The College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences provides outstanding graduate and undergraduate academic programs that develop the knowledge and skills necessary for living and working in our diverse and changing world.

A New Vision of Excellence for CMU

Central Michigan University is embarking on the most comprehensive and ambitious fund-raising campaign in the university’s history—the New Vision of Excellence Campaign.

This campaign is a broadly focused initiative to help secure CMU’s position as an academically rigorous university with national prominence. Alumni and friends of the university have already contributed $29 million toward the university’s $50 million campaign goal.

CHSBS will raise $3.5 million of the campaign goal to invest in student scholarships, faculty research, ongoing departmental programs and technology and facility enhancements.

The other members of the campaign steering committee and I are truly honored to work with the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences to achieve our goals for this most critical capital campaign.

We want to provide our faculty members with the resources they need to continue laying foundations of success for CMU students for generations to come. We want to offer our students competitive scholarships and enhanced learning opportunities to continue providing a top quality education.

The CHSBS campaign committee can only accomplish the college’s goals by enlisting all of you in partnership in this special journey to success.

You can help by joining us in this fund-raising effort and by alerting us to friends, corporations or foundations that you know who might have a special interest in the many unique programs offered by our university and college.

It is up to each one of us to ensure that we have success in this campaign. Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Sixth Judicial Circuit Court Judge Fred M. Mester, CHSBS campaign committee chairman.

Meet the CHSBS campaign committee on pages 16-17.
Welcome from the dean

This is an historic time for the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS). As part of Central Michigan University’s $50 million capital campaign—the New Vision of Excellence Campaign—CHSBS is committed to raising $3.5 million for funding needs within the college. This is the largest and most comprehensive fund-raising campaign in the history of the university and CHSBS.

In an effort to inspire other alumni and friends to become involved in this exciting campaign, the college has created a campaign committee made up of devoted friends and alumni of the university. You can learn more about the distinguished members of our committee by turning to pages 16-17 in this newsletter.

The New Vision of Excellence Campaign is extremely important to the vitality of the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences. I, along with Irene Salata, the college’s director of development, will work with our campaign committee to meet the $3.5 million campaign goal for CHSBS.

This edition of the newsletter also contains news about the wonderful achievements of our students and faculty. Our students have access to faculty members who are conducting cutting-edge research in their fields and who facilitate interactive forums and invite renowned scholars and guest speakers into their classrooms. Information about several faculty awards and campus events are highlighted in the pages that follow.

This edition of the newsletter also emphasizes the importance of internationalization. The college is proud to offer scholarships that enable our students to study abroad, and we are excited to share some of their stories with you.

This December, I had the opportunity to visit Japan to recruit more students to enroll in the English Language Institute at CMU.

Finally, our newsletter recognizes the accomplishments of many CHSBS alumni. I encourage you to stay connected with the university and to share your talents and resources with the many students who look to you for inspiration and guidance as they prepare for careers in their fields of study.

I close by inviting you to become involved in CMU’s New Vision of Excellence Campaign. Your gifts will help ensure that our programs continue to grow and provide life-changing learning opportunities to our students.
Money and politics topic of fall Griffin forum

A panel of distinguished legal experts discussed the influence money and elections have on the Michigan judiciary during the Griffin Policy Forum in November.

The forum, "Is the Michigan Judiciary Being Corrupted by Money and Elections," was moderated by Tim Skubick, host of WKAR's "Off the Record."

Panelists included Bill Ballenger, CMU's Griffin Endowed Chair and editor of Inside Michigan Politics; James M. Alexander, Oakland County Circuit Court judge; Kimberly M. Cahill of the State Bar Association; Hugh B. Clarke Jr., Lansing trial lawyer; Robert Danhof, former Michigan Court of Appeals chief judge; and Joseph P. Swallow, chief judge of the Alpena County Circuit Court.

Michigan is the only state where Supreme Court nominees are selected by political parties but then run as nonpartisans, said Ballenger.

The debate over raising money for judicial campaigns is also a hot topic.

"There have always been more eyebrows raised over money in judicial elections than for the legislative and executive branch offices. Judges are supposed to be above and beyond politics—they're supposed to be bipartisan, legal scholars," Ballenger said.

The Griffin policy forums are hosted during the fall and spring semesters by the Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American government, the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences and the political science department.

The Griffin endowment is named for distinguished CMU alumni Robert and Marjorie Griffin. It funds the salary and associated costs of an expert in U.S. and Michigan government and politics to serve as a faculty member in the political science department.

Popular poet hosts campus reading

Contemporary poet Mark Halliday shares his poetry with CMU students at the Park Library Auditorium in November. Halliday teaches at Ohio University and is the author of "Little Star" (1987), a National Poetry Series selection; "Tasker Street" (1992), winner of the Juniper Prize; "Selfwolf" (1999); and "Jab" (2002).

Renowned German author visits CMU

Award-winning German author Karin Gündisch discusses her book "Das Paradies Liegt in Amerika (How I Became an American)" with CMU students. Gündisch visited several German language classes and hosted a public reading and book signing during her visit to campus in September.
Alumni discuss leadership development

“How did a kid from the suburbs of Detroit become a writer for the president of the United States?” Matthew Yandura credits great mentors at CMU for helping him achieve this goal.

Yandura, a writer in the Office of Presidential Correspondence, spoke to CMU students during Leadership Awareness Week in November.

“Mentors teach you that it is OK to dream. They can also keep you grounded,” he said.

Yandura received a bachelor’s degree in interpersonal and public communication from CMU and commissioned into the U.S. Army through the CMU ROTC program in 1996.

He encouraged CMU students to develop their leadership skills by taking courses in the Leadership Institute and ROTC program, even if those classes are not required for their majors.

“Mentors teach you that it is OK to dream. They can also keep you grounded,” he said Yandura.

He also reminded the audience that “with great power comes great responsibility.”

“As you learn these new leadership skills, you inherit a new responsibility. You have to continue to mentor others,” said Yandura.

Sixth Judicial Circuit Court Judge Fred M. Mester also spoke during the event. He believes “good leaders lead by example.”

Mester certainly is a model of strong leadership. In addition to serving on the Circuit Court bench since 1982, he is active in many social service organizations and founded the program Reading to Reduce Recidivism, which aims to improve the literacy of criminal offenders.

“Leadership is often in partnership with courage,” he said. “I cannot think of better preparation for my professional life than my four years of ROTC training.”

In addition to his ROTC training, Mester received a bachelor’s degree in social science from CMU in 1959. After serving as a captain in the U.S. Army, he received his juris doctorate degree from Wayne State University School of Law in 1967.

Spring Schedule

“Why Morals are Back: The Return of Character Education”
Tuesday, March 23
7-9 p.m., Anspach Hall 254
Guest speaker: James Leming, Carl A. Gerstacker Chair in Education, Saginaw Valley State University

“Getting Beyond Good vs. Evil: A Buddhist Reflection on the New Holy War”
Tuesday, March 29
Check Web site for location.
Guest speaker: David Loy, Bunkyo University in Chigasaki, Japan

Court in the Classroom
Real alcohol and drug-related cases will be tried in a campus courtroom.
Friday, April 2
10 a.m. – noon, Anspach Hall 162
Guest speaker: The Hon. William Rush, Isabella County District Court

Rental Housing Clinic
A free legal clinic to help students effectively deal with lease and landlord problems.
Tuesday, April 13
7-9 p.m., Moore Hall 101
Guest speakers: Volunteers from the Michigan State University-Detroit College of Law Rental Housing Clinic

Speak Up, Speak Out: The Current Events Series
Organizers: Merlyn Mowrey, associate professor, philosophy and religion, and CMU senior Megan Burke.
Wednesday, April 7
7-9 p.m., Anspach Hall 161

Online Events Calendar
Visit the CPPE Web site at http://ethics.cmich.edu for more information.

