Broncos stampede Lansing for second year

With nearly four days of live entertainment, interactive exhibits from a broad array of programs and a carnival-like atmosphere including games and popcorn, WMU shined at the Michigan Capitol during its second annual display of pride for state legislators.

Music performances on the capitol steps and more than 30 exhibits on the front lawn displayed the University’s success at WMU Day at the Capitol May 27. The day was coincidentally the same as the day the state legislature approved the charter for what was to become WMU 106 years earlier, a fact that drew an impromptu singing of “Happy Birthday.”

“This is a great demonstration of Bronco pride,” WMU President John M. Dunn told the cheering crowd assembled in front of the main Capitol entrance. “It just doesn’t get any better than this.”

More than 700 WMU students, faculty and staff members, and friends attended the event. Participants flocked to the corridors, legislative offices and grounds of the Capitol building in Lansing, all sporting special gold T-shirts. Throughout the day, there were Bronco cheers and singing of the fight song, some planned, but many impromptu. A group of music theatre majors performed on the steps of the Capitol to an appreciative audience.

Each of the University’s colleges, the Alumni Association, the Office of Admissions, University Libraries as well as other departments and offices were represented with exhibits and information tables. Groups of students threw Frisbees on the lawn, while Buster Bronco rallied supporters. His mechanical counterpart, Robo Bronco, a walking, talking and singing chrome robotic horse, also greeted participants.

WMU Day at the Capitol

Top photo (left): Five state representatives from southwest Michigan show their Bronco pride on the House floor. From left: Matt Lori, R-Conстанtine; Jase Bolger, R-Marshall; Bob Jones, D-Kalamazoo; Larry DeShazo, R-Portage; and Tonya Schumaker, R-Clinton. (Photo by Mike Quillinan of the Michigan House Republicans Communications office)

Bottom photo (right): WMU first lady Linda Dunn, second from right, learned about the University’s digital Civil War diaries project from a group of University libraries staff members who dressed in period clothes. Pictured, from left: Sheila Bax, Susan Siewer, Sharon Carlson, and Penny Scrivener. (Photo by Thomas Durlach)

Bottom photo (left): WMU donated “Brown and Gold Susans” for Scrivener. (Photo by Thomas Durlach)

Western News set to go on hiatus

The next issue of Western News will be distributed on Thursday, June 18, and will be the final issue for the summer. The deadline to submit items for that issue is 5 p.m. Friday, June 12. Western News will resume publication at the beginning of the fall semester.
Darrow, West Hills Athletic Club; Nancy construction engineering; Enedelia D. for Disability Services.

grams-Grand Rapids; and G. Gwen Raaberg, Thomas Lentz, Extended University Pro-

utilities; Robert R. Eversole, biological Relations, and Billie A. Blake, Haenicke

Cheryl L. Siwik, payroll.

support services; Marsha A. Magga, health, Hall, Physical Plant-building custodial and

five years of service during June.

are recognized for 40, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and

Week preceding publication. Summer session publication dates are

submitted to the Office of University Relations by 5 p.m. Friday the

Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433.

of University Relations, Western Michigan University, 1903 W.

with applicable state and federal laws.

Go to www.wmich.edu/iscsc/ for details.

Around Campus

World conference taking place

Participants from more than 12 countries are on campus for the 39th annual world conference of the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations June 3-5 in the Fetzer Center.

More than 70 different sessions are being offered along with four keynote speakers. Andrew Targowski, business information systems and society president, is talking at 9 a.m. today. The other speakers are slated for Friday and Saturday, June 5-6.

The conference is free and open to the public. Go to www.wmich.edu/iscsc/ Newsletter.html for details.

Orientation program in full swing

Some 8,000 people, including beginning students, transfer students and parents are booking it to Kalamazoo during the coming weeks to attend summer orientation sessions at WMU. This year's 14 sessions

are 1-1/2 days each. They began June 1 and will run through July 1. Additionally, 600 transfer students will take part in the transfer orientation program, which features one-day sessions on May 29, July 31 and Aug. 14.

