DMB awards funds for two centers

Western has been granted $332,400 by the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (DMB) for the establishment of a Groundwater Research Center and a Horticulture Economic Development Center.

The research projects are being supported by the Research Excellence and Economic Development Fund, as approved by both houses of the Michigan Legislature and Governor J. Blanchard. The fund is designed to support research at Michigan's public universities that will contribute to the economic development of the state.

We are delighted that the state recognizes our university expertise in these areas, and we look forward to working with DMB to ensure that the University is able to expand its contribution to the state's economic development. We are committed to using this funding to further our research and contribute to the economic growth of the state.

New programs will require new funds, Haenicke tells Faculty Senate

Senate approval by the Board of Trustees of capital outlay requests that included funds for a College of Business building and for major library modification. The funds for the College of Business building are needed to support the significant growth in the number of students and to provide the necessary facilities to accommodate the increase. The funds for the library modification are needed to support the growth in the size of the library collections and to provide the necessary facilities to support the increased use of the library.

Even recent activity is divided into two sessions. The afternoon event will feature graduate students from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the College of Business, who will discuss their research and planning efforts for the College of Business building.

The morning event will feature graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences, education, fine arts and health and human services, the Division of Continuing Education and the School of Library and Information, fine art and health and human services.

Henry Loew, University of Michigan, will give the invocation for the ceremony. Al Pippen, geological engineering, will administer the oath of office and the School of Library and Information, fine art and health and human services.

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Children's Christmas favorite has unusual history

A poem today considered a Christmas classic for children was originally written for just one person: a fellow faculty member in the Department of English. "Anita," he held everal po ition at cia sic for children was originally written for a fellow faculty member in the Department of English. Anita Szalkowski, who teaches a children's literature course, says Clement C. Moore never intended to see "A Visit From St. Nicholas"—better known today as "The Night Before Christmas"—take off in the way that it did.

"When it was first published," says Szalkowski, "Moore refused to admit he had anything to do with it. In fact, it was written by his son."

A professor of Greek and a Hebrew scholar living in New York City, Moore composed "A Visit From St. Nicholas" on the spur of the moment on Christmas Eve 1822 and read it that evening to his seven children.

"At that time, it would have been unheard of for practically anyone to write such a silly thing about Christmas for children," says Szalkowski. "Moore wrote the poem only for his own children, but a copy of the first edition, published in New York, N.Y., newspaper by the next Christmas and it spread across the country."

This year, 2020, passed before Moore admitted to being the author of "A Visit From St. Nicholas."

"It appeared then in book form with his name on it," says Szalkowski. "But he new it was not written by him it was in the public domain, which meant he wasn't entitled to any royalties."

"A Visit From St. Nicholas" is the only Christmas favorite that has found great favor with the public since it was written, notes Szalkowski.

"(Charles) Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" was not originally thought of as a children's story," she says "and "The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry was not written for Christmas at all."

Szalkowski says "A Visit From St. Nicholas," "A Christmas Carol" and "The Gift of the Magi" are probably the three stories most often read to children during the Christmas season. Other less well known stories Szalkowski recommends include "Beatrix Potter's "Tailor of Gloucester" and Margaret Wise Brown's "Christmas in the Barn.""There are many more holiday picture books on the market for young children, says Szalkowski, and there are some books that include chapters on Christmas."

"Almost every one of the Laura Ingalls Wilder "Little House" books has a chapter on that story's Christmas and will appeal to children today. And, of course, Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women" opens with a Christmas moment and is written by her for Christmas."

"There are children, I'm sure, who'd listen to the telephone book if it were only read to them in a family setting," she says. "It's an opportunity for families to add, libraries, themselves, make excellent Christmas gifts for children."

"Your child will soon forget the Christmas toys, but the books will last and they will be remembered for a lifetime."

Reception set for Thomas

Faculty and staff members are cordially invited to attend a retirement reception for Dr. W. Thomas, ajoiner of the faculty of the School of Business Administration for more than 30 years.

The program includes entertainment and a buffet lunch.

