habits," Haenicke replied. "They need regular hard work and they need an attention span really doesn't do it. Unless they're able to sit for three hours and read a good book, or sit for one hour of study without taking a break to get a soft drink, make a phone call or some other distraction."

Haenicke also reported on the early successes of Western's three research excellence fund projects and said he opposed the recommendation to transfer that funding to other areas.

"It's a very delicate balance to get and hold the attention of the public," he said. "Western's testimony by praising the Martin Luther King Jr., Cesar Chavez, Rosie the Riveter and Jeannine Chavez/Rosie Parks legislative initiative and recommending increased support for that program."

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Jorgens earns NEH grant for summer study

Elise B. Jorgens, English, is one of eight Michigan scholars to receive summer study grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The NEH Summer Stipend is $3,500.

Room and board, apartment rental rates to increase

A 4.9 increase in room and board rates and a 6.9 increase in apartment rental rates were approved April 22 by the Board of Trustees.

The room and board increase will take effect with the start of the fall semester in September. The apartment rental rate recommendation included a reduction in rates of 25 percent and 27 percent, respectively, for renovated two-bedroom furnished and unfurnished apartments in the Elmwood complex, which was effective May 1. All other apartment rental changes increased by Sept. 1.

The Board had tabled the recommendations March 4 to allow time for public comment. The changes reflect increased costs in food, maintenance, utilities and compaction.

Robert M. Beam, vice president for business and finance, said he supported the recommendations.

"Unless we make investments now, then surely the citizenry will pay later."