Summer reading program slated

Supplemental instruction in reading, writing and study skills is available for school-aged children through grade eight at the McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic. Sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 7-30, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. In-service instruction will be provided.

Enrollment is limited, and interested parties are encourages to register by June 15. The fee is $15 per child. Children of WMU students and faculty and staff members receive a 30 percent discount. To register, contact Teresa Valdez at teresa.

For rent—

Beautiful Carver home in wood-
ed setting. Contemporary 2,300-square-foot home, lovely view into the woods, an elegant
ed setting. Contemporary 2,300-square-foot
tary. Available starting mid to late July. Three

for Friday and Saturday, June 5-6.

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Ken O. Barton joined the Social Work faculty in 2005. She was employed for more than 20 years in the rehabilitation and health care industries before earning a doctoral degree in rehabilitation counseling.

An assistant professor, Barton teaches interpersonal practice and policy, planning, and administration in both the graduate and undergraduate social work programs. Her expertise is in organizations, health, disability studies, violence against women with disabilities, macro-level community organizing and positive psychology.

Athletic trainer earns state award

Dennis Corbin, intercollegiate athletics, was one of two people to receive the Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award from the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society. The honor was presented during the society's annual awards banquet May 19 at Michigan State University.

The award recognizes athletic trainers for activities, contributions or services that contribute to the enhancement of the profession of athletic training and sports medicine in Michigan.

Corbin, assistant athletic director for medical services, has been at WMU for 28 years. He supervises the athletic training and strength and conditioning staffs as well as oversees student-athlete conduct, drug testing and welfare issues.

Due gets national evaluation contract

Daniela Schröter, Evaluation Center, and Richard Zinsner, family and consumer sciences, are collaborating on a $300,000, 3-1/2-year project being funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

The duo is evaluating the effectiveness and performance of the National Resource Center for Career and Technical Education, which conducts and disseminates research, and provides technical aid and professional development to states.

Schröter, director of research for the Evaluation Center, completed WMU's interdisciplinary doctoral degree in evaluation in 2008. Zinsner, an associate professor with expertise in career and technical education, came to the University in 1993 after 22 years of human resources-related experience in business and industry.
Foster student efforts garner $500,000 Kellogg Foundation grant

A five-year, $500,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation will help boost the college success rate of former foster care youth who are enrolled in a groundbreaking program launched last fall.

The grant will support the Foster Care Initiative in Higher Education/Seita Scholars Program, which is designed to combat historically low rates of college attendance and graduation rates among young people who have aged out of the foster care system and often have no family or support system to help them transition to college.

The WMU initiative began with University seed money in fall 2008. It attracted more than 50 students who qualified for admission and has become the nation’s largest and most inclusive higher education outreach to former foster care youth.

“We are grateful for the Kellogg Foundation’s support, which will allow us to continue our work and be even more effective as we bring this underserved population of young people into the University setting,” says WMU President John M. Dunn. “As an institution, we’ve made a commitment to nurture these students, ensure they have the opportunity to realize their tremendous potential and allow our state and nation to benefit from their talents.”

The Kellogg Foundation funding will allow the program to hire a full-time, dedicated program director for a five-year period to assume responsibility for such critical needs as:

- Outreach and recruitment,
- Assisting students in the college entry process,
- Ensuring well-being and retention of admitted students, and
- Assisting students as they succeed and transition to career placement.

The Kellogg Foundation funding also will support an ongoing five-year assessment of the emotional and social progress and learning outcomes for students in the WMU initiative.

The assessment provides feedback to individual students and to the program’s staff at regular points in students’ academic careers. The data gathered will help students understand their strengths and deficits and will also give WMU staff a better idea of the special needs of former foster care youth, so they can set the direction and scope of support services.

