Michael Rao named CMU’s 12th president

Michael Rao, former chancellor of Montana State University Northern and former president of Mission College in Santa Clara, Calif., was appointed the 12th president of Central Michigan University by the board of trustees on May 30. The appointment concluded a nearly six-month national search for a successor to Leonard E. Plachta, who resigned as of August 1.

The 34-year-old Rao is described as dynamic, intense and a major achiever who has moved up rapidly through the professional education ranks.

He earned a bachelor’s degree and doctorate in less than six years, an accomplishment that takes most scholars more than nine. He was president of a large public two-year college at 27 and the head of a four-year public university at 31.

Rao brings to CMU a broad range of experience in education. He has served as chemistry researcher, college dean, assistant to a university president, college president, university chancellor, and doctorate in less than six years, an accomplishment that takes most scholars more than nine. He was president of a large public two-year college at 27 and the head of a four-year public university at 31.

As you know, Dr. Michael Rao became the 12th president of Central Michigan University on August 1. In the short time he has been president, he has earned very positive reactions from the university community. We are all convinced that he will make a major difference in moving Central Michigan University to an even higher level of success.

The change in presidents, while perhaps the most visible sign of change at CMU, is not the only recent change that has occurred at the university.

The College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences has also gone through a number of significant changes. Perhaps the most visible sign of change in the college is the changing face of the faculty. When the college came into existence in July 1997, there were about 150 regular faculty members in the college. Of those faculty members, 23 have since retired. In addition, six more faculty members will be retiring at the end of the fall semester. While we miss these veteran faculty, the college has hired many fine new faculty members from distinguished universities throughout the country. They bring to the college a high degree of prior accomplishments and a tremendous sense of dedication and excitement. Our most recent additions to the faculty are described in the article on page 2.

While some of the names and faces have changed, the college faculty members are still devoted to the fundamental purpose of a university as stated in the college’s mission statement. This purpose is “to invigorate the intellectual life of its students, faculty, and staff to promote an intellectual orientation in the larger communities it serves.” Each year the college faculty are recognized for their achievements.

See From the Dean, Page 3

Grant funds deaf-blind center at CMU

A four-year $850,000 U.S. Department of Education grant has allowed the Psychology Department to establish DB Central: Michigan Services for Children and Youth Who Are Deaf-Blind. DB Central, located in Sloan Hall, is an outreach project serving the state at no cost to recipients.

The project serves children and youth from birth to age 26 who have or are suspected of having both hearing and vision impairments that affect the way they learn. Children who have additional disabilities in learning, health, or behavior are eligible for services also.

According to Project Director Nancy Hartshorne, “The goal of DB Central is to reach out to families and service providers of children and youth who are deaf-blind. We want to support, educate, and empower them. Our staff gives training and insight to parents and service providers who want to learn more about how to support their classmates who are deaf-blind.”

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Fall, 2000

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Central Michigan University

CHSBS

College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences

From the Dean

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College welcomes new faculty

Four departments in the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences had new faculty members join them fall semester. The Department of Philosophy and Religion gained an expert on ancient Greek philosophy. Just in time for all of the action of the 2000 elections, a specialist in American politics joined the political science faculty. The faculty of CMU’s social work program has been enhanced with an experienced practicing professional in social work, and the Department of Psychology has two new school psychologists and a specialist in clinical and health psychology and neuropsychology.

The new faculty members have become part of a professional teaching staff of more than 200 regular and temporary faculty in the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences.

In his welcoming remarks at the annual college meeting on August 22, Dean E. Gary Shapiro commented, “We have been able to add a number of fine new faculty over the past few years, and this year is not an exception. When you read the biographies of the six new faculty members, you will be as impressed as I am with the quality of the new people we have added this year.”

Hope May is not a new-comer to Central Michigan University. Joining the faculty ranks as a temporary instructor in January 1997, she is now a tenure-track member of the philosophy section of the Department of Philosophy and Religion. A specialist in ancient Greek philosophy, and competent in the history and philosophy of mathematics and logic, her dissertation deals with Aristotle’s biological and ethical works (Michigan State University). She has published in Apeiron and the anthology Questioning Matters. Completed an interactive study guide for Daniel Kolak’s Lovers of Wisdom and is under contract for a companion web site, has completed a translation of Libanius’ Apology of Socrates (in a work to be published by Oxford University Press this year), and is author of On Socrates (Wadsworth, 1999). Her interests include computers, film, and political and social philosophy.

Douglas Roscoe joined the Department of Political Science as a tenure-track member this fall, after serving as a temporary faculty member last academic year. A recent graduate of Loyola University in Chicago, Roscoe specializes in American politics, particularly political behavior, institutions, and public policy. His dissertation, titled “Ticket Splitting in American Elections: Voters, Candidates and the Political Environment,” analyzes ticket splitting among individual voters at the candidate level and at the systemic level. He has published in Comparative Political Studies and The Southeastern Political Review, and is interested in partisan dealignment and mass political behavior.

Sandra K. Morgan joined the Department of Psychology as an assistant professor, specializing in school psychology. Completing her Ph.D. in School Psychology from CMU in 1999, Morgan has been a practicing psychologist for Meridian Public Schools in Sanford and the Saginaw Cooperative Hospital/Children’s Collaborative Clinic in Saginaw. Other experiences include a pre-doctoral internship at Children’s Seashore House (University of Pennsylvania), contract services with Frankenmuth Public Schools and an advanced practicum with the Michigan School for the Blind. She has published articles on reliability in educational testing and the technical adequacy of curriculum-based measurement for Braille readers. Her dissertation, which was awarded research funding by Gerber Baby Foods, examined parental and physician reporting of infant feeding and sleeping patterns.

Katrina N. Rhymer also joined the Department of Psychology in school psychology. A recent Ph.D. recipient from Mississippi State University, Rhymer specializes in psychometry and completed a pre-doctoral internship in the Houston, Texas Independent School District. While in Houston, she administered, scored, and interpreted psycho-educational assessment batteries, worked in counseling and crisis intervention, and made case presentations to the school district staff. She has received a number of research awards, presents frequently at regional and national conferences, and has published on mathematics performance and fluency in The Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis and School Psychology Quarterly.

