

2006
Alumni Achievement Awards



October 13, 2006
Bernhard Center
Western Michigan University

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Western Michigan University's
College of Arts and Sciences
is proud to recognize its
Alumni Achievement Award winners...

Phil Neusius
Anthropology

Alison J. Fisher
Chemistry

Ed Gordon
Communication

John E. Anderson
Economics

Theodore E. Townsend, Jr.
English

Hans J. Stolle
Geography

Timothy L. Clarey
Geosciences

Howard Odell Lindsey
History

Thomas E. Van Koevering
Science Education

Charlene E. Beckmann
Mathematics

Daniel Fidel Ferrer
Philosophy

Lawrence J. Satkowiak
Physics

Nancy Diehl
Political Science

Gerald L. Shook
Psychology

Cameron Brown
Public Affairs and Administration

Nancy Wonders
Sociology

Chris Durren
Spanish

Dallas E. Johnson
Statistics

Dallas E. Johnson
Department of Statistics



Dr. Dallas E. Johnson was elected as the outstanding graduate student in Statistics by the faculty at Colorado State University, 1970; selected as an Outstanding Teacher for the 1971-72 academic year by the students and faculty of the University of Missouri-Rolla; elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, 1983; and named the Outstanding Chapter Member of the Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter of the American Statistical Association in conjunction with ASA's 150th Anniversary Meeting, (1990).

Additionally, Dr. Johnson served as the founding editor of "Journal of Agricultural, Biological, and Environmental Statistics" (1994); received the Don Owen Award from the San Antonio Chapter of the American Statistical Association and Marcel Dekker, Incorporated (1997); and received an ASA Founder's Award, 2004.

Dr. Johnson also received a Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award from Kansas State University in 2004.

Her teaching also is impressive and diverse, with classes ranging from “globalization, human rights and justice” and “human and cultural relations in criminal justice” to “school violence” and “feminist justice.” Her contributions to her university, community and profession have been particularly noteworthy, as she has organized and/ or participated in various regional conferences and trainings in the areas of gender, race, class and justice, chaired or served on more than 40 university and professional committees, held numerous elected offices, and even directed community theatre.



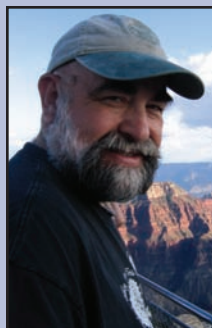
Chris Durren **Department of Spanish**

Chris Durren is a native of the Detroit area. His studies at Western Michigan University included a major in Spanish and a major in Marketing. His studies in the College of Arts and Sciences included two foreign studies including the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro and the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, both in

Querétaro, Mexico.

He graduated in 1999 with a B.A. from the College of Arts and Sciences with a major in Spanish and with a B.B.A. from the Haworth College of Business, with a major in Marketing. Mr. Durren began his career with Hormel Foods Corporation in 1999 with their sales organization in Los Angeles, Calif. That same year, he was promoted to the marketing department as an Assistant Product Manager on the Herdez Corporation Joint Venture from Mexico, due to his knowledge of the people, the culture, the language and the country of Mexico, coupled with his business capabilities.

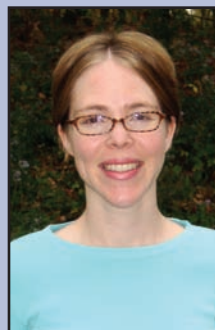
Since 1999, Mr. Durren has moved through the ranks of marketing to his current level of Senior Product Manager, managing the Herdez Corporation Joint Venture and coordinating the Hormel Company’s marketing efforts targeting the Hispanic consumer base in the US. In addition to his marketing responsibilities, Mr. Durren has the pleasure of recruiting on campus at WMU and visiting during the Career Fairs and Food Marketing Conference.