WMU’s foster care initiative offers qualified students from around the nation full-tuition scholarships named for John Seita, a three-time WMU alumnus and leading national advocate for foster care youth.

The recipients, known as Seita Scholars, are required to live on campus. Because they often lack any location to call “home,” the University has committed to making residence hall housing available year round, even during holiday and semester breaks. The program also provides safety-net services as well as adult role models and mentors.

During the 2008-09 academic year, Seita Scholars represented 14 Michigan counties, with the largest number coming from Kent and Wayne counties.

Other U.S. universities have been closely watching the WMU program, which was launched in coordination with Michigan Campus Compact and Michigan Department of Human Services.

In mid-May, a statewide conference brought representatives from 15 Michigan colleges and universities to the WMU campus to meet and hear from successful Seita Scholars and to discuss as well nonbargaining employee groups select new leaders for 2009-10

The University’s two nonbargaining employee groups, the Administrative Professional Association and the Professional and Support Services Organization, have elected leaders for 2009-10 as well as announced their most recent scholarship winners.

Elected as APA officers are: president, Amy Seth, University Recreation; vice president, Bryon Cock, Extended University Programs; treasurer, Faith Wicklund, Miller Auditorium; corresponding secretary, Mary Ramlow, Evaluation Center; and recording secretary, Michele McLaughlin, Registrar’s Office.

Elected to the APA Executive Board are: Jacqueline Angel, Sindusche Health Center; George Broomell, information technology; Laura Ciccatelli, education-advising; Michele Cole, College of Education; Wil Emmert (past president), Office of the Vice President for Research; Lynda Hunt, Development Office; Sue Ketchum, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Sue Kohlert, Sindusche Health Center; Gail Kutz, investments and endowments; Joan O’Bryan, information technology; Carol Reid, University Libraries; Julie Screvener, Graduate College; and Laura Vine, business services.

Serving as PSSO officers are: president, Terrin Culver, accounting services; vice president, Sally Laws, accounts receivable; secretary, Rebecca Spanjer, grants and contracts; and treasurer, Nancy Johnson, investment and endowment management.

Elected to the PSSO Executive Board are: Jennifer Clements, social work; Jessica Hutchinson, institutional research; Carol Morris-Mier, education-advising; Wendy Schutz, logistical services; and Paige Warner, First-Year Experience Programs.

APA’s two annual $300 scholarships for 2009-2010, which support APA members’ children who attend WMU, went to Jese Dekker, the son of Janice Dekker, health and human services-advising, and Anna Copeland, the daughter of Dace Copeland, College of Aviation.

The semiannual PSSO scholarship, which goes to PSSO members or their dependents who attend WMU, amounted to $100 this spring and went to Matthew Hamilton, the son of Lewis Hamilton, Development Office.

Go to www.wmich.edu/apu or www.wmich.edu/psso for more information about the APA or PSSO or to apply for or donate to their scholarships.

Booth applications for Bronco Bash due soon

Booth applications are due now for Bronco Bash, the annual event welcoming more than 25,000 WMU students back to campus and to Kalamazoo for the start of the new school year.

Bronco Bash 2009 will be held from 3 to 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 11, in Fountain Plaza at Miller Auditorium. The free event features games, live music, and hundreds of booths where students can peruse the wares of area merchants and get information about WMU departments, student organizations and local volunteer opportunities. More than 400 campus groups, community organizations and businesses are expected to participate.

Booths are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis and are free to registered student organizations and University offices and departments through Friday, July 24.

Those who apply after July 24 will be assessed a $15 late fee. Local businesses and organizations not affiliated with the University may rent booths for $125. The cost will increase to $175 after July 24.

More information and booth applications are available at broncobash.wmich.edu or by calling the Bronco Bash office at 387-2083.

Obituary

L. Richard Harring, emeritus in education and professional development, died May 20 in Portage, Mich. He was 72.

Harring came to WMU in 1968 and retired in 1997 after 29-1/2 years of service to the University. He directed the WMU Teacher Corps Program and was a key player in revising the University’s elementary education curriculum in 1985.