The luncheon and reception will take place at 12 p.m. today in the University Center. The event is free and open to the public.

White promoted in affirmative action office

The promotion of Damon L. White to assistant director for affirmative action was announced by Western News.

White has been acting affirmative action officer since this past April replacing Jewel M. Streit, who took a white collar job of absence.

He has decided not to return to full-time employment.

White, who was appointed as assistant director for affirmative action in the fall, was selected for the position by the Board.

He replaces Jeff, who became associate vice president for student services this past January.

White is responsible for ensuring University compliance with federal and state requirements.

White began in this position in 1981 as an affirmative action assistant. From 1978-81 he held several positions at Western, including assistant to the assistant director of the Office of University Judicatures; assistant director of minority student services; and field representative for the University for Affirmative Action.

In his new position the Board recognized the retirement of Gertrude G. Garrison, food service. Her retirement after more than 21 years of service to the University was effective Sept. 13.

Zest for Life

Watch the mail for your new Zest for Life newsletter. Each issue contains health and fitness opportunities for all faculty and staff members beginning with the winter issue.

New programs include: "Eaze Into Fitness, for those desiring a non-intimidating exercise program; a new back care program called "Take Care of Your Back" to help relieve or prevent back pain and strain; cross country skiing introduction; "Your Health Enhancement Seminars focusing on self-esteem, stress management and cancer risk reduction; Zest for Life programs are designed to enhance your quality of life by helping you meet the challenge of a rapidly changing work environment and personal needs."

Sail—New for 1998, sail a black and white portable TV. Can run on bat­ boxes, AC or car current. Call 537-3731.

For sale—April piano in excellent mechanical condition, $255. Call Sue at 746-4939 evenings.

Western News 2, Dec. 12, 1985
Jobs

This listing below is currently being posted by the University personnel department for new employees. Applicants should submit a job opportunities application during the preparation period. S-01 and S-02 clerical positions are not relevant to the college, and non-employees may register in the personnel department for assistance in securing these positions.

(R) Secretary III, S-06, Biomed. Sciences, 85-591, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Assistant, Prof. (Tenure Track), 1-20, 1-30, Communication Arts and Sciences, 85-592, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Assistant, Prof. (2 Yr. Term), 1-30, Psychology, 85-588, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Assistant, Prof. (Tenure Track), 1-30, Blind Rehab., 85-587, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Assistant, Prof. (2 Yr. Term), 1-30, Psychology, 85-588, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Asst. Supv.-Ticket Office, P-01, Athletics, 85-589, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Director, P-09, Counseling Center, 85-590, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Dietary Planner (1 position), F-1, Food Service, 85-591, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) Medical Asst. (10 month app't), S-09, Health Care Center, 85-592, 12/10-12/16/85.
(R) New Position
(G) Grant Funded
(R) Replacement

WMU is an EEO/AA employer.

Media

"Newsviews Legislative Report," a 30-minute radio and television program featuring WMUK-AM news director Tony Griffin and area state legislators, will be aired on WMUK-AM and cablecast on Kalamazoo Community Access Television during the week of Dec. 15-21. Produced by tomato media, it's co-sponsored with WMUK-AM, the program will be played on WMUK-AM (102.1) at 12:20 p.m. Monday, 12 p.m. Tuesday on Family Channel channel 7 at 11 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17; 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18; 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21. Participating on the program will be Rep. Mary Brown, Donald Gilmer and Paul Warner and Sen. Harmon Cressey and Jack Wolber.

Anne O. Szwakowski, English, discusses the English department's rich history and the current work being done by the faculty. The hour-long show was scheduled Wednesday, Dec. 11, to air on WZZO'AM (1320) and at 12:25 p.m. on WKZO-AM (590).

Senate

The Educational Policies Council of the Faculty Senate will meet at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, in Conference Room A of the Student Administration Building. Agenda includes discussion of a joint Undergraduate General Education Council and Student Senate action to require a minimum credit for UN supplied to the students and consideration of a Senate proposal for the possible diminution of the Educational Policies Council.