All events are free and open to the public.
The College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS) and the College of Communication and Fine Arts co-sponsored the inaugural Michigan Story Festival Oct. 17 and 18 in Mount Pleasant. The festival included presentations by regional and local storytellers, musical performances, dances, poetry, storytelling workshops for teachers, and exhibits featuring sculptures, paintings, quilts and photographs.

Several CHSBS faculty members gave presentations during the festival, and many CHSBS students participated in the events.

The 2004 Michigan Story Festival will take place Oct. 22 and 23 in Mount Pleasant. 

Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo and Nancy Wang, known as Eth-Noh-Tec, combine music, theater, dance and the spoken word in their performances.

Maureen Eke, associate vice president for institutional diversity and English department faculty member at CMU, shares “African Stories,” including stories she learned during her childhood in Nigeria.

The Sangeeta Kar Dancers perform “Dances and Music of India.” The group specializes in Odissi, a classical dance form noted for its gracefulness, sculpturesque postures and rounded movements.

James Eikrem, a faculty member of CMU’s speech department, leads a presentation titled “Hemmingway’s Ties to Michigan” in the Clarke Historical Library.

Leland Faulkner, renowned storyteller, independent filmmaker and performing artist, creates shadow figures during his performance.

Leland Faulkner, renowned storyteller, independent filmmaker and performing artist, creates shadow figures during his performance.

Leland Faulkner, renowned storyteller, independent filmmaker and performing artist, creates shadow figures during his performance.
Foreign study offers life-changing experiences

Studying abroad will change your life. This message was emphasized by students who shared their study abroad experiences with prospective world travelers at informational sessions held during CMU’s International Week in November.

Each year, more than 300 CMU students travel to more than 30 countries to participate in study abroad programs. Many of these students are from the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures within the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS).

The trips abroad range in length from one week to one year. Most students study abroad during the fall or spring semesters.

“At CMU, we are working hard to train our students to become responsible global citizens and effective world leaders. Studying abroad is an important way to expand students’ view of the world and prepare them for careers in a global workforce,” said Guilan Wang, director of the Office of International Education (OIE).

Unfortunately, many interested students are unable to afford the costs of foreign travel and must rely on scholarships and other financial aid sources to offset their expenses.

“Many students already have a difficult time paying for tuition and living expenses at CMU. A scholarship can give those students the opportunity to study abroad without incurring higher debts,” Wang said.

The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures offers several scholarships for students to study foreign languages abroad. (See profile of the Kortes scholarship on page 18.) CHSBS also contributes a portion of their annual gifts from alumni, faculty and staff to provide partial scholarships to students studying abroad.

“Providing scholarships demonstrates to students that studying abroad is an important component of their studies at CMU,” said Wang.

The OIE offers daily informational sessions hosted by CMU students who have studied abroad. They are eager to share stories about their adventures abroad with other CMU students.

We share with you now reflections from three CHSBS students who studied abroad.

Spain & Quebéc

“Studying abroad gives you a completely different point of view on life,” says Joshua Greve, a senior majoring in secondary Spanish education.

He spent one year taking classes with Spanish students at the Universidad de Murcia in Spain. He was responsible for selecting his university courses and finding his own place to live.

“My Spanish skills were challenged in many ways,” says Greve. “I not only learned a lot about Spanish academically and culturally, but I also learned a lot about myself.”

He also studied French for six weeks at Université du Quebéc à Chicoutimi. He lived with a host family during this trip and urges other students to do the same.

“Get the full cultural experience,” says Greve. “Learn how they cook. Learn how the family interacts.”

He believes studying abroad is essential for anyone planning to teach a foreign language.

“Learning a language is not just about grammar. You need to understand and appreciate the culture behind the language. I want my students to know that there are other cultures as important as our own.”

Joshua Greve (center) with friends from Spain and England during his 4th of July and going-away party.
Focus on Students

England

Emily Homrich, a senior majoring in secondary English and physical science education, spent three weeks in England last summer at the University of Cambridge’s Shakespeare Summer School.

“It was an amazing experience to learn about Shakespeare in his hometown. Everyone who participated in the program had great passion for him,” says Homrich.

She visited Shakespeare’s birthplace, attended lectures by renowned Shakespeare scholars, and watched one of his plays performed at the Globe Theatre in London.

She also enjoyed immersing herself in the British culture, which included hearty breakfasts, afternoon teas and punting down the River Cam.

“Punting is a popular tourist activity,” Homrich explains. “You sit on a flat, padded-seat boat while your ‘punt’ (tour guide) pushes a long, wooden stick into the bed of the river to move the boat forward. The guide describes the beautiful surroundings and histories of the old colleges as you float past them. You can attempt punting on your own, but it is much more difficult than it looks.”

Although she was only in England for a few weeks, Homrich treasures her experience.

“Studying abroad gives you a new perspective on life,” she said. “You see the world and yourself with fresh eyes and an open mind.”

Ghana & Costa Rica

To describe the cultural differences between Ghana and the United States, Peggy Taylor says to imagine the inverse of everything you have here.

“The pace is very slow, which is nice,” says Taylor. “It feels good to not be under so much stress. A popular saying in Ghana is ‘feel free and don’t worry.’”

Taylor, a senior majoring in Spanish and environmental policy, spent the fall 2001 semester studying at the University of Ghana in the capital city of Accra.

She says attending school in Ghana is considered a great privilege, so the students dress in formal clothing—a sharp contrast to the jeans and sweat pants that adorn most CMU students. She also had to get accustomed to eating food with her hands.

“That is the proper way to do things,” says Taylor. “And, you never eat in front of others without offering to share your food with them.”

As a foreigner, Taylor attracted a lot of attention.

“I was treated almost like I was famous,” says Taylor. “I was very surprised at how well I was received.”

In another trip abroad, Taylor spent four weeks in Santa Ana, Costa Rica. She knew it would be a good opportunity to enhance her Spanish speaking skills.

“Foreign language classes in the U.S. focus on grammar,” says Taylor. “Studying abroad helps you immerse yourself completely in the language. It’s a great learning experience.”

Taylor says she learned many valuable lessons from her experiences abroad.

“Studying abroad is fun and exciting, of course, but it also helps you become a more well-rounded person by giving you an inside perspective of another country and culture,” says Taylor.

“The people I met while I was abroad are going to be in my life forever.”

__underDiscussion - 7__
Revisiting landmarks of the civil rights movement

Professor Robert Newby believes the U.S. civil rights movement is an excellent resource for teaching CMU students about democracy and individual rights, two ideals at the heart of American culture.