Donations in his name may be made to the Sambodi Center for Human Excellence in Kalamazoo or a charity of choice.
CHHS Building receives gold 'green' designation

Work on evaluating energy-efficient systems in the four-year-old building and implementing new sustainable building practices was partially funded with a $15,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy awarded in the 2007.

Achieving gold status involved documenting sustainable practices with storm water management, site erosion and light pollution control, water usage efficiency in restrooms and landscaping, ozone-free cooling systems, recycling and waste-management storage and collection, sustainable cleaning products and policies, increased ventilation standards, daylight harvesting and lighting control, thermal-comfort monitoring and increased air filtration.

Broncos stampede Lansing for second year

Delegations of students and alumni delivered a packet of information to state representatives and senators about the significant contributions of the University. Several state legislators joined the WMU crowd for a group photo on the Capitol steps at the end of the day.

Earlier on May 19, WMU staff members were among the more than 100 volunteers to participate in Capitol Flowering Plant Day on the Capitol's front lawn, and many WMU staff members worked on the project with Jim Nicolow, principal with Lord-Aeck-Sargent Architecture in Ann Arbor.

The high-tech, 200,000-square-foot building was completed in summer 2005. The facility was built with an emphasis on sustainable and renewable materials. Its features include cork flooring and motion-activated lights, heating and cooling. Rice paper between sheets of glass provides translucent windows along hallways. The building's completion brought all of the College of Health and Human Services' internationally known programs together in one location. Some of the most sophisticated labs and classroom facilities in the nation are part of the facility. The labs are devoted to such areas as biofeedback, blindness and low-sision studies, orthotics and motion research.

The four-story building is perched atop a hill along Oakland Drive on land formerly used by the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital. The building offers a panoramic view of the University's West Campus and establishes a modern presence designed to be in keeping with the traditional architecture of the psychiatric hospital and WMU's historic East Campus.

A trip triple major in finance, accounting and economics, Wicklund earned her bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She traveled and studied in Europe for two years, then worked as a financial analyst for Unisys Corp., before marrying a "Voober" and moving to West Michigan.

Wicklund accepted a job as business manager and adjunct instructor for Davenport University in Holland, where she oversaw the construction of its new campus there in 1992. After that, she took a hiatus from full-time work for about six years to focus on raising a family and in 2002, joined the Miller Auditorium staff as business manager.

"Working on a college campus and being involved with an arts organization is fun," she says. "I like nonprofit accounting more than corporate accounting. Here, people come first. It's not just bottom-line accounting. I enjoy the patrons and my co-workers.

Miller is like a little family—we even have our own "house." Wicklund was involved in the Holtlyn pilot program as part of the Western Wellness initiative and is active in the Administrative Professional Association, which presented her with its Tony Griffin Service Award in 2007-08.

But a majority of her free time revolves around her husband, Eddie and their three children: Reina, 15, Dari, 14, and Max, 9. She pens the school newsletter for Starr Elementary in Plainwell and served three years as chair of the Parents' Association as well as coached Girls on the Run for four years.

Wicklund enjoys traveling, a bug she caught at age 10 when her father's work took the family to Tehran, Iran, for two years. The Lake Doster resident also enjoys snow sports in winter, kayaking in summer, making handicrafts and tending her huge family vegetable garden. "We had to start hosting an annual salsa-making party because we grow so many tomatoes," she admits.

On Campus with Faith Wicklund

Variety is the spice of life for Faith Wicklund.

"There's always something new and different to look forward to," says Miller Auditorium's business manager. "The most challenging times are when it's really busy, but they're also the most interesting times. There's never a dull moment." Wicklund's major duties include reviewing contracts, overseeing the ticket office, managing the payroll and annual budget, producing financial reports, and preparing invoices for Miller and the Little Theatre rentals.

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