Licensed psychologist Reid Skeel came to Central Michigan University’s Department of Psychology by way of the University of Missouri, Columbia. Receiving his Ph.D. in clinical and health psychology with a minor in neuropsychology from the University of Florida in 1998, Skeel will teach neuropsychology and clinical psychology at CMU. He has a number of articles in press or published on issues of traumatic brain injury, visual-spatial functions, and neuropsychological deficit profiles, and has been a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Rusk Rehabilitation Hospital (Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Missouri). Among his research interests are the cognitive and rehabilitation implications of chronic alcohol abuse and neuropsychiatric aspects of traumatic brain injury and lupus.

Rejoine Riebschleger joined the social work faculty of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work this fall. A practicing professional, Riebschleger’s doctoral dissertation is titled “Mental health professionals’ social constructions of families of people with serious mental illness” (Case Western Reserve University). She has provided mental health counseling services in private practice in Houghton Lake, taught in the Colleges of Human Medicine, Nursing, and Osteopathic Medicine and the School of Social Work at Michigan State University, and worked in client services and needs assessment in various other locations in central and northern Michigan. Recent publications include articles on technology in human services, metaphors in social work practice, and children and families of chronically mentally ill people.

Catherine A. Riordan joins psychology department

Joining Central Michigan University’s ranks as Assistant Vice-president for Curriculum and Assessment, Catherine A. Riordan also joined the psychology department as a professor. Formerly a professor of psychology at the University of Missouri-Rolla, Riordan also has served as a Kellogg Foundation Youth Initiative Fellow, a visiting scholar at University College in Dublin, Ireland, a statistical and evaluation consultant in the state education department of New York, and in various research positions. As a social psychologist, she has published extensively on impression management, occupational stressors, diversity, campus climate, and technology in education. Riordan has also received significant grants from the National Science Foundation and Department of Commerce.

Hope May

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Douglas Roscoe

Katrina N. Rhymer

Reid Skeel

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Craig Ruff is first Griffin Chair

He may not eat, drink, breathe and sleep politics, but it’s close. Craig Ruff, the first holder of the Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government at CMU, gets very excited and animated about the subject of politics.

Ruff is the president and CEO of Public Sector Consultants Inc., a public policy research firm, or “think tank,” in Lansing, Mich. He began his three-year appointment as a visiting faculty member in CMU’s political science department in August. He is teaching an undergraduate seminar called “Michigan Politics and Policies.” In addition to his teaching, as part of his duties as the Griffin chair holder, he will oversee policy seminars that bring key political figures to campus.

“Craig Ruff’s experience with the major public issues in the state of Michigan is second to none,” said James Hill, a political science faculty member and director of the Griffin Endowed Chair fundraising campaign. “His expertise and interactions with key policy-makers make him a great choice. He will do an excellent job of launching our program while continuing in his role as president and CEO of his company.”

“Public Sector Consultants is Michigan’s premier think tank,” added Hill. “When people look for top policy analysis they go to Craig Ruff and his staff. They make research come alive.”

In addition to his 17 years at Public Sector Consultants, Ruff previously served as executive assistant to Lt. Gov. James H. Brickley from 1979 to 1982 and special assistant for human services to Gov. William G. Milliken from 1972 to 1979.

With Ruff’s political experience, coupled with this being an election year, students in Ruff’s “Michigan Politics and Policy” seminar have a unique opportunity to explore current political issues from a variety of fresh viewpoints. Ruff is excited about the chance to motivate student interest in Michigan politics, “I want to show young voters that not only is politics interesting, but it is fun.”

Ruff’s goals for his seminar are a perfect match for the philosophy behind establishing the Griffin Endowed Chair: to spark student interest in American government in general and Michigan political action in particular.

The goal of bringing attention to national and state political issues is also the force behind bringing two forums on major political issues to campus. “The Griffin Advisory Council would like to see us bring a celebrated figure to campus to kick off the forum series. We have some political topics that should prompt a lot of thought and discussion,” declared Ruff. Some of the topics being considered include: “Civility in Government,” “Campaign Finance” and “The Selection Process of Members of the Michigan Court.”

The first fully endowed chair at CMU honors the accomplishments and more than 30 years of public service by two of CMU’s most esteemed graduates. Robert Griffin, a 1947 alumnus of CMU, served 22 years in the U.S. House and Senate and eight years as a Michigan Supreme Court justice. Marjorie Anderson Griffin was valedictorian of Central’s 1944 graduating class.

President

Continued from page 1

lent president. He has a record of success in many areas, including raising advancement dollars, working with legislators and building relationships with external constituents.

“Michael Rao is a natural successor to Leonard Placht,” said Smith. “He will build on Leonard’s accomplishments and leadership in moving CMU forward as a modern, student-focused university. He is the right person for the job. He represents a bright future for CMU.”

Rao was born in Boston and raised in Florida. He has a Ph.D. in higher education and business administration from the University of Florida and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from the University of South Florida. He and his wife, Monica, have a one year old son, Miguel.

His appointment was effective July 1 as president designate, and August 1 as president.

Redman joins military science department

Captain Scott Redman, a Milford native and graduate of Michigan State University, joined the Department of Military Science as an MS II trainer in August. He is also responsible for the program’s scholarships and enrollments.

Redman has been an officer in several military police units. He has served as Company Executive Officer with the U.S. Army Reserves’ infantry training division in Flint. While serving as platoon leader in the Michigan National Guard in Owasso, his platoon was twice deployed to Panama for support operations. He has served as rear battle officer in the training and operations section of the Military Police Battalion, commanding a platoon that also was deployed to Panama to support base closures and turnover.

College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences Editor: Ron Franzen

Thanks to Joyce Baugh, Rose Beane, Susan Conner, Mary Ann Crawford, Suzanne Cross, Denise Gallagher, Nancy Hartzhorne, Tim Hartzhorne, James Hill, Stephen Holder, Jim Jones, Rodney Kirk, Martha Logsdon, LTC Charles Minyard, Nikita Murray, John Robertson, Craig Ruff, Gail Scukance, E. Gary Shapiro, Mike Silverthorn, the Office of the Provost, college faculty and clerical staff.