“I think students are shocked by the history they see in America, in particular in regard to race, because they haven’t been exposed to it,” said Newby. “They assume that achievement and status are always based upon merit, but sometimes people got there by taking other people’s lives and making sure people couldn’t vote.”

Newby, who teaches courses on racism and inequality and the civil rights movement, spent two weeks in Alabama and Mississippi last summer visiting significant landmarks of the civil rights movement as part of a research grant to evaluate how the sites have changed over the past four decades.

At the Tallahatchie Courthouse in Sumner, Miss., the location of the trial and acquittal of two white men accused of murdering Emmett Till, the courtroom balcony where blacks once sat has been removed. The balcony stairway now leads only to a doorway that opens to a wall.

In Greenwood, Miss., Newby visited the Crystal Grill, a popular restaurant at the center of integration efforts.

“This was a place of major contention during the movement, but if you go in there today, you are greeted with wonderful Southern hospitality.”

In all of the places Newby visited, including government offices, he saw African-American employees, something that would have been non-existent in the 1950s and 1960s. He also finds it fascinating that most cities in the south have streets named after Martin Luther King Jr.

“Some barriers have been broken down, but there is still a remnant of blacks being impoverished,” said Newby.

He described Money, Miss., the town where Emmett Till was killed, as a place of “bygone days.”

“The labor of blacks on plantations has been replaced by mechanization, so people have been pushed off the plantations and into cities. The Mississippi Delta region remains one of the poorest regions in the nation,” said Newby.

Newby also visited Ruleville, Miss., hometown of Fannie Lou Hamer, a renowned civil rights activist and former sharecropper.

“The entire town of Ruleville is an historical marker for her,” said Newby. “When you drive into town, you are greeted by a sign that says, ‘Ruleville, home of Fannie Lou Hamer.’ She was a very courageous woman who was critical in getting people registered to vote.”

In Selma, Ala., the location of “Bloody Sunday,” the National Voting Rights Museum and Institute was established to recognize the efforts of voting rights activists.

On “Bloody Sunday,” activists were attacked by police with clubs and tear gas after they crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge at the start of a voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery, said Newby. The march began again two weeks later without further incidents of violence.

“The city has placed historical markers at many of its civil rights landmarks and has established the Rosa Parks Library and Museum.

Newby plans to visit additional sites this year and will continue to share videos and interviews from his experiences with his students.

“There are so many lessons to be learned about the civil rights movement,” said Newby. “One is that change can take place. If people perceive there is a need in society, and they get enough people to believe in that need, they can make a difference.”
Tracing the Lewis and Clark expedition

Many instructors head for the library if they need additional research when a new course is added to their teaching load, but Assistant Professor Danny Patterson packed his kayak, camping gear, notebooks and camera and spent five weeks tracing the trail of the Meriwether Lewis and William Clark expedition.

Patterson, a faculty member in the Department of English Language and Literature, was thrilled by the opportunity to teach a section of English 435: Studies in Texts in the Journals of Lewis and Clark and quickly adjusted his summer travel plans to find time to explore the historic Lewis and Clark routes.

“Clearly, the better I knew the routes and places written about in the journals, the more insight and excitement I’d be able to bring to the class,” said Patterson. “I spent most of my summer camping, reading, writing, photographing and paddling along the routes described in the journals.”

Patterson notes that while he had modern technology and conveniences to assist him with his expedition, he acquired a greater appreciation for the physical and psychological accomplishments of those who traveled with Lewis and Clark.

“I learned that the river currents are deceptively powerful and difficult to read. I also experienced the powerful winds and truly frightening thunderstorms that sweep across the Western plains, the same natural forces the original expedition encountered,” he said.

Patterson picked up the trail at the site of the Mandan Villages in central North Dakota. From there he followed the trail into and across Montana, following the Missouri River on the way out. He crossed into Idaho at the Lolo Pass and then followed the Clearwater and Snake Rivers to the Columbia River in eastern Washington. After spending time on the coasts of Washington and Oregon, he followed the Yellowstone River back across Montana.

Rediscovering ancient worlds in Peru

Assistant Professor Charles Hastings is more than a classroom anthropologist. Since 1972, he has spent most of his semester breaks searching dense forests and mountainous terrain for remnants of ancient Peruvian civilizations.

He will return to central-eastern Peru this summer to investigate the boundary between two culturally, linguistically, and ecologically distinct civilizations—the Central Andean highland populations and the lowland tropical forest populations.
Peru archaeology project
continued from previous page

“This research will contribute to a better understanding of eastern Andean civilizations and the nature of the relationship between mountain populations and tropical forest populations across this important cultural boundary,” said Hastings.

Three students, Thomas Hanson from CMU and Manuel Perales and Magaly Ballón from the University of San Marcos in Lima, joined Hastings in Peru last summer. Students selected for his team must have the physical and emotional stamina to face harsh field conditions.

“It has to be someone who can deal with extreme climate changes and won’t become claustrophobic in very dark, dense jungles,” said Hastings.

The students assisted in gathering useful data during the pre-excavation phases of fieldwork, a process that can last several months or years at each site.

“The sites must be intensively surveyed and mapped before excavation can begin,” said Hastings. “All artifacts found before and during excavations must be carefully analyzed and documented with notes, maps and drawings or photographs.”

Excavations on Hastings’ sites are expected to get underway this summer. The team will likely uncover broken pottery, which will help to identify the groups who once lived in that location. With luck, they will also find bits of charcoal or other organic materials that will allow them to carbon date the sites.

Hastings and his team also spend much of their time planning the logistics of each trip to the archaeological sites.

“We have to arrange transportation and guides and determine how much food and supplies we need to carry with us,” said Hastings. “We typically stay at our field site for several days and then return to our base in a nearby village to rest, get cleaned up, review our research, and replenish our supplies.”

Hastings’ research is part of a two-year project funded by the H. John Heinz III Charitable Trust and CMU’s Friends of Anthropology Fund, Physical Anthropology Laboratory Fund, and College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

In addition to securing funding, collaboration with regional and international organizations is essential for a successful archaeological project.

“We spent the first two or three weeks of our trip last summer doing public relations and diplomacy to introduce ourselves and explain our project to local government officials, community leaders and community organizations. It is important to obtain their support and ease their suspicions of our work,” said Hastings.

“Last summer I was fortunate to work with APRODES, the Peruvian Association for the Promotion of Sustainable Development. They own much of the land surrounding the sites we studied and provided a housing and research center for us near those sites,” he said.

Although his research is centered on uncovering information about past civilizations, Hastings also works closely with APRODES and other local governments and community organizations interested in preserving and sustaining the natural environment and the populations living in the region.

“There is an increased global recognition for the need to promote sustainable development in fragile tropical forest environments,” said Hastings. “Many of these spectacular forests are being destroyed by growth in impoverished, third-world societies, so the outside world is trying to find ways to protect this environment without hurting the impoverished people who live there.

“Our archaeological commitments serve to demonstrate to local communities and to local, national and international organizations that the magnificent cultural and natural resources of this area have real and lasting value that must not be squandered. My challenge is to use my archaeological training and university credentials to stay involved and support these groups.”