Phil Neusius **Department of Anthropology**

Phil Neusius received both his B.S. and M.A. in Anthropology from WMU in 1975 and 1978 respectively and his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Missouri, Columbia in 1985. He presently is Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. While Dr. Neusius has had numerous significant accomplishments in his career as an anthropologist, the accomplishment

of which he is most proud is the creation of Archaeological Services, an applied archaeological center. Since its inception in 1987, the center has generated millions of dollars in external funding which has provided a range of hands-on opportunities for his undergraduate students. Dr. Neusius has built a very significant undergraduate program in Anthropology at Indiana University, which in the mid 1990s was recognized by the American Anthropological Association as a model undergraduate department. He now is leading his department toward the creation of an M.A. program in applied archaeology. Dr. Neusius is also the author of numerous archaeological publications that cover the Eastern Woodlands and the midwest.



Alison Fisher **Department of Chemistry**

Alison Fisher received her B.S. in Chemistry and German from WMU in 1997 and her Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Colorado in 2001. She is currently Assistant Professor in Chemistry and Biochemistry at Norwich University in Northfield, Vt.

Dr. Fisher has had held numerous positions in her field and has received many awards in chemistry as well. Including the Charles A. Dana Category I Grant for superior scholarship, teaching ability, and university service from Norwich University during the 2004/2005 Academic Year. Alison has also earned the “Early Career Scientist” award to present research at the Gordon Conference on Biogenic Hydrocarbons and the Atmosphere in February 2000.



Ed Gordon School of Communication

Hard hitting, inspiring, intelligent, honest, and direct. These are some of the words used to describe the style and approach of Emmy-award-winning broadcaster Ed Gordon. Known for his stellar interaction with newsmakers from the worlds of politics, entertainment, and sports, his name is synonymous with the “big” interview. Gordon’s knack for landing exclusives and his no-nonsense style makes him one of television’s

most respected journalists. Now, as a contributing correspondent for the CBS news-magazine 60 Minutes, he is adding to an already impressive résumé. Mr. Gordon’s diverse style also makes him one of the most versatile people in broadcasting. Gordon is now making a name for himself in radio as host of News and Notes with Ed Gordon. The daily interview/information program can be heard on National Public Radio.

Gordon distinguished himself during two stints at BET. He had many roles at the network including host of BET Tonight, anchor of BET News, and creator of his signature one-on-one series Conversation with Ed Gordon. Over the years, Gordon has covered many of the world’s most defining events. From the freedom of South Africa’s Nelson Mandela to the beating of Rodney King, to upheaval in Haiti and Cuba, he provided comprehensive coverage. Mr. Gordon also provided up-to-the-minute reports on many other domestic and international affairs, including the tragic Sept. 11 attack on America.

In addition to an Emmy, Gordon is the recipient of many other awards recognizing his talent and professionalism. His awards include the NAACP Image Award, as well as the prestigious Journalist of the Year Award from the National Association of Black Journalists. He has also been featured in many national newspapers and periodicals. The Los Angeles Times described Mr. Gordon and his interviewing style, as “forthright and commanding” Gordon is an alumnus of a special list: “People” magazine named him one of its 50 most beautiful people.

Gordon also is president of the Gordon Media Group, a multi-service production company. The Detroit-born Gordon earned his bachelor’s degree in Communication and Political Science from Western Michigan University.

served as a Sturgis City Commissioner from 1981 to 1986, and subsequently for 10 years as a St. Joseph County Commissioner where he was elected board chairman three times.

He then won two terms in the State House of Representatives, and in 2002 was elected to the State Senate. Now a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Brown serves as chair of the subcommittees on agriculture, and state police/military and veterans affairs. He also, among numerous other duties, is vice chair of the judiciary/corrections committee. Senator Brown also chaired the Michigan Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force.

Senator Brown has continued to pursue interests that can be traced back to his undergraduate training at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and his WMU Master of Public Administration degree. He writes and disseminates to his constituents essays on topics such as George Washington, the Battle Hymn of the Republic, Memorial Day, and a personal remembrance on Living Down on the Family Farm. Perhaps this deep sense of historical roots stems from continuing to live in the farmhouse built by his great-great-grandparents in Fawn River Township in southeast St. Joseph County.