Personnel

Unemployment compensation—how it works

Western is a covered employer under the Michigan Unemployment Compensation Act (MECA) Unemployment Act of 1936. The purpose of the program is to pay unemployment compensation to employees on layoff or former employees who are entitled to unemployment compensation. Type of employment and earnings are determined by MECA to be qualified and eligible for benefits.

Any former WMU employee is eligible to apply for benefits, but eligibility for benefits is determined solely by MECA. WMU faculty and staff members who are not eligible for benefits will not be paid work for any years or terms, and who have been given reasonable assurance that they will be reemployed within 120 days at the start of the next school year or term, as determined by MECA, and who are not considered to be on regular layoff. MECA also does not approve enrollment of former employees.

Compensation office processes claims

The compensation office processes all unemployment claims against WMU. It is responsible for responding to all MECA actions, and represents Western at hearings requested by claimants or employers. During 1984-85 there were 223 unemployment claims filed, by former employees and students against WMU. Because all claims must be answered within 10 calendar days (the time for response by MECA) or MECA inquiries received by an employer must be answered immedi-
ately to the compensation office.

When an unemployed worker files a claim for benefits at a MECA office, each claim is set in motion. The person involved is reviewed for the past 52 weeks and is notified and supply information about the claimant's earnings during that period, and why the person is no longer working. MECA processes both claims, and is independent of the compensation office. The decision on the claim is based on the information received, and notifies the employee of its decision.

Referee hearings

A worker who is dissatisfied with a determination issued by MECA may request a hearing through the office. A member of the compensation office staff attends each hearing. Prior to the hearing, the office requests the data, testimony and witnesses necessary to suc- cessfully protect the interests of the University.

During the 1984-85 fiscal year, the University was represented at eight referee

25 YEAR CLUB—Henry A. Rapp, left, 1957-1968, and Frederick P. Alago, right, 1952-1984, who were members of the 25 Year Club, at a banquet Dec. 4. Here, Robert M. Beaman, vice president for faculty and staff, with a brushed pewter bowl emblazoned "Michigan State University." The bowl was one of the gifts the new members could select to receive. The club, which now has 153 active members in 15 university departments, was founded four years ago. The club is the cornerstone of Western's ongoing employee recognition program.

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR—Christmas and Valentine's Day are the busiest times of the year for Camilla L. Klineker, postmistress and secretary in the post office next to Western's Campus Bookstore. "We're busier for a longer period at Christmas, but the real high before Valentine's Day is very intense," she says. Klineker and Norma C. Belyea, who works part-time, handle all the postcards, letters and packages that go through the subdivision. "I love meeting the students and working with them," says Klineker. "They're all so patient when it comes to standing in line. We try to keep them moving as best we can." Klineker, who has worked in her current position for 20 years, has two tips for holiday mailers: Remember that oversized greeting cards require extra postage and that packages should be bound with wide tape or packaging tape, not celophane tape.

Security taxes increase

The bad news is that effective Jan. 1, the employer and employee tax rate for Social Security (FICA) will increase to 7.15 percent of covered wages (up from 7.05 per-
cent), and the maximum amount of earn-
sings that are taxed annually for social security will be increased to $42,000 (was $39,600). These increases are effective with pay period #2, paid on Jan. 7. If there are questions, persons may call the Social Security benefits office. 3-0485, or the payroll office, 3-0970.

Tax reports need correct address

If you are an employee who has changed your home address within the past year, please be sure the personnel records office has your correct mailing address. This is essential to ensure that your Wage and Tax Statement (W-2) will be correctly addressed in January. You may use the form on the back of your paycheck envelope, or you may send a memo indicating the new address to personal records, 3-1451, Administration Building.

The details of your name, this change must be submitted on a P-006 form by your department. You are welcome to call the personnel records office at 3-1451 to confirm that your name and address are correct in your records file. Don't wait un-til it's too late—do it now!

