Blanchard signs bill giving Western $64.8 million

Gov. Blanchard Aug. 1 signed the 1985-86 appropriations bill that allocates $64.8 million for Western. That's 7.1 million or 12.4 percent increase over Western's 1984-85 state appropriation of $57.7 million.

"We are pleased and encouraged by the continued strong support of Governor Blanchard and both houses of the legislature reflected in this appropriation," said Philip Denfenfeld, assistant vice president for institutional relations. This represents a significant beginning in a badly needed comeback," he added.

Brin, vice president for University relations and secretary to the Board of Trustees, said, "Many people deserve special recognition and thanks for this appropriation, but I want to single out the Governor and our local legislators -- Rep. Mary Brown, Rep. Paul Wartner, Sen. Harry Gast, the late Sen. Robert Weidorn and Rep. Donald Gilmer, who is a member of the Joint Higher Education Conference Committee -- for their continued support and strong efforts on our behalf.

The impact of the appropriation on Western's General Fund operating budget is North Dormitory Road opened to two-way traffic Aug. 2.

North Dormitory Road between the Sorenson Tennis Courts and West Michigan Avenue was opened to two-way traffic Friday, Aug. 2, more than three weeks ahead of schedule, said Larry K. Adams, physical plant. The conversion of that part of the road to two-way traffic is expected to relieve traffic in the central part of the campus, said Thomas J. Carr, operations. Work on the project, which was supported by the Michigan Institution Roadways Fund of the State Department of Transportation, began in late June. Workman Contractors Inc. of Grand Rapids was the general contractor.

Obituary

Nelson Schrier, 74, retired grounds supervisor and a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame at Western Michigan University, died in traffic accident July 23 in Grand Haven when he was struck by a truck. Schrier, who retired 16 years ago at the age of 68, spent 26 years at Western as a student, athlete, part-time employee and employee. He graduated in 1934 and immediately joined the grounds staff. Criminal charges are being sought against the driver of the truck.

CONTRACT SIGNED--Representatives of the University, Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME Local 1668), and the union joined in a signing ceremony for a three-year collective bargaining agreement Thursday. Agreement signed here are Diane A. Rank, director of collective bargaining and contract administration; Wayne Crofoot of Council 25 in Lansing and Jack H. Bosich, grounds president, of AFSCME Local 1668. The new contract, ratified July 19 by the Board of Trustees, becomes effective Monday, Aug. 12.

Grants top $10 million

Western recorded the second highest annual grant total in its history in 1984-85, receiving almost $10.4 million in grants during the fiscal year that ended June 30. That figure, which was reported at the Board of Trustees' meeting July 15, is only surpassed by a fiscal 1979-80 grant total of $11.8 million.

Regalia for commencement available next week, Aug. 24

Those who expect to participate in commencement Saturday, Aug. 24, are reminded regalia may be secured in the Union from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through the summer recess, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the day of commencement. Gowns (and hoods) are to be returned immediately after the ceremony and, except for late entrants, transcripts will be withheld if gowns and hoods are not returned. Two commencement ceremonies are scheduled, both in the University Auditorium. Participating at 10 a.m. will be the Arts and Sciences, Education, Fine Arts and Continuing Education and at 1 p.m., Engineering and Applied Sciences, Business, Health and Human Services, and Library and Information Sciences. No tickets are required for commencement.

Astronomer to speak Aug. 12

John Dobson, a lecturer in physics and astronomy who designed the Dobsonian telescope, will speak on "Approaches to Reality: Eastern Metaphysics" at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, in 1715 Kalamazoo Hall. The program is sponsored by the Honors College.

SERS can help with odd jobs

The Student Employment Referral Service reminds faculty and staff members that students are available for odd jobs. Jobs may be listed through the service by calling 3-8133.

Summer enrollment is 4,373

Enrollment for the summer session is 4,373, an increase of 119 students or 2.6 percent over last summer's figures. The summer session began July 3 and ends Aug. 23.

Next Western News is Aug. 22

The next issue of Western News, to be published Thursday, Aug. 22, will be the last of the summer session; its deadline is noon Tuesday, Aug. 20. The first issue of the fall semester will be published Thursday, Sept. 5, for which the deadline is Tuesday, Sept. 3. Summer session ends Friday, Aug. 2, 1985.
TV series wins national award from cable programmers group

"Every Child a Wanted Child," a series of six half-hour programs produced by media service and Reproductive Health Care organizations, has won a Hometown USA Award of the Center/Planned Parenthood of Kalamazoo, recognized for five, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of work. Janet W. Oliver, a producer-director for the series. The group spent five weeks in Bonn, where it met with officials from German government and university professors of German, history and the humanities who participated in the program from June 29 to July 5.

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