Nancy Wonders Department of Sociology

Dr. Nancy Wonders received her bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from WMU in 1980. She went on to earn a doctorate in Sociology from Rutgers University in 1990. During her time at Rutgers, she served as assistant dean for special projects as well as research associate/coordinator for the Institute for Criminological Research, working closely with the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts. Since 1990, she

has been a member of the faculty in the Department of Criminal Justice at Northern Arizona University. Within this capacity, she served as director of the Graduate Program from 1995-97 and 2005-06. In July 2006 she became Chair of the Department.

Dr. Wonders has had a distinguished career in all aspects of academe. Her research has focused on various topics within critical, feminist and international criminology – her most recent work is on globalization, borders, and (im)migration with emphasis on class, race and gender inequalities.



Gerald (Jerry) L. Shook Department of Psychology

Dr. Jerry Shook received his B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Western Michigan University, earning his doctorate in Applied Behavior Analysis in 1981. After graduation, Dr. Shook held a variety of consulting and academic positions as well as leadership and professional development positions in the state of Florida. In 1998, Dr. Shook founded the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), a nonprofit corporation

whose mission is to develop, promote and implement an international certification program for behavior analyst practitioners.

Since 2000, the BACB has established training guidelines and administered professional competency exams, a process that has resulted in the credentialing of more than 4000 behavior analysis practitioners in 9 countries. The BACB has also reviewed and approved academic training curricula for behavior analysis practitioners at over 75 universities.

His work has greatly enhanced the quality of training and the professional stature of behavior analysis practitioners. Further testimony to the impact of Dr. Shook's work is apparent in his receipt of a Professional Service Award from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis and by his election as a Fellow of the Association for Behavior Analysis. Dr. Shook has also contributed more than 25 journal articles and book chapters and made numerous presentations at national and regional conferences.

Cameron Brown School of Public Affairs and Administration

Cameron Brown has achieved success both as a businessman and as a professional politician at the local and state levels of government. He worked for 18 years for the Freeman Manufacturing Company rising to advertising director and eventually vice president of marketing. During those years he also



John E. Anderson Economics

Dr. John E. Anderson recently was appointed as Senior Economist of the council of Economic advisors for 2005-2006. Dr. Anderson advises on public finance matters and on tax policy issues, two of his areas of expertise. He has published widely on these subject matters in numerous highly regarded academic journals and at other outlets. Professor Anderson is the Baird Family Professor of Economics at the University of

Nebraska-Lincoln and he also has been the Chairman of the Economics Department there since 2002.

Dr. Anderson received his B.A. in Mathematics and Economics at Western Michigan University in 1973. He went on to get his master's and Ph.D. degrees in Economics at the Claremont Graduate School in 1976 and 1977. He worked a number of years at Eastern Michigan University before taking a position at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 1991. Professor Anderson has achieved a distinguished career and has received numerous awards and honors both in the academic arena and in the public and government sectors.

Timothy L. Clarey Geosciences

Timothy L. Clarey, earned his Ph.D. in Geology, ('96), a M.S. in Hydrogeology, ('93), and a B.S. in Geology, ('82). He also received a M.S. in Geology, from the University of Wyoming, ('84).



Since 1995 he has served as Professor and Geosciences Chair of Delta College and currently teaches classes in Physical Geology, Geology and Dinosaurs, Geology of National Parks, Environmental Geology, and Geology of Michigan.

Dr. Clarey has been honored on numerous occasions, most recently as Bay City Western High School's Distinguished Alumni in June 2006. Prior to that, Dr. Clarey was named to Who's Who in America, 60th Edition, 2006; Who's Who Among

America's Teachers, 8th and 9th Edition, 2004, 2005; and is the recipient of Barstow and Frevel Scholarly Achievement Award from Delta College in 2002.

Additionally, Dr. Clarey was awarded every major honor at Delta College within the first 10 years of his tenure at the college, including the election as Senate President of the College.

He regularly lectures on dinosaurs and geology and currently is studying the timing and the causes of dinosaur extinction.



Ted Townsend **Department of English**

Ted Townsend is the President and CEO of St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, Ia. He also is currently serving as Senior Vice President of the Iowa Health System, which includes 11 hospitals across Iowa and western Illinois. Townsend has been with St. Luke's since June, 2002. In 2005 and 2006, St. Luke's was recognized as a Top 100 Hospital in America and is the only Iowa hospital so recognized in 2006. Townsend

held chief operating roles at two other Top 100 hospitals prior to moving to Cedar Rapids.