This newsletter is a publication of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences, published biannually for faculty, staff, featured students, alumni, and the CMU community.

CMU, an AA/EO institution, is strongly and actively committed to increasing diversity within its community (see www.cmich.edu/aaeo.html).
Vending monies aid student groups

Educational travel, creative writing, sponsorship of speakers’ series and labor activities highlighted the 1999-2000 round of allocations made by the Student Activities Committee of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences. In 1998-99, registered student organizations that are housed in departments located in the college, received funds generated from vending machines throughout campus. The annual process, overseen by the Dean’s Office, allows student groups to apply for monies to support their activities. Early in fall semester, a Student Activities Committee is elected by student groups, requests for funding are solicited and recommendations are made by the committee. A second funding cycle occurs in January of each year. Each year the committee disburses nearly $30,000. Among the funded or partially funded activities for 1999-2000 were the following: The Psychology Club joined with other university students at the Michigan Students Against Sweatshops meeting in Kalamazoo to learn strategies for protesting labor abuses. Several members of the Student Affiliates of School Psychology pooled their resources to attend a national conference on The Evolution of Psychotherapy where they heard nationally known figures in the field and attended demonstrations and workshops. English graduate students, like their colleagues in school psychology, attended the national conference on College Composition and Communication. Student Social Workers attended Legislative Day at the capitol in Lansing and participated in Earth Day on campus. Further, they attended a conference on “Learning How to Help Child and Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse.” Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society) made its annual trip to Toronto, and Phi Alpha Delta (Pre-Law) traveled to a national convention in Baltimore. Closer to campus, students in anthropology visited the Chipewa Nature Center in Midland to learn more about material culture and history. English students in the Writing Circle attended a national Peer Tutoring Conference and later presented at the Michigan Writing Centers Association idea exchange. The Poets’ Collective (formerly Litera) produced printed poetry manuscripts. Other activities included speakers in neuroscience, support for a “Masquerade ball, a tour of the Holocaust Museum in West Bloomfield and viewing “degenerate art” (banned by the Nazis) in the Detroit Institute of Arts. The Red Leg Cannon Club traveled to Washington, D.C. for visits to the Pentagon, FBI building and other locations in the nation’s capital. The Queen’s Guard Drill Team competed in the Grand Rapids Drill meet. This year’s funding cycle has already begun. Representatives of student groups met on Sept. 27 to select committees. Members include Corey Anzelon (Phi Alpha Theta), Jason Dent (American Psychological Society Student Caucus), Amy Clark (Queen’s Guard Drill Team), Jessie Stricker (Poets’ Collective), Scott Larson (Phi Sigma Tau) and Katie Holmes (Student Association of School Psychologists). One department chair and the Associate Dean also serve on the committee.

Applications for 2000-2001 were due in the Dean’s Office (106 Anspach) Oct. 13, and funding decisions will be announced shortly.

Writing at the Center

Being able to effectively express ideas in writing is a challenge for many college students. It is a challenge that the 17 student consultants of CMU’s Writing Center love to take on. Their goal is to help students become better writers.

The Writing Center now has two locations. Its original site is in Moore 207, but there also is a satellite location in the Towers in the Wheeler basement, where sessions are offered during the afternoons and evenings. Students are invited to drop in. However, because of the increased demand, they are encouraged to make an appointment for a consultation ahead of time.

The center has a long history of helping students at CMU. For many years it provided one-on-one tutorial help for students taking basic writing classes in the English department. In 1998, it expanded services to any undergraduate or graduate student on campus, while maintaining its philosophy of individualized writing assistance.

According to Mary Ann Crawford, Writing Center Director and English department faculty member, “The center takes a collaborative, student-centered stance toward working with writing. Instead of a ‘skills and drills’ approach, the center provides a peer-shared space for students to meet, talk, and think about writing, to decide what they want to say and how they want to say it, and to hone their skills in the process.”

Crawford took over the directorship in 1998 at the time the center was expanding its services campus wide. Prior to then the center assisted about 100 students a year with the help of five writing consultants. Last year they served 1,100 students, getting help from as many as 24 consultants. A higher number of students return for additional sessions. Last year students received over 3,300 one-on-one sessions in the writing lab.

Before any sessions can begin in the fall, Crawford must provide training to the new writing consultants. Students develop a professional understanding about writing and teaching writing in a writing center context. Last year, many of the consultants presented papers at state and national conferences on writing and writing centers.

In the past several years the center also offered a series of writing workshops designed to give assistance on specific writing-related topics. The workshops allow the center to maximize the number of students it can reach, without supplanting the benefits of individualized help offered in the one-on-one sessions in the Writing Center. The consultants are often also busy on the phone responding to sticky grammar and usage questions. Not only do students take advantage of this “grammar hotline” service, but faculty and staff find it helpful too.

Students can call the Writing Center at 652-0000 anytime. The center is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Writing Center consultants in the Moore center provide one-on-one assistance to help students become better writers.

Writing Center consultants in the Moore center provide one-on-one assistance to help students become better writers.

Martha Logsdon is new Women’s Studies director

Martha Logsdon, the new Director of Women’s Studies, is not a new face around CMU’s Women’s Center. She has been actively involved with the Women’s Studies Program since its founding in 1977, and was its coordinator from 1981-1984. The Women’s Center, located in Anspach 115, is the clearinghouse for information about the Women’s Studies Program, women’s issues and services for women and families. The center plays a key role in lending support to students majoring or minoring in Women’s Studies. Through the center, the Women’s Studies program periodically organizes conferences and symposia that feature nationally-known key speakers. Topics that support the Women’s Studies classroom activities are also presented by faculty who share their research with students and colleagues. The center also maintains a reference library of books and periodicals about women’s issues and works by noted women authors.

“Women’s Studies classes are not just for women,” Logsdon says. “We have many students who are not majoring or minoring in Women’s Studies taking classes, and they seem to like them.”