Peruvian students Magaly Ballón (left) and Manuel Perales (right) and CMU student Tom Hanson (center) enter the machete-cut trail to the CMU research center.
By Barbara Sutherland Chovanec

A self-proclaimed “political junkie” accepted CMU’s only endowed chairman position in the hope of inspiring students to political activism.

Bill Ballenger fills CMU’s Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government, named for two of CMU’s most distinguished alumni.

Ballenger teaches a seminar course, “Michigan Politics and Public Policy,” and coordinates special projects to increase awareness of state politics among students and the university community.

“My goal is that going out of the class at the end of the semester I have 20 political junkies – 20 people who are really fired up about politics and want to continue to maintain interest in what is going on,” Ballenger says. “I hope when they get out of CMU they will never forget what they learned in this course and will always utilize it throughout their lives no matter what else they do.”

The Griffin Endowed Chair is the first endowed chairperson position established at CMU.

Endowments are important because they provide permanent sources of funding for positions and programs and don’t depend on the peaks and valleys of public funding, says Mike Leto, vice president of development and alumni relations.

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“For a university of our size and significance, it’s fairly unusual that we only have one funded endowed chair,” Leto says. “Many institutions have much more in the way of endowed faculty support.”

He says endowed faculty positions help universities recruit and retain the best faculty, and they add to the prestige and reputation of the university.

In the political science department, the Griffin Endowed Fund pays for Ballenger’s salary and benefits. The tuition and fees from the students enrolled in Ballenger’s course pay for two special political forums each year at CMU.

“This expert in American politics and Michigan government certainly helps strengthen our program,” says Larry Sych, political science department chairman. “Having an endowed chair in our department adds visibility and depth to our program, and it energizes our students.”

Spring Griffin Forum

The next Griffin Policy Forum, “The Future of Gambling in Michigan,” will take place on April 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Park Library Auditorium.

Panelists include Audrey Falcon, chief of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; Roger Martin of the Citizens for Fair and Responsible Gaming; and Gary Peters, Michigan lottery director. Tim Skubick, host of WKAR’s “Off the Record,” will moderate the forum.

Visit our Web site for details. www.chsbs.cmich.edu/Political_Science/griffin.htm
CMU sweeps Michigan’s foreign language awards

By Cynthia Drake

Central Michigan University made a clean sweep at the state foreign language association awards this year.

CMU Spanish professor Susan Knight received the prestigious Barbara Ort-Smith Award from the Michigan Foreign Language Association (MFLA) on Oct. 24 for her lifelong achievement and dedication to foreign language education.

Two CMU alumnae, Mercia Foster, ’70 MA ’02, and Mary Webster, ’71, received elementary and secondary teacher of the year awards.

“I was in shock,” Knight said about learning she had been selected as the Barbara Ort-Smith Award recipient. “I was just really taken aback. I’ve been very involved over the past number of years, but this is the highest honor you can get in the state. I am both proud and humbled.”

Knight, also a CMU alumna, has been teaching at CMU since 1985. Her classes include foreign language methods, Spanish language, and Spanish culture and civilization. She also observes Spanish, French and German student teachers throughout the state and advises students going to Spain.

Knight said she’s proud of the many foreign language teachers that come from CMU.

“We inspire our teachers in foreign languages,” she said. “When we go to the MFLA conferences every year, our alumni form the largest group of teachers there. You can just see their enthusiasm. I think it’s CMU’s foreign language program.”

Foster, a Spanish teacher at the Midland Academy of Advanced and Creative Studies, said she’s happy to be recognized for doing something she loves.

“I love teaching Spanish to young children because of their enthusiasm, because in order to have a good strong foundation, we need to start early,” she said. “I’m really thrilled to receive the award. To be recognized by your peers is really nice.”

Webster, a French and Spanish teacher at Romeo High School, said she’s excited that CMU is getting recognized for its excellent foreign language program.

“The best part of teaching is working with young people every day,” she said. “I thoroughly enjoy my students, and I love to watch them grow and mature and become more proficient with each passing year. I feel very honored to receive this award. I always have worked hard at what I do, but I never dreamed of being honored in this way.”

Social Work degree receives accreditation

Central Michigan University’s bachelor of social work degree program has been granted initial accreditation through February 2008 by the Council on Social Work Education.

This accreditation is retroactive for all students who graduated with a bachelor of social work degree since 2001. Accreditation has been an important factor to prospective students, said Michael Dover, director of CMU’s social work program.

“Since I’ve arrived there’s been an increasing number of inquiries from parents of perspective CMU students about the status of accreditation,” he said.

Dover said that CMU has been working on the accreditation process for more than five years.

In the early 1980s, CMU’s previously unaccredited bachelor’s degree program was scaled back and a social work concentration on the sociology major was developed. The present bachelor of social work degree program became available to students in 2001.

This year the program will graduate 20 students, and Dover expects those numbers to increase.

The program is the only social work program in the state to have rural social work as part of its mission statement, Dover said.

“Rural poverty and urban poverty are more closely linked than is often realized and both require greater attention,” he said.

Faculty member Joanne Riebschleger is a nationally recognized researcher in rural social work. The program also has placement sites in Lansing, Midland, Saginaw, and Bay City.

Mary Senter, chairwoman of the sociology, anthropology and social work department, said she is pleased with the efforts of the social work faculty to achieve accreditation.

“The social work faculty have worked long and hard throughout the accreditation process and the department has tried to be supportive," she said. “The goal is to provide the best possible education for social work students and to prepare them for the many challenges they will face as social work professionals.”
Dunbar wins lifetime achievement award

Nationally and internationally, Gary Dunbar has played a key role in undergraduate neuroscience education.

Recently Dunbar, chairman of CMU’s psychology department, was rewarded for his efforts with a lifetime achievement award from the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN), an international association of neuroscience educators.

“I don’t think there is anyone who has a stronger commitment to undergraduate neuroscience education,” said Eric Wiertelak, president of FUN. “He’s always the first person to agree to present at a workshop for undergraduate educators. He’s always involved.”

The lifetime achievement award is given to a person with a continued pattern of outstanding contributions to the undergraduate neuroscience community.

Wiertelak said Dunbar was the clear choice for such an award.

“If I were to sum up Gary, he’s a very soft-spoken, relaxed guy. You don’t think of him as someone who’s going to have the national impact that he does. But he speaks softly and carries a big impact,” he said.

“The field of neuroscience is expanding so rapidly that it is almost impossible to keep up with all the aspects of this discipline,” said Dunbar. “FUN has been instrumental in helping faculty members learn new techniques and share new ideas for both teaching and research.”

He said he sees firsthand the impact that undergraduate neuroscience education has at CMU.

“The biggest challenge is to be able to accommodate the growing number of neuroscience majors and to give them adequate opportunities for hands-on research experience,” he said.

“Fortunately, our program is growing, with the addition of three more neuroscientists in the past three years and with the new facilities in the Health Professions Building. The future for undergraduate and graduate neuroscience at CMU looks excellent.”

It also helps to have a lifetime achievement award winner heading the program.

“The FUN Lifetime Achievement Award has to be one of the most treasured awards I’ve ever received,” Dunbar said. “Through FUN, I have gotten to know some of our country’s leading educators in neuroscience. To receive this highest recognition from such a wonderful group of dedicated people is an honor I will always treasure.”

In Memoriam

The College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences lost two faculty members last semester.