Townsend holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from Western Michigan University and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from the Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Townsend is involved with many local and national organizations including the Cedar Rapids Symphony Board, the ARC Board, and the Waypoint Board. Townsend is a former teacher and currently mentors a student through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization.

Dr. Satkowiak received his B.S. in Physics and Applied Mathematics and his M.S. degree in Experimental Nuclear Physics from Western Michigan University, and his Ph.D. in Experimental Nuclear Physics from the University of Notre Dame.



Nancy Diehl **Department of Political Science**

Nancy Diehl has worked as a prosecutor for more than 24 years and currently heads the Felony Trial Division in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, overseeing general trials, homicide, auto theft, and major drugs prosecutions and directing the Child and Family Abuse Bureau. According to the Michigan Bar Journal (October 2004), Diehl has received more than 20 professional and community awards.

She had the distinction of being the first recipient of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association's Champion of Justice Award. Diehl was the 1999 winner of the Federal Bar Association's Leonard Gilman Award to the Outstanding Practitioner of Criminal Law. She also was honored by the Alumni Association of the Wayne State University Law School.

She is a past President of Michigan State Bar Association (2004/05); has served on the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan Family Law Committee; the State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners; and currently is a member of the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission. Diehl served as Chair of the Wayne County Council Against Family Violence, on the Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice, on the Community Advisor Board for the Junior League of Detroit, and the Archdiocesan Review Board, Archdiocese of Detroit. Several WMU students have interned in the Wayne County's Prosecutors Office.



Daniel Fidel Ferrer Department of Philosophy

Daniel Fidel Ferrer studied philosophy at Western Michigan University, Duquesne University and two years at Banaras Hindu University in India. With a background in Anthropology, Comparative Religion, Theology, and Philosophy, he has concentrated on German philosophers: Kant, Hegel, Schelling, Holderlin, Nietzsche, and Heidegger.

His recent book is *Philosophical Aphorisms: Critical Encounters with Heidegger and Nietzsche*. Topics of other articles and technical reports range from computers, computer security, libraries, library automation, bibliometrics, poetry, religion, astronomy, Tibetan Buddhism, and of course philosophy.

He has done consulting work for the Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations; International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada; the United States Department of Commerce and the United States Department of Education. He currently is Head of the Library Systems Department at Central Michigan University.



Lawrence J. Satkowiak Department of Physics

Lawrence Satkowiak has been employed within the Oak Ridge Complex since 1995 and at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory since 2002. His primary focus has been and is continuing to be nuclear nonproliferation. As Program Director for Nuclear Nonproliferation Programs, Dr. Satkowiak is Oak Ridge National Laboratory's senior program contact for its nuclear nonproliferation programs which, under his guidance,

have grown to a funding level of more than \$150 million per year. He is responsible for directing the existing programs, managing program strategies, and coordinating customer relationships. Dr. Satkowiak serves on several national and international committees focusing on the safeguarding of nuclear materials and the nonproliferation of weapons and weapon technology including as the deputy chair for the Nonproliferation and Arms Control Division of the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management.

Hans J. Stolle Department of Geography

Hans J. Stolle completed his baccalaureate degree in Cartographic Engineering at the State Engineering College in Berlin, Germany. He completed his M.A. in Geography at Western Michigan University in 1971. He later continued his studies at the University of Wisconsin—Madison, where he completed his Ph.D. in 1984 after faculty service in the Department of Geography at Western Michigan University.



Dr. Stolle served with the World Bank in Washington D.C. before returning to the faculty at Western Michigan University in 1981. Dr. Stolle served overall more than 20 years with academic distinction at WMU. He brought the versatility of graphic design together with consummate professional skills to the teaching and learning of cartography and physical geography. He instilled, in generations of students, professional standards and capabilities in cartography (from map design and the drafting of black and white maps, to scribing color separations for printing multi-color maps, to creating digital maps in the age of computer graphics). Many alumni have mentioned how much they learned from his courses that proved valuable in their cartography careers.