According to Logsdon, “The Women’s Studies Program is active in at least 10 areas of concern on campus, including many of the important issues. For the last 20 years the Women’s Studies program has sponsored the ‘Take Back the Night’ march against domestic violence.” The march, held in the spring, is independent of, but coordinated with the national “Take Back the Night” campaign.

Logsdon is also enthusiastic about CMU’s annual Women’s Studies Competition held every spring. The winning essay is awarded $250. Last year’s winner was Susana L. Anspach (Phi Sigma Tau) and Katie Holmes (Student Association of School Psychologists). One department chair and the Associate Dean also serve on the committee. Applications for 2000-2001 were due in the Dean’s Office (106 Anspach) Oct. 13, and funding decisions will be announced shortly.

Editor’s note: Thanks to the consultants at the Writing Center for reviewing this article and providing some very good professional suggestions.
Alumni enjoy Homecoming 2000

It was more like a sunny January day than an October day, but that did not cool the spirits of the alumni who visited the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences “tailgate” hospitality tent at Homecoming on October 7.

Graduates from CHSBS who returned for homecoming festivities enjoyed delicious tailgate food, visited with some former teachers, and reminisced about their college years.

Every department in the college was represented by faculty hosts at the tailgate party. Dean E. Gary Shapiro, Associate Dean and history faculty member, Susan Conner, and Pam Gates-Duffield, English faculty and Leadership Fellow in the

Dean’s Office were on hand to welcome alumni. Susan Stan and Holley Duffield (emeritus) were there from the English department. Keith Palka and Gisela Moffit of the foreign language department and Dawn Herd-Clark from the history department were also on hand to meet with alumni.

Military science was represented by Capt. Scott Redman and Mary Brewer. Rod Kirk, Jack Chapis and Gil Musolf were there from SAWS. The philosophy and religion department was represented by Bill Kline and Roger Hatch. Carl Johnson and Sharon Bradley-Johnson were there from the psychology department and Joyce Baugh and Won Paik represented the political science department.

Alumni enjoyed a variety of different foods. Each department in the college sponsored a creative dish. The menu included: English department’s Toke-free nachos, political science department’s Puntido Potato Salad, psychology department’s Psyched Out Psalad (cole slaw), sociology, anthropology and social work department’s Socially Conscious Condiments and the Dean’s Office’s Let them eat cookies...Cookies.

Approximately 200 CHSBS alumni enjoyed the pre-game food and fun at the hospitality tent.

Central Michigan University has made a major commitment to developing and implementing an institution-wide strategy for maximizing private-sector support for the university as well as the individual colleges.

Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. The College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences has benefited from this type of philanthropy, which has provided programming, scholarships and equipment that enhance instruction and provide additional opportunities for students. Additionally, $900,000 in gifts and pledges were raised to fund the Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government, a program designed to rekindle citizen and student interest and involvement in American government.

This year our college will also offer opportunities to our alumni and friends to support the new Health Professions building that will house our new Neuroscience Lab and Psychology Clinic.

As part of the university’s overall strategic plan for advancement, development officers have been placed in each college. They will represent the unique funding priorities of each college to their donors.

Sherrie Graham joined the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences as our new director of development in August. Graham has a background in education and community development and many years of fund-raising experience. She comes from the Capital Area United Way in Lansing, where she was the vice president of major gifts and planned giving. In the past month Graham has been busy getting to know the departments and programs offered within our college.

She is eager to begin visiting with our donors about their needs, concerns and desires, and translating them into effective development, service and investment programs for CHSBS.

We will be featuring articles about gifts we have received and the programs that they are supporting in future newsletters.

We are happy to announce the winners of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences’ business card drawing. The winner of the CHSBS polo shirt is Rick Perry, a 1985 German language graduate. He is living in Lansing and working at CLF America. Ginger Bardenhagen won the CHSBS mug. Also a German language graduate (1991), she lives in Okemos and works for the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Congratulations to both of them.

“I am really pleased with the number of business cards entered in the contest. Our graduates are putting their degrees to work in a lot of different fields. It is really rewarding to hear that so many of our alumni are being so successful. We need to do this again at next year’s homecoming,” Dean Gary Shapiro said.

We would like to know what the graduates from the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences are doing these days. CHSBS alumni are invited to send their business cards to:

College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences
Central Michigan University
106 Anspach
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

The roar of the cannon

Thanks to the Redleg Cannon Club, a military science student organization, and donations from alumni and friends, the roar of a cannon will salute the Chippewa football team whenever they put points on the scoreboard.

The fund-raising project for a platform for the cannon began last year. The major expense was to build a reinforced platform on the top of the locker rooms to support the cannon.

Everything was in place for the opening home game. Let’s hope to hear a lot more loud “booms” at Kelly/Shorts Stadium on autumn Saturday afternoons.
Recent publications

James W. Jones (FLC) had three articles appear in Reader's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Studies, ed. Timothy F. Murphy (2000). The articles are: “Germany Between the Wars,” “Pink Triangle,” and “Third-Sex Accounts of Homosexuality.”


Miriam Makhrash (ENG) is co-author of several articles: “Discriminative stimulus effects of centrally administered isoper- enol in rats” in Psychopharmacology and “Noadrenergic lesions differentially affect the expression of two subtypes of low Kpm sensitive phosphodiesterease type 4 (PDE4A and PDE4B) in rat brain” in Brain Research.

Vidu Soni (PSC) presented two papers at the 18th World Congress of International Political Science Association, Quebec City, Canada, August, 2000: “Reinventing Public Sector Human Resource Management in the Corporate Millennium: An Ethical Paradigm for Developing Democracies” and “Understanding the Role of Perceptions in Workforce Diversity Management.” She also presented “Individual and Organizational Consequences of Ineffective Diversity Management” at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting in San Jose, Calif. in March, 2000. In cooperation with CMU’s Office of International Studies, she also traveled to three universities in China and India to explore possibilities of establishing faculty and student exchanges, research collaborations and joint degree programs.