Carol Green-Ramirez, history faculty member, died on Dec. 22 at her home in Mount Pleasant, following a four-month battle with sarcoma cancer. She was 51.

Green-Ramirez taught U.S. history, women’s history and Native American history for 12 years at CMU. She is survived by her husband, Ben Ramirez, history faculty member.

David M. Dush, psychology faculty member and former director of CMU’s Psychological Training and Consultation Center, died at his home in Sanford on Nov. 20, after a battle with esophageal cancer. He was 49.

Dr. Dush taught courses and published more than 40 manuscripts in the field of behavioral medicine. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

The faculty and staff of the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences extend our condolences to the families of Dr. Green-Ramirez and Dr. Dush.
CMU psychologists test vehicle ‘infotainment’

By Cynthia Drake

Researchers in CMU’s psychology department are working with General Motors Corp. to test driver’s responses to in-car technology of the future.

GM awarded CMU a two-year, $247,175 contract for a series of psychophysiological tests of driver response to design features of advanced in-vehicle devices, such as electronic maps, e-mail, calendars and various entertainment options.

The testing includes a driving simulator given to the university by GM.

Psychology professors Richard Backs and Sonya Sheffert simulate these “infotainment” dashboard technologies in a lab, and monitor a subject’s heart rate, blood pressure and brain waves to assess the driver’s acceptance of the device, their level of distraction and the impact on driving performance.

“It’s not just about ensuring safety, but it’s about making driving more enjoyable, too,” Sheffert said.

In response to the fact that humans are spending more and more time in their vehicles, in-car options will expand in the future.

“It’s also important to measure a driver’s response to the reliability of these devices — for example, if you’re approaching a dry cleaner and your car tells you you’ve got dry cleaning to pick up. Or there’s a traffic jam ahead and it tells you to take the next exit. How is a driver’s trust affected by the reliability of the system?” Backs said.

Backs and Sheffert say the GM research is only the beginning of what may be ahead for CMU in the area of driver response. They are working on pursuing outside funding for additional research.

“I really see it as a developing facility,” Backs said. “For example, this may help determine when Parkinson’s and Huntington’s patients are no longer able to drive, or help older drivers with their ability to respond to the driving environment. There’s no limit to what we develop from here.”

Oh-Lee wins fellowship for Parkinson’s research

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) presented Justin Oh-Lee with a National Parkinson Foundation Center of Excellence Fellowship worth $21,000 to research Parkinson’s disease.

Oh-Lee is an assistant professor in CMU’s psychology department who specializes in assessing the impact of drug therapy in the treatment of various neurological illnesses.

The fellowship will allow him to expand his exploration of the effects of levodopa on Parkinson’s by looking at the part of the brain most affected by the illness. He’s trying to uncover ways to reduce the debilitating side effects of chronic levodopa therapy in an advanced Parkinson’s treatment that is decades old.

“We’re finding ways to improve levodopa therapy, which is the standard in pharmacotherapy for Parkinsonian patients that has existed for almost 30 years,” Oh-Lee explained. “We’re looking for ways in which we can improve levodopa therapy by better understanding how the drug works in the brain at the neurochemical and molecular level and specifically the part that controls movement.”

The fellowship provides a stipend and supports travel and other expenses related to conducting a collaborative research project at a designated center of excellence institution, which in his case will be a site in Bethesda, Md.

“This scientific award is significant for Justin because recipients are nominated by senior investigators at the centers of excellence in the National Parkinson Foundation and is based on research excellence and outstanding potential for establishing an independent research program in Parkinson’s research,” said Gary Dunbar, co-director of CMU’s Brain Research and Integrative Neuroscience Center (BRAIN) and chairman of the psychology department.

Along with serving as co-director of the BRAIN Center, Oh-Lee teaches a course on the foundations of behavior and behavior analysis and conducts research that examines the effects of genetically engineered bone marrow stem cells on a rat model of Parkinson’s disease.

In addition, he is currently working with CMU students to test a potential drug for Pfizer Inc. to determine its ability to reduce neurological complications caused by Parkinson’s disease and other movement disorders.
A New Vision of Excellence for CHSBS

As part of the New Vision of Excellence Campaign for CMU, the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS) has established a $3.5 million goal to secure funds for student scholarships, faculty endowments and enrichment programs.

Under the leadership of Judge Fred Mester, ’59, our volunteer committee and CHSBS development staff will be reaching out to alumni and friends to invite you to become a part of this event.

We are pleased to introduce our campaign committee of dedicated alumni and friends who believe in the vision of the college. They have agreed to volunteer their time, talents and resources to assure that we achieve our goal. Their understanding of the impact of private philanthropy on the future of our university will make the difference as we move forward with this campaign. (Their photographs and brief biographies are located on pages 16-17.)

It is critical for everyone to be involved. This is an historic campaign for CMU. Support that is provided today will have a significant impact on our students, communities and society for generations to come.

All gifts and pledges made to CHSBS through December 2006 will count toward the New Vision of Excellence Campaign. Gifts can be made a variety of ways. Bequests, charitable gift annuities or remainder trusts, cash, life insurance, securities, real estate and retirement plans are ways to provide support during the campaign. In addition, annual gifts given during the phon-a-thon and contributions received through special mailings and events will also be included.

Your gifts can be designated to specific departments and scholarships within the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences or to programs and endowments, such as the Center for Professional and Personal Ethics (CPPE), Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government and Brain Research and Integrative Neuroscience Center (BRAIN).

Join us as we fulfill A New Vision of Excellence for the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Irene Salata
Director of Development

Giving Opportunities

To learn more about giving opportunities for the New Vision of Excellence Campaign for the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, contact Irene Salata, director of development, at CHSBS@cmich.edu or (989) 774-1788.

### CHSBS Campaign Goal

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campaign Goal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Student scholarships</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<td>Faculty and program endowments</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrichment opportunities and ongoing special programs</td>
<td>$1 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced campus environment</td>
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Campaign Progress

Goal: $3.5 million

Current: $1.7 million

President Rao encourages all CMU alumni to participate in the New Vision of Excellence Campaign

“The university is centered on a number of key priorities that will, ultimately, lead us to educate and graduate students who make meaningful personal and professional contributions to society,” said President Michael Rao, encouraging alumni and friends to support the New Vision of Excellence Campaign.

“You can make a difference in the life of the university, its stature, the lives of our students, and ultimately, the well-being of the world that will be served by students who are graduates of this university,” Rao said. “The campaign is truly a time for the CMU family to come together in support of a great university and its bright, talented students.”
Introducing the CHSBS campaign committee

Hon. Fred M. Mester is the CHSBS committee chairman.

He has been a judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan in Oakland County since 1982. He is also an adjunct professor for Oakland University, Madonna University and Oakland Community College.

Judge Mester graduated from CMU in 1959 with a major in social science. He received a commission through CMU’s ROTC program and served as a captain in the U.S. Army. He graduated from Wayne State University School of Law in 1967.

He is active in many social service organizations and founded the program Reading to Reduce Recidivism, which aims to improve the literacy of criminal offenders.

Hon. James M. Alexander was appointed to the Oakland County Circuit Court Bench by Gov. John Engler in August 2001. He was appointed to serve as presiding judge in the Circuit Court’s Family Division in January 2004.