New staff training catalog out

The 1986 catalogs of staff training courses to be offered January through June, will be mailed to supervisors and professional/technical/administrative staff members before the Christmas holiday break. According to Robert J. Buwalda, employer relations and personnel. Super-
visors are asked to look over the class of-
fers, and make enrollment suggestions to their staff members. Only a limited number of catalogs are being mailed; departments are asked to circulate them among their staff members. Class reserva-
 tions are recommended, and for further information, persons may call the staff training office, 3-1650.

Personnel data quiz

Last question: How many suggestions were submitted to the employee suggestion program last year?

Answer: None—obviously a new low.

We are encouraging suggestions and com-
ments for this potentially vital program (see forthcoming article in Jan. 9 Western News).

New question: How many training seminars were conducted in fiscal year 1984-85?

Sports Line/3-GOLD

On campus

Security

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Policy Statement

University Closing Policy

Policy and procedures guide for the suspension of University operations due to weather conditions, physical damage or other emergency conditions that prevent normal operations.

The decision to close all or part of the University for reasons of weather, building conditions or disruptive action, will be made only by the President or his designee. The President's Office and the University Personnel Department will be the coordinating offices for handling details and questions dealing with this policy.

In cases of complete or near complete shut-down, local news media will usually be used for notification purposes. If only selective operations are involved, or if the closing occurs after the beginning of the work day, each of any affected departments will be individually notified. The lack of specific notification to the contrary should be interpreted to mean that normal operations are to be maintained.

Specific cases and varying conditions or circumstances may require special action or decisions. However, some basic policy statements regarding close-down decisions are presented in this statement in an effort to provide as much understanding and communication as possible in these situations.

1. In the absence of notification to the contrary, all normal operations will continue as scheduled. If there is any question as to whether the University will be in operation, a message will be available on 385-6171, WMUK and WIDR. Closing announcements will be on these same services as well as the general media.

2. In the event that emergency conditions are so severe that on-campus classes must be cancelled, the above guidelines are to be followed, except for essential services.

3. The Dean of Continuing Education is authorized to cancel off-campus classes in accordance with policy established by that office.

4. Essential operations include the maintenance of a day in which the University is closed. These include:

   a. Campus Police
   b. Food Services—concessions may be required
c. Grounds—for snow removal
d. Placement Services
   e. Recreational Facilities—e.g., Gary Center, Barrymore Student Center, and Law School
   f. Student Information Center
   g. University Health Center
   h. WMUK
   i. Others as may be designated

5. When a decision is made to close the University, the following notification steps should be taken:

   a. President
   b. Notify Public Information
   c. Notify Vice President for Academic Affairs
   d. Notify Vice President for Finance
   e. Notify President for Finance
   f. Notify President for Student Services
   g. Notify major unit heads
   h. Notify University Relations/Secretary of Board of Trustees
   i. Notify Trustees
   j. Notify major unit heads.

6. In order to protect unavoidable income losses to employees, whenever the "University is closed" all faculty and staff not required for essential operations during the period of closing will be excused from work and be paid as though the period of closing were a holiday. However, this is the University's sole judgment as to who is required to work and who is not. Whenever the University is closed from normal operations, employees will fall into several groups for the purpose of determining pay.

   a. Employees who are required to work to continue essential services will be paid for the time worked in the same manner as the period of closing were a holiday.
   b. Employees who report for their regular work period prior to the announcement of closing, but are not required to maintain essential services, will be paid for the time they worked at their supervisors' discretion.
   c. Employees who, for whatever reasons, are unable to report for their regular work period prior to the announcement of closing may use Annual Leave for the time from the beginning of their regular work period to the effective time of closing, without the requirement of prior approval for Annual Leave. They will be paid for the balance of their work period as though it were a holiday.
   d. Any employee who has reported in as a "sick" or was scheduled to be on Annual Leave prior to the announcement of closing will be paid as though there was no closing and thus will be charged for Sick Leave or Annual Leave for the period not worked.

(Adopted: Office of the President, March 23, 1978; Amended: June 1, 1978, Aug. 1, 1979, April 8, 1985.)