James Jones (FLC) presented “Whose Heroes? German AIDS Literature by Gay Men” at the Wisconsin Workshop: Heroes and Heroines in German Literature in Madison, Wis. in Spring, 2000.

Nancy Herman (SASW) was the keynote speaker at the Canadian Mental Health Association conference in Montreal, Quebec, in July. She spoke on the reconfiguration of mental health care in the new millennium.

Gisela Moffit (FLC) presented “Cruising with Creativity” at the Central States Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Marcy Taylor (ENG) presented “(Keep Feeling) Fascination: Nostalgia and the Enduring Allure of Process,” at the College Composition and Communication Conference in Minneapolis, Minneapolis.

Robert Root (ENG) gave two presentations at the College Composition and Communications Conference in Minneapolis: “The Eye of the Beholder in Creative Nonfiction and Academic Discourse” and “Why Don’t You Collage That?” He also presented “Scenes, Stanzas, Segments, and the Essayist’s Art” at Associated Writing programs in Kansas City.

Gary Dunbar (PSC) has made several presentations: “Potential Pharmacological Treatments for Huntington’s Disease” at the Michigan Molecular Institute in Midland, and “Psychology in the 21st century” at the Michigan Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference in Albion.

Ronald Primeau (ENG) presented “The Counterpoint Artistry of Herbert Woodward Martin” at the Society for the Study of Western Literature, East Lansing.

Leonard Lieberman (SASW) was a co-presenter with Joanna Tatomin at the Conference on International Perspectives on Crime, Justice and Public Order in Bologna, Italy in June, 2000. Their presentation was titled “Criminal Atavism: Lambroso, Gould, and Rushton.”

Brigitte Bechtold (SASW) presented recently two papers at the International Association for Feminist Economics Conference in Istanbul: “Now You See It, Now You Don’t: Alternate Interpretations of the U.S. Gender Wage Gap” and “A Game Theorist’s Guide to the Gender Violence Literature.”

Congratulations to...

Debra Poole (PSY), received a Governor’s Award from the Michigan Family Independence Agency for writing their forensic interview protocol. This protocol, which is required by Michigan law, is a procedure for interviewing children who are a witness to a crime or possible victims of abuse or neglect. The award was presented August 21, 2000.

Carl Johnson and George Ronan (PSY) were awarded a $20,000 grant for “Behavior Therapy Services” from Central Michigan Community Health Services.

Richard Senter (SASW) received a $5,400 grant for “Description of North American Automotive Industry” from the Office for the Study of Automotive Transportation. Brigitte Bechtold (SASW) was elected editor for the Review of Radical Political Economics for the term August 2000 to August 2003.

In the News

Vidu Soni (PSC) was interviewed by WKBV-TV, Alpena on July 18, 2000 regarding professionalism of human resource practices of the Alpena County Road Commission, and a new compensation plan developed for the agency employees.

Nancy J. Herman (SASW) was interviewed last summer by the Hamilton Spectator on the subject of “The Formerly Mentally Ill in the Community.” She also discussed “Deinstitutionalization of Mental Health Care Services” on Canadian Broadcasting Television.

See Focus on faculty, Page 7

Mika earns Excellence in Teaching Award

A former student wrote, “Not only did this professor seem to possess a thorough knowledge of the material, the classroom environment was one that encouraged questions and provoked discussions.” This was one of many testimonials for Harry Mika (SASW) from alumni, students and faculty, which earned him an Excellence in Teaching Award. He teaches classes in social and criminal justice.

Another former student remembered that “...even though the years have passed, one cannot forget the environment of a Mika classroom. A student of Mika knew what to expect, and it was never easy. His expertise made me thirsty to learn more and his unique enthusiasm is the main reason I am where I am today. He challenged us. He didn’t let us off easy. His teaching style prepared us for what we would face outside the confines of academia.” A colleague noted that Dr. Mika’s international reputation in community mediation and restorative justice informs his teaching and provides our students with valuable multicultural comparisons in conflict resolution.

In presenting the award commencement last May, Provost Richard Davenport noted that this was not the first time that Mika has been recognized for his outstanding teaching. "Dr. Mika became a member of the CMU faculty in 1985. In prior recognition of his teaching abilities, Mika received awards for outstanding teaching while at Michigan State University and the University of Texas at Dallas, and a Community Service Learning Award (sponsored by the Kellogg Foundation) here at CMU in 1992."

The Central Michigan University Excellence in Teaching Award Program first made awards to faculty in 1985. At present, five awards are presented at the May commencement ceremonies. Each award winner receives an engraved clock and a $1,000 award to be used for professional development.
Toys important ingredient in new infant intelligence test

Sharon Bradley-Johnson likes to play with babies and young children. Cases of toys that include dolls, balls, cups, building blocks, wooden animals and picture books are stacked in one corner of her faculty office.

Her interest in babies and toys, however, has an academic purpose. She and husband Carl Johnson, both psychology faculty members, are the authors of an intelligence test for infants as young as three months old. The test, to be published this summer, will be used by psychologists to determine which skills infants have learned and should learn next.

“The purpose of such testing is to assess an infant’s development and identify the problems that may hinder successful learning,” says Bradley-Johnson. “The more specifically the difficulties are pinpointed, the more helpful the test can be to educators, who can then design corrective programs for children who are behind.”

“There are very few tests for children under 2 years old because it is so difficult to define infant intelligence,” added Carl Johnson.

“But, there is a need to identify babies with problems and provide services for children whose development is delayed.”

Bradley-Johnson first published the Cognitive Abilities Scale, or CAS, in 1987 for children ages 2 and 3 years old. It included sections on reading, oral language, arithmetic, handwriting and “enabling behavior,” which includes memory and willingness to imprint skills that help students learn in the classroom.

A need to test children even younger than 2 years prompted the Johnsons to update the original CAS and design a new test for infants. The new CAS, which includes a test manual and a case of toys, tests infants in three areas: exploration of objects, communication with others, and initiation and imitation.

The toys are an important ingredient of the test. They are used to enhance children’s interest and to more accurately assess their knowledge and understanding of concepts.