Judge Alexander received his bachelor’s degree in political science from Miami University (Ohio) in 1970 and his juris doctorate degree from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1973.

He is a member of the advisory board for CMU’s Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government and serves on the Walsh College President’s Advisory Council, Detroit Jewish Community Council, Oakland County Executive’s Ethics Commission and Michigan Judges Association.

Judith K. Cunningham, Esquire, is the corporation counsel for Oakland County, a position she has held since 1999. Previously, she served as court administrator/judicial assistant and deputy court administrator for the Oakland County Circuit Court.

She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in English from CMU in 1970 and 1973, respectively. She earned her juris doctorate degree from the Detroit College of Law in 1983.

She also is a frequent speaker, lecturer, and author and wrote a monthly column for Laches, a publication of the Oakland County Bar Association, from 1988-1999.

Robert E. Dustman is the media and communications officer for Oakland County.

Previously, he enjoyed a 25-year career as a broadcast journalist at radio and television facilities in Midland, Clare, Cadillac, Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Pontiac and Detroit.

He received a bachelor’s degree in speech and psychology from CMU in 1969.

As the news anchor and political editor for WWJ radio in Detroit, Dustman covered the 1988 Republican and National Conventions and the 1989 Presidential Inauguration. He also is a frequent guest panelist on Channel 7 television’s “Spotlight on the News” program.

Patrick E. Hackett, Esquire, recently retired as a partner from Hackett & Maxwell, P.C., where he worked from 1978-2000.

Previously, he served as general attorney for Conrail and the Penn Central Transportation Company and assistant general attorney for the New York Railroad Company.

He attended CMU from 1943-1944 and 1946-1947. His education at CMU was interrupted when he proudly served in the U. S. Navy (South Pacific Theatre) during World War II.

He received his juris doctorate degree from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1950.

Robert E. Dustman

John G. Kulhavi

John G. Kulhavi is senior vice president and financial consultant for Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner and Smith Inc. in Farmington Hills.

He graduated from CMU in 1965 with a bachelor’s degree in education and a bachelor’s degree in applied arts and sciences with a major in psychology and a minor in chemistry. He was commissioned into the U. S. Army through the CMU ROTC program and completed active duty in 1969.

Kulhavi is a charter member of the CMU ROTC Hall of Fame and received CMU’s Alumni Commitment Award in 2003. He has served on the CMU Development Board and the College of Business Administration advisory committee and is a member of the CMU Board of Trustees, where he is currently serving a one-year appointment as vice chairman.

Hon. James M. Alexander

Hon. Fred M. Mester, Committee Chair

Judith K. Cunningham, Esq.

Robert E. Dustman

John G. Kulhavi
Michael A. Lewis has been a reporter for WDIV-TV4 Detroit since 1985, covering politics, general assignments and the police beat. In 2002 he became the station’s weekend anchor. He received a bachelor’s degree in journalism from CMU in 1977 and a master’s degree in education in 1998. He also received the Mike Wallace Investigative Journalism Fellowship from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1991. He will complete his Ph.D. in communication from Wayne State University in 2004.

Lewis is also interim director of journalism for Oakland University. He also has served as a volunteer for Leader Dogs for the Blind and the pet therapy program at the Detroit Children’s Hospital.

Michael R. Reno is president of IXL Glass Company, which supplies and installs industrial, commercial and residential windows and doors, automotive windows, and flat and architectural glass.

Previously, he was executive vice president of Stainless Incorporated. He received a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s degree in management and supervision from CMU in 1973 and 1980, respectively.

Reno serves on the Detroit Athletic Club Board of Directors, The Hundred Club, the CMU Development Board and the advisory board for the LaBelle Entrepreneurship Center for CMU’s College of Business Administration.

Gordon A. Snavely, Esquire, an attorney for Hardig, Parsons, Pedersen and Stout, P.L.L.C., located in Bloomfield Hills, practices law with a concentration in estate planning, probate administration and real estate matters.

Previously, he served as an aide to former Governor William G. Milliken. Snavely earned a bachelor’s degree with a major in accounting and a minor in political science from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1964. He received a juris doctorate degree from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1967.

Mr. Snavely is a frequent lecturer on estate planning topics and has taught real estate law at Oakland University. He also serves on the CMU Development Board.

William E. Pilchak, Esquire, is a partner at Pilchak Cohen & Tice P.C., which represents management in labor and employment law.

He is a co-founder of Creative HR Solutions LLC, a human resources consulting firm that provides innovative tools to assist business and human resources professionals.

Pilchak graduated from CMU in 1975 with a bachelor’s degree in English and political science. He received his juris doctorate degree from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1978.

He serves on the Lem Tucker Journalism Scholarship Steering Committee and the CMU Alumni Association State Board of Directors and is president of CMU’s Metro Detroit Alumni Association.

Delbert Ringquist has taught political science courses at Central Michigan University since 1971. He also served as department chair for 15 years, dean of the College of Extended Learning for more than six years and assistant vice president for Development and Alumni Relations for almost two years.

He received a bachelor’s degree in political science education from CMU in 1965; a master’s degree in political science from the University of Oklahoma in 1968; and a Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma in 1971.

Ringquist has published books on the presidency and congress, international terrorism, international development and lobbyists and has made numerous presentations on distance and distributed education, adult learning, fiscal stress in American states, and lobbying and legislative behavior.

Campaign Updates
To learn more about how you can participate in the campaign for the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, visit our campaign Web site at:

http://vision.cmich.edu/programs-chsbs.htm
Alumni help foreign language students study abroad

When Nancy Kortes (Spanish, ’65) was a student at CMU, she was offered an opportunity to study in Madrid, Spain. Unfortunately, she and her newlywed husband, Ted (Business and Administration, ’63), didn’t have the financial resources to pay for the trip.

Nancy never forgot her disappointment about turning down this opportunity and decided to do something to prevent other students from missing out on study abroad experiences. Now, she and Ted live vicariously through the CMU students they help send to foreign countries each year.

The Nancy and Ted Kortes Spanish Award provides scholarships to Spanish language students to study in Spain or Latin America. The endowment, established in 1993, has provided scholarships from $100 to $500 to more than 40 students.

“It’s exciting to get postcards from the students and hear about where they are living and studying,” says Nancy. “We’re proud to be able to give them this opportunity.”

Study abroad experiences are critical for foreign language students, says Nancy. “It adds an important dimension to understanding the culture of the language that you can’t replicate in textbooks.”

Knowing a foreign language is a valuable asset. It creates more career opportunities and allows you to form friendships with people that you otherwise could not communicate with. It amazes me to hear about the variety of careers my former students have entered, she said.

“Language is extremely important in the business world,” agrees Ted, chairman and chief executive officer of Greenville Community Bank.

“Knowing a second language allows you to communicate with more people and serve a broader customer base. We’ve called Nancy to the bank to act as an interpreter for our Spanish speaking customers on more than one occasion,” said Ted.

CMU senior and secondary Spanish education major Joshua Greve says the Kortes scholarship provided him with financial support he “desperately” needed to study for a year at the Universidad de Murcia in Spain. (See complete article on page 6.)