Dr. Stolle also brought a wealth of experience in the public and private sectors to his students. His deep interest in how the human brain constructs and codes map information did not keep him from publishing on other areas, including analyzing tornado incidences in Michigan and co-authoring the *Climatic Atlas of Michigan*. In addition, he developed innovative computer mapping software, a model text entitled "Using Maps," and the first three-dimensional map of the Western Michigan University campus.



Howard Odell Lindsey Department of History

Howard Odell Lindsey spent his youth in the small rural community of Covert, in southwest Michigan. After graduating from Covert High School in 1964, he followed the example of many of his teachers and enrolled at Western Michigan University. Describing his undergraduate years as "a time of political,

social and racial upheaval,” he said that he hoped to be able to use history, his major field of study, as a “weapon of truth,” and he has indeed done this in a fruitful career as an educator and an engaged citizen.

After graduation from WMU, Dr. Lindsey pursued graduate study at the University of Michigan where he earned an M.A. in 1970. He accepted a position at Highland Park Community College, where he earned the Student Council’s designation of “Teacher of the Year” in 1974. During the 1980s he served as chair of the Social Science Department.

He later continued graduate work at the University of Michigan and earned a Ph.D. in 1993. His dissertation interprets a project of Henry Ford to assist members of a predominantly Black suburb during the Great Depression. In 1994 Dr. Lindsey published a book entitled “A History of Black America.”

In the 1990s he accepted a position at DePaul University in Chicago, where he currently teaches a wide range of courses, including World Civilization, African American History and American Studies. Between 2000 and 2003 he led the History Department as its chair.

Howard Lindsey was a founding member of the Michigan Black Studies Association and the National Council for Black Studies. He was the sponsor of Nigerian college students in Detroit and has been a mentor for inner-city youth in Chicago. He has lectured widely at the local, regional, and national levels, including programs for PBS and other networks. He is a frequent lecturer for Black History Month.



Thomas E. Van Koevering Mallinson Institute for Science Education

In 1965, the Ph.D. in Science Education was among the very first doctoral degree programs inaugurated at Western Michigan University. The very first graduate of that doctoral program was Thomas E. Van Koevering.

Dr. Van Koevering also received his bachelor’s degree in 1962 from WMU before becoming a science teacher at Wyoming Park and Gobles, Mich. After completing his doctoral program, Dr. Van Koevering began what was to become a 30 year career

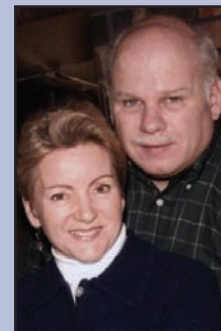
at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, where he served as professor of science education and chemistry. He did a variety of things at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay but primarily was involved in teaching chemistry to undergraduates and working in computer education as well as teacher education.

Dr. Van Koevering came to the Green Bay campus at its beginning. The campus was to have an environmental focus with an innovative curriculum involving the integration of subjects with an emphasis on understanding the environment and using this worldview to address issues of population growth, pollution, fossil fuel resources and dependence, and humanities intervention in the natural world. With his very strong interests in the environment, Dr. Van Koevering was instrumental to this innovative curricular movement at Green Bay.

Over the years, Dr. Van Koevering published textbooks and numerous scholarly articles. He was much involved with Wisconsin schools and vigorously promoted school-level science and environmental education from the earliest days of the environmental movement.

Charlene E. Beckmann Mathematics

Professor Charlene E. Beckmann has taught in the Department of Mathematics at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, since 1990. She won the 2002-2003 Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics from the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America.



Her interests include: assessment, cooperative learning, real-life uses of mathematics, functions, games, literature and mathematics, technology, and middle school and secondary school mathematics. Charlene began her career as a mathematics teacher after graduating with a B.A. in mathematics from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1974.

After a variety of teaching experiences, she earned her Ph.D. from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, in 1988 under the direction of Professor Dwayne Channell. The title of her dissertation was: “The Effect of Computer Graphic Use on Students.”