For example, an examiner can test an infant’s interest in objects by watching how a baby responds when given a toy. The examiner observes how long the baby holds the toy and if the baby turns, shakes or bangs the toy.

In “communication with others,” babies are tested to see if they imitate cooing sounds or point to common objects or body parts. In “imitation and imitation,” babies are tested on various skills, such as imitating the examiner building a tower with building blocks. Examiners test older babies on their ability to open a book, turn pages and hold the book upright.

Infants and toddlers depend on help that their age, also are tested on how well they understand words like “up” and “down” and concepts like big and little, same and different, and meaningful counting.

“If a child shows evidence of delay, parents can determine from the results what they can do to assist the child in his or her development,” said Carl Johnson. “The sooner you can intervene, the better.”

Psychologists administer the tests in hospitals and clinics or through school systems. Pediatricians may recommend the test to parents, and children with physical or mental problems should especially be assessed, said Bradley-Johnson.

Data on the test have been collected on a national sample of more than 1,100 children representing the U.S. population in terms of gender, race, geography and occupational level of parents.

Pro-Ed Company of Austin, Texas, will market the test nationally.

Focus on faculty Continued from page 6

The Mount Pleasant Morning Sun interviewed Miriam Makhay (PSY) in the article “CMU Event Highlights Brain Studies.”

Doug Rocoe (PSC) discussed voter apathy, local races and the presidential primary during election coverage on WWTV/WWUP/WWTV, Cadillac.

Sharon Bradley-Johnson and Carl Johnson (PSY) were interviewed on Editor’s Notepad and featured in a CMU Minute about their development of an infant intelligence test.

Recent Retirements

Ann Bardens (ENG)

Donald Beere (PSY)

Gabriel Chien (HST)

Roger Freling (ENG)

Henry Fulton (ENG)

Judith Lesiak (PSY)

Walter Lesiak (PSY)

Peter Obuchowski (ENG)

Maria Huettig (FLLC)

Albert Neal (PSY)

John Petras (SASW)

Edward Roberts (FLLC)

Gates-Duffield is CHSBS Leadership Fellow

Pamela Gates-Duffield, Associate Professor of English Language and Literature, joins the dean’s office staff this year as a University Leadership Fellow in the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences. The program is sponsored by the Institute for Academic Leadership at CMU.

As a specialist in children’s and young adult literature, Gates-Duffield frequently teaches courses on children’s literature, fantasy for youth, and cultural pluralism as well as playing an important role in the English department’s teacher education program. She served as assistant editor of the Language Arts Journal of Michigan in 1999-2000 and most recently has published articles on professional development schools. Her book Cultural Journeys: Multicultural Literature for Children & Young Adults is scheduled for publication by Houghton Mifflin in 2001, and her manuscript Fantasy Literature for Children and Young Adults, co-authored by Susan Steffel and Francis Molson, is under review.

Gates-Duffield’s internship will provide her the opportunity to “shadow” the dean and to work on special projects for the college. Among the projects she will take on are organizing a conference on ethics and social justice and arranging regular meetings for first and second year tenure track faculty to discuss such issues as teaching and research.

“I am pleased to have this opportunity,” says Gates-Duffield. “As an educator, I believe it is essential to continue learning about our profession at all levels. This fellowship will offer me the chance to develop a broader understanding of the roles each of us can play in creating, facilitating, and maintaining a professional environment where teaching, learning, and research can flourish for our students and ourselves.”

The Institute for Academic Leadership was established through the provost’s office last year. Its primary focus is to provide an experience working with senior academic administrators in the capacity of an assistant. James Hill of the political science department recently completed a one-year term as a Leadership Fellow in the College of Graduate Studies.

DB Central Continued from page 1

help children who are deaf-blind. “We have put together an outstanding team of people at DB Central who have already made a significant impact on our targeted deaf-blind population. Beth Kennedy, our Project Coordinator, comes to us with excellent credentials and experience in the area of deaf-blindness. Additional staff include Brenda Peeler, Technical Assistance Consultant, Katherine Holmes, Evaluation Technician, and Marianne McJames, Administrative Secretary. We are currently in the process of hiring a full-time Family Specialist as well, to round out our committed DB Central staff.”

“We have put together an outstanding team of people at DB Central who have already made a significant impact on our targeted deaf-blind population.”

Nancy Harshorne

DB Central Project Director

Besides providing valuable information to parents and school personnel, the DB Central staff make site visits to families, school districts, and agencies. They provide on-site in-service training for families and school staff on meeting the needs of children and youth who are deaf-blind.

As part of its informational service, the project maintains a resource lending library. The lending library contains books and other written material, audiovisual resources, and toys. Materials can be checked out by families and school providers for two to eight weeks at a time.

DB Central also is mandated with the task of compiling an annual census of Michigan children and youth who are deaf-blind. This year the census has identified 181 young people who are eligible for services.

The staff publishes a newsletter, The DB Star, to support and inform parents, school personnel and others who provide services to this population. The DB Central Project is part of a larger DB service, the project maintains a resource lending library. The lending library contains books and other written material, audiovisual resources, and toys. Materials can be checked out by families and school providers for two to eight weeks at a time.

“With the support of this wonderful library, families can learn about the needs of children who are deaf-blind.”

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Nancy Harshorne demonstrates signing with one of the toys available to parents and teachers at DB Central.

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Psychologists administer the tests in hospitals and clinics or through school systems. Pediatricians may recommend the test to parents, and children with physical problems should especially be assessed, said Bradley-Johnson.

Data on the test have been collected on a national sample of more than 1,100 children representing the U.S. population in terms of gender, race, geography and occupational level of parents.

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A. Lee Battershell, 2000, now in Campichael, Calif, has been busy writing books. Miriam Cross ('98) is a Medical Social Worker at the Graftiot Community Hospital Rehabilitation Center in Alma, MI. Matthew Manker ('88) is an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Advocate for Northern Michigan Community Mental Health in Petoskey, MI. Barbara (Bosma) Weiners ('86) is the Director of Christ’s Life Ministries in Interlochen, MI. Craig Zeese ('81) is the Director for the Graftiot Commission on Aging in Ithaca. Heather Brady, PSC, is an associate at the Detroit law firm of Dykema Gossett. She recently began the Ph.D. program in Political Science at Wayne State University. John Monahan, PSC, is Executive Director/Office Manager at the New York office of CARE, one of the largest private international relief and development organizations. Anthropology graduate yolanda ricA ('98) has been admitted to graduate school at Western Michigan University and is pursuing an M.A. in anthropology. kevin Schwemmin (FLLC) is now working in the Leadership and Volunteer Center at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids.

Lemont Dohson (HST) has been accepted into the graduate program at the Center for Medieval Studies at the University of York, England, beginning January 2001. He will complete his M.A. in history at CMU in December. Recently he attended the International Congress of Medieval Studies (May, 2000) at Western Michigan University and an international conference in Oxford, England in July, 2000.

See Students, Page 10

CHSBS students are active in research and creative endeavors

Student Research and Creative Endeavors Exhibition

Over 125 graduate and undergraduate students from the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences took part in the 7th Annual Student Research and Creative Endeavors Exhibition at Rose Arena on April 26. These student scholars were given support by 25 CHSBS faculty sponsors.

In her introduction to the exhibition, Gail Scukanec, Interim Assistant Vice President for Research, said, “Our students should be proud of their work and the faculty proud of their ability to foster such work.”

“Research and creative activity promotes student growth in numerous ways. Students learn to think critically and creatively, to solve problems, to discover how new knowledge is acquired and to persevere through completion of a project.”


The exhibition drew almost 500 CMU students who displayed over 250 research and creative projects.

Summer Research Scholars Program

As part of Central Michigan University’s commitment to encouraging and supporting student research, the Summer Research Scholars Program provides summer stipends of $2400 to support undergraduate students who are conducting research in cooperation with university faculty members. In its fourth year, this highly competitive program supports research and creative projects that stress collaboration and a close mentoring relationship between faculty members and students. Three of the 11 CMU students honored with scholarship awards are from the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences.
Nine students were recognized for their research and writing in the second annual Student Paper Competition. There were three undergraduate winners and one honorable mention, and three graduate winners and two honorable mentions. The winners received cash prizes and have their names permanently placed on a plaque in the Office of the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences. All nine students were awarded certificates of achievement by the dean at the annual college meeting in August.

"Once again the level of competition of our student authors was extremely impressive," said Dean Gary Shapiro. "The college faculty can be proud of the professional standards these students have attained in their research and writing. If you have not had an opportunity to read any of these student works, I invite you to do so. You will appreciate the quality and the commitment to excellence of our students."

There were three undergraduate winners who received a cash award of $500, and one honorable mention winner who received a certificate of achievement.

Albie Price, Mt. Pleasant junior, was the author of "The Effects of Behavior Consistency and Trait Favorableness in Impression Formation." The paper analyzes a current study as well as previous research done and determines the effect that various kinds of information has on an individual forming a first impression of a person. Price summarized her finding in comparison theories and compares them with the results of her own study. Her analysis suggested a number of new research topics. John Monahan (PSY) was her faculty adviser.

"Alice Walker Discovering Zora Neale Hurston: The Influences and Effects" is the winning submission by Autumn Nethaway, Elise senior. It is a thorough investigation of the relationship between African American writers Zora Neale Hurston and Alice Walker. Nethaway documents how Walker resurrected the works of Hurston and how Hurston’s writings influenced Walker. More important, because of the connection between the two writers, we now have two strong voices who bring the reader into a time and place we could never see without them. Her faculty adviser was Stacy Thompson (ENG).

The third undergraduate winner was Woodland senior, Jason Constantine. "The Development of Western Musical Written Notation to the Advent of Polyphony" traces the beginnings of musical notation from early Greeks, through its disappearance and reemergence in the Middle Ages. He shows the origins of all the major aspects of musical notation that have developed through Western history into today’s musical notation system. David Rutherford (HST) was his faculty adviser.

The honorable mention winner was Nicole L. McLeese, a senior from Whittemore. Her paper, "Scream as Postmodern Horror: A Film Triumph for Feminism" is the critique of the movie Scream viewed as postmodern horror which draws its success as a parody of modern horror movies. This postmodern view of the relationship between reality and fiction creates a new type of horror movie heroine in contrast with the helpless female in traditional horror features. Mark Freed (ENG) served as her faculty adviser.

Graduate student honors went to three $750 winners and two honorable mention winners.

History graduate student Andrew Devenney’s winning paper is "The Yalta Conference: Summit Diplomacy as Anti- Climax." Devenney argues that the Yalta Conference, the last Allied wartime meeting of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin, was essentially an ineffectual conference. It was not a western sellout of Eastern Europe, nor was it a blueprint for a positive post-war alliance. It merely actualized what had been established at previous meetings and through the occupation of territory by Western and Soviet military forces. Devenney is currently studying at the University of Strathclyde (Scotland) in the history department’s joint program. His faculty adviser was Timothy O’Neil (HST).

Mount Pleasant graduate student Angie Fenton’s creative non-fiction portfolio is another prize winner. In a series of short autobiographical essays, Fenton gives us a look at life growing up in a large racially mixed family and how it has impacted her life. She presents an honest examination of the joy, humor and horror of the discovery of her sexuality, as well as a candid look at the complexity of maintaining relationships. Robert L. Root, Jr. (ENG) was her faculty adviser.

In her analysis of El gato eficaz (The Efficacious Cat), a work written by contemporary Argentine novelist Luisa Valenzuela, Midland student Martha Avitia discusses and analyses three intricately related preoccupations of the author: Language, Women and Politics. Avitia shows how the author attempts to free language and women from the shackles of society, and in so doing to liberate all women from language and the sociopolitical structures and prisons. Valenzuela approaches these themes in the light of eroticism and death, two taboos which were not only very prevalent in the early 70’s, but are with Argentine society of today. Mary-Garland Jackson (FLLC) was her faculty adviser.

There were two honorable mention papers written by graduate students in history. Michael S. Gallagher of Oconto Falls, Wis., wrote "Power Play: Olympic Boycotts and Cold War Politics." The essay examines the relationship between politics and the Olympics, especially the 1980 U.S. boycott of the Moscow Olympics and the 1984 Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles games. Gallagher does a thoughtful analysis of the effectiveness of boycotts as political statements, as well as looking at how the Olympics have been used as political tools in the twentieth century. Mitchell Hall (HST) was his faculty adviser.

Graduate student Jennifer A. Walton from Sarnia, Ontario, won an honorable mention for her paper, "The Colonization Society Have Renounced Wholly the Name and Characteristics of Abolitionists." In her essay, Walton looks at the representation of African Americans to Liberia during the early and middle 19th century. In particular, she examines the American Colonization Society, with its propaganda about the positive aspects of colonization, which masked its innate racism—a nonviolent form of “ethnic cleans- ing.” Her faculty adviser was Sarah Parcell (HST).

Copies of the winning papers are kept in the Office of the Dean of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences. If you are interested in reading any or all of these winning student papers, they can be checked out from the Office of the Dean, Anspach 106. Students can also pick up submission forms for this year’s Student Paper competition in the office. The deadline for this year’s competition has been extended to May 9, 2001. For more information, call 517-774-3341.

Five graduate students and eleven undergraduate students join over a hundred other CMU students as John E. Warriner Scholars since the award was first granted in 1991. The university-wide competition provides scholarship support in the amount of $2000 (for two semesters) to academically qualified students who also show financial need.

Undergraduate recipients, representing English, German, Spanish, social studies education, sociology, and religious studies, were the following: Adam Bulson (Granada Hills [Brampton]), Tammy Kuipers (Spring Lake), Sharon Latz (Cedar Springs), Autumn Nethaway (Elise), Gary Sorkin (Bay City), Lindsey Smith (Sterling Heights), Elena Tchebotareva (Cadillac), Erika Rose Thornton (Port Huron), Kari Voisinet (Laingsburg), and Mary Wazny (Midland).

Graduate student recipients from history and English include Angela Fenton (Mt. Pleasant), Michael Gallagher (Oconto Falls, Wis.), Denise Kay Jacobs (Mt. Pleasant), Amy Solinski (Gray- ling), and Jennifer Wood (Mt. Pleasant).

Among the recipients are two students who will spend this year studying abroad in Erlanger, Germany and Seville, Spain. Three others are projecting careers as professional writers, while three are looking forward to careers in education either at the secondary or post secondary levels.

Current and former activities represented by this diverse group include experience in Upward Bound, camp counseling, work with families, community college instruction, international travel including research on Mayan and Aztec literature and mythology, and helping to edit The Complete Idiot’s Guide to American Presidents.

The John E. Warriner Scholarship is offered annually to at least a dozen students at Central Michigan University whose majors are in English, foreign languages, history, sociology, philosophy, religion, political science, communications (speech, journalism), or economics. A faculty review committee, representing humanities, social sciences, and communications conducts the review of applications and makes the awards. John

See Warriner Scholarships, page 10
Summer renovations and remodeling

During the summer months, several CHSBS department facilities received much-needed facelifts and additions. The SASW departmental office in Anspach Hall was expanded and remodeled. The new layout is much more attractive, spacious, and efficient. All the rooms in the office area are now connected, and there is 25% more work area. Department Chair Rodney Kirk expressed his satisfaction with the project, “We love it. It’s like moving into a modern office complex after working out of a closet for 30 years.”

A second major renovation was the basement of Sloan Hall for the psychology department. Now, instead of a damp unusable basement, there is an office and classroom facility, which includes several offices for graduate assistants, a classroom, student organization offices, research rooms and a student lounge area. In spite of the additional space in Sloan, the psychology department continues to utilize six buildings on campus, including having a strong presence in Powers Hall.

The English department received a second computer laboratory located in Anspach 253. The new lab has 28 state of the art computer stations. The room was formerly occupied by the Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) lab. CATI has now moved to Anspach 306, receiving a software upgrade in the process. The new English composition laboratory, funded from student technology fees and the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences, is used for instruction in introductory and advanced composition, technical and professional writing and linguistics.

Recent commitments from the university include the renovation of the English department office during 2000-2001.

Looking for something to do in your spare time?

Surf the College web page for information on individual departments, faculty web pages, e-mail addresses, course pages, information on majors and minors, student groups and scholarships. Don’t be surprised at what you will find there.

There is something for nearly everyone.  http://www.chsbs.cmich.edu

Warriner Scholarships

Continued from page 9

E. Warriner, son of former CMU President Eugene Warriner, was an educator who wrote several very successful grammar textbooks. The Warriner Scholarships are funded through an estate gift to CMU.

Applications for the 2001-2002 competition are available in the Dean’s Office, Anspach 106. The deadline is March 7, 2001.

Research

Continued from page 8

Three scholars have already graduated from the program. This fall 17 new students have become McNair Scholars, bringing the total to 26 students.

One of the major components of the McNair program is a research project conducted collaboratively with a faculty research mentor. The following CHSBS McNair Scholars participated in research projects this last summer.

Camille Bell (SASW), “Urban Adolescents’ Peer Group Influences on Deviant Behavior,” with faculty adviser Dr. David Kinney.

Jonathan Cross (PSY), “Special Education Students’ Attitudes Toward Mainstreaming,” Dr. Renee Babcock, faculty adviser.

Mohammad Farrakhan (SASW), “The Criminal Education System,” with faculty adviser Dr. Marilyn Corsianos.

Somari Fubara (PSY), “Infant Sleep and Feeding Patterns: A Telephone Survey on Four-Month-Old Hispanic Infants,” with faculty adviser Dr. Carl Johnson.

KC Keefr (PSY), “Emotional Response, Hypnotic Suggestion and Dissociation,” with faculty adviser Dr. Stuart Quirk.

Crystal Simpson (PSY), “Analysis of Spatial Memory Deficiency in the 3-Nitropropionic Model of Huntington’s Disease,” with Dr. Gary Dunbar, faculty adviser.