“I am so thankful that Nancy and Ted Kortes, who don’t even know me, would start a scholarship fund to assist me and other foreign language students,” he said. “Studying abroad has made me a completely different person, and I hope that one day I can be as generous as the Kortes family and encourage students to study abroad.”

In addition to funding scholarships for foreign language students, Ted and Nancy Kortes have provided major gifts to the library, the health professions building, athletics, the College of Business Administration, and the Centralis Scholarship. Ted served on CMU’s development board from 1980-1999 and was president of the board from 1997-1999. He is now an emeritus member of the board.

“Many alumni do not think about outreach opportunities after they graduate,” says Nancy. “We’re very proud to be able to offer assistance to CMU students.”

“It’s giving something back to where we came from,” says Ted. “When you are successful, I believe you have an obligation to help others. We’re giving students an opportunity to do something that they might not otherwise have the opportunity to do.”

Ted and Nancy Kortes have many fond memories of CMU. They met while working on a homecoming float.

“My roommate stole his pledge book, so then we had an excuse to track him down to return the book,” said Nancy. This meeting sparked a romance that has lasted more than four decades. They were married in the campus chapel—now the University Art Gallery—in 1962.

The Kortes family lived in Mount Pleasant, Stanton and Grayling before moving to Greenville in 1981. Ted is a successful entrepreneur and has opened and operated banks in Grayling and Greenville. Nancy taught Spanish at Central Montcalm High School for six years.

They have two sons, Jeffrey, ’86, and Andrew, and three grandchildren, Cameron, Carter and Ryan.
Annual gifts help CHSBS reach new heights

The College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS) has established a new scholarship to assist incoming freshman with the costs of their CMU tuition.

The CHSBS Alumni Fund Award was created from gifts received through annual phon-a-thons, special mailings and fund-raising activities. A portion of the gifts designated to CHSBS each year will continue to provide a stable source of funding for the scholarship in the future.

"Providing scholarship assistance continues to be a priority of the college," said Irene Salata, CHSBS director of development.

"Having access to financial assistance is critical to our students, and creating opportunities to help ease some of the financial burden of a university education is tremendously valuable.

"The generosity of our alumni is immeasurable. Their willingness to say 'yes' when called upon for an annual gift is what has made this scholarship fund possible," said Salata.

The Alumni Fund Award will provide a $1,000 scholarship to three incoming freshmen who indicate a desire to major in one of the academic programs within the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Applicants must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.40 and an ACT score of 25 or higher. In addition, they must submit one letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor and an essay indicating their intended major, the reason for selecting that major, and information about why they deserve to receive the scholarship.

Recipients will be selected by a scholarship advisory committee appointed annually by the dean of the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

"Our desire is to facilitate the continued growth of this scholarship fund," said Salata. "It would be wonderful to have the means to add additional awards each year.

"Annual giving to the college has a major impact on our students. It is changing lives. We are honored to offer this annual scholarship award to deserving students on behalf of our generous alumni."

For more information about how to support this scholarship and other CHSBS programs, call the development office at (989) 774-1788.

Examples of how CHSBS annual gifts are used:

- Provided 12 scholarships to students studying abroad.
- Provided funding to two Ph.D. candidates to assist with costs of their doctoral dissertation research projects.
- Supported the costs of bringing guest speaker Julia Alvarez, a Dominican-American fiction writer, to campus.
- Supported students in the M.A. in Spanish program who traveled to Chile.
- Supported the costs of bringing guest speaker and CMU ROTC alumnus Matthew Yandura, a correspondence writer for President George W. Bush, to campus to speak to students.
- Supported the free public showings of Japanese films.
- Supported the costs of bringing guest speaker David R. Loy, a Buddhist scholar from Bunkyo University in Chigasaki, Japan, to campus.
- Supported costs of mailing informational letters and new undergraduate student handbooks to all newly signed sociology and anthropology majors.
- Provided three financial awards to outstanding psychology students for: (1) outstanding graduate teaching; (2) outstanding graduate research; and (3) outstanding undergraduate research.

Annual gifts enhance CHSBS departmental activities

In addition to establishing an annual scholarship, the Alumni Fund Award, annual contributions to the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS) are used to fund a variety of activities not supported by tuition revenues or state funding.

Without the generous gifts from our alumni, faculty, staff and friends, CHSBS would be unable to offer many important enrichment opportunities to our students and faculty.

The gifts designated to CHSBS are pooled into one fund, which means all gifts—regardless of size—have an opportunity to directly benefit the students and faculty in our college.

The following list provides examples of some of the ways annual gifts to CHSBS were allocated during the 2003-04 academic year.
CMU ROTC grads served proudly in Iraq

While many newlyweds face the challenges of locating a home, managing finances, and adjusting to life as a married couple, First Lt. Matt and First Lt. Amy (Clark) McKenna faced an even tougher challenge: fighting a war. The couple returned home in August after serving with the Third Infantry Division during the war in Iraq.

Matt and Amy met during their sophomore year at CMU. Both were spending their first year apart from their identical twins. “Matt and I grew closer because we understood how it felt to be left without a ‘best friend,’” said Amy. “We became best friends, and our relationship grew stronger from that point on.”

They graduated in August 2001. Matt majored in recreation parks and leisure administration and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Infantry. Amy majored in sociology and commissioned as a second lieutenant in military intelligence.

Their military commitments made it difficult to plan their wedding. After changing the date several times, they scheduled the wedding for December 27, 2001, but only had one month to plan it.

Since Amy was stationed in Arizona, Matt was stationed in Georgia and the wedding ceremony was to take place in Michigan, the happy couple took a back seat while Amy’s parents and twin sister took charge of most of the details.

“Our wedding was beautiful,” said Amy. “The best one we’ve ever seen. We feel like we can say that because we didn’t plan any of it. We just showed up for it.”

After the wedding, Matt and Amy returned to their bases in Arizona and Georgia. Several months later, both were assigned to their current home base in Fort Stewart, Ga.

The newlyweds’ military obligations again separated them when Matt was deployed to Kuwait in October 2002. Amy was deployed to Kuwait the following January.

Both played vital roles while serving in Kuwait and Iraq. Matt frequently faced direct combat as an infantry platoon leader and took part in the seizure of Baghdad. Amy’s platoon intercepted and jammed enemy communications in Baghdad and provided input for future operations for the Third Infantry Division.

Matt’s most memorable moments are of crossing the Euphrates River and seizing Baghdad two days later. Amy first says that crossing the Iraqi border and occupying Baghdad International Airport are her most memorable moments but quickly switches her response to a more sentimental answer: a surprise visit from Matt.

“I finally got a letter through to Matt telling him where I was stationed,” she said. “I had to pass it to several people before it reached him. Several days later, he walked into the room where I was staying and surprised me. That was one of the happiest moments of my life.”

Matt and Amy returned to the U.S. in August. They modestly say they were only doing their jobs while serving their country during a war, but they admit it was nice to receive heartfelt thanks upon returning home.

“It is an incredible feeling to walk into a building filled with people stomping their feet and cheering and holding up signs for their loved ones,” said Amy. “You feel so proud, relieved, and excited to see your loved ones, but you also feel sad for those left behind.”

“I truly feel it was an honor to serve my country in this capacity,” said Matt. “Few people will ever get a chance to do what we did over there, and it was something that I’m glad I had an opportunity to experience.”

Matt and Amy are now stationed at Fort Stewart, Ga., where he is a scout platoon leader and she is a collection and jamming platoon leader.

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**ROTC Hall of Fame inductees announced**

The Department of Military Science inducted four new members into the CMU ROTC Hall of Fame during its annual military ball and induction ceremony in February.

This year’s inductee’s are Brig. Gen. Roger L. Allen (ROTC cadre 1985-89), Col. (Ret.) Earl B. Burley (’59), Col. (Ret.) Gerald J. Lazzaro (’60), and Col. (Ret.) Nicholas L. Straffon (’68).

A list of all former inductees, including member photos and biographies, is located on the military science department’s Web site at [www.chsbs.cmich.edu/Military_Science](http://www.chsbs.cmich.edu/Military_Science).
Kulhavi honored in naming ceremony

Central Michigan University recognized Board of Trustee member and alumnus John G. Kulhavi, ’65, for his substantial financial contributions to the university by naming a new residence hall in his honor.

The John G. Kulhavi Residence Hall opened to students in August. The official dedication ceremony was held in September.

Kulhavi Hall is part of a $33 million project that added three five-story halls to the four-building high-rise Towers complex. Each residential suite in the new buildings is air-conditioned and features four individual bedrooms, a shared living room, two bathrooms and high-speed Internet connections.

The new facilities also include a student success center, a convenience store, fitness and technology rooms, a renovated residential restaurant, four classrooms and private study areas.

CHSBS 2003 Homecoming Reception

Mild temperatures and the anticipation of reuniting with friends and faculty brought hundreds of alumni to CMU’s 2003 Homecoming celebration in October.

Faculty and staff of the College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHSBS) served free hot dogs, sloppy Joes and other snacks to alumni and their families for two hours before kickoff.

“Homecoming is a wonderful opportunity for alumni to return to campus and reminisce about their experiences at CMU,” said E. Gary Shapiro, dean of the college.

“I look forward to meeting with alumni each year and encourage all of you to join us at our 2004 homecoming festivities.”

Homecoming photos!
Visit our Web site to view photo galleries of past Homecoming celebrations.
www.chsbs.cmich.edu/college/alumni.htm
Marjorie and Hon. Robert P. Griffin

Alumni News

CHSBS alumni news and accomplishments

~ 1930s ~

Allison Green (Life Cert., ’32; BA Edu., History & English, ’35) has many fond memories of his time as a student at Central. From 1929-1931 he played football for coaches Lodwick, A.J. Nowak and G. VanBibber. Other names he remembers from his football days are Kelley, Johnson, Blood, Gabriel, Keloren, Sweeney, Manisto, Janeck and Jack Paul.

The 1931 season opener was against the University of Michigan, coached by Harry Kipke and Bennie Oosterbaan. Central lost 27-0. President Gerald Ford played on U of M’s freshman team that year.

After graduating from CMU, Green was a teacher, coach, principal and superintendent for 15 years. He later served in the Michigan House of Representatives for 14 years—the last two as Speaker of the House—and was the Michigan State Treasurer from 1965-1978.

He would like to hear from anyone who attended Central from 1929-1935. Contact the dean’s office at (989) 774-1788 or CHSBS@cmich.edu to request his contact information.

~ 1940s ~

Hon. Robert P. Griffin (BA English, ’47) received the prestigious Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Servant Award during a formal ceremony in September. The award is presented annually to recognize the extraordinary service of a Michigan attorney holding an elected or appointed office.

Griffin served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 10 years and the U.S. Senate for 12 years. He also held an eight-year term as associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

In 2000 he and his wife, Marjorie (BA, ’44), established the Robert and Marjorie Griffin Endowed Chair in American Government at CMU to help elevate political awareness and activity among students, faculty and citizens.

~ 1950s ~

Mildred (Pawlowski) Kladzyk (BS Social Studies & French, ’41) volunteers two days a week at the Schoolcraft College Learning Assistance Center (since 1990) and one day a week at the Canton Public Library. Her husband, John Kladzyk, passed away in 1987.

~ 1960s ~

Richard D. Burkett (BS Sec. Edu., English, ’68) is the founder and president of Restoration Ministries, a biblical Christian counseling ministry in Rockford, Ill. After graduating from CMU, he received a master's of divinity degree from Temple Baptist Seminary in 1972 and was ordained as a minister in 1973. He has been a pastor at churches in Lynchburg, Va.; Allegan, Mich.; Cherry Hill, N.J.; and Rockford, Ill. Richard and his wife, Darleen, have been married for 35 years and have two grown children, Carrie and Derek.

Richard D. Fauble (BA History, ’69; Spec. in Edu., ’80) retired after 34 years in public education. He taught at Marlette Public Schools and served as an administrator in the following districts: Gillette, Wyo. (assistant high school principal); Valaders, Wisc. (high school principal); Springestead, Fl. (high school principal); and Spring Hill, Fl. (elementary school principal). Most recently he was superintendent for Litchfield Community Schools and Tecumseh Public Schools. He and his wife, Bethany, plan to spend more time with their three sons and daughter-in-laws and 11 grandchildren.

~ 1970s ~

J. Saba Kla-Williams (BA Political Science, ’67) is president and CEO of Renaissance Staffing Services in Rockville, Md. He established the staffing and management services in January 2003. He and his wife, Mildred, celebrated 35 years of marriage on September 7, 2003. They have three children and three grandchildren. Daughter Michelle Kla-Williams married Commander Mark Hellsten, U.S. Navy, on July 19, 2003.

James J. Martin (BA English, ’62) retired in 1998 after teaching English for 35 years at Lakeview High School. He also coached football and softball and was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame, the Lakeview High School Hall of Fame, and the Macomb County Athletic Association Hall of Fame. He received a master’s degree in English literature from the University of Michigan. James and his wife, Joan, have two children and two grandchildren.

Blaine M. Pool (BS Edu., History & Political Science, ’68) retired in December 2001 after working more than 28 years as a personnel specialist for the State of Illinois and more than three years with the U.S. Army, including two at the Pentagon as a Spec. 5 with the assistant secretary of defense for public affairs. He lives in Springfield and spends his winters in Sarasota. He enjoys golf, volunteer work, history and his son and pets.

Lawrence J. Schmitz (MA History, ’66) has been the village manager of Breckenridge, Mich., since March 2000.

Marilyn (Agar) Trainer (BS Edu., Social Studies & English, ’68) retired after 35 years of teaching third and fifth grades at Bea McDonald Elementary in Marlette. During her tenure, she served on the district’s negotiation team and helped establish a sister school in Orbington, Kent, England. She also assisted in securing several grants that benefitted the Marlette schools.

Bonneta (Bensinger) Wright (BS Edu., Social Science, ’61) retired in June 1998 from Ubly Community Schools after teaching for 37 years. She spent 34 years in Ubly and three years in Caro teaching first grade, second grade, and, for the last 25 years, kindergarten.


Shirley (Town) Driver (BA English, ’50) has lived in Oregon for 34 years and has only met one CMU graduate there—KATU Channel 2 anchor Steve Dunn. She has four children and nineteen grandchildren. She is proud to remind CMU football fans that the Oregon Ducks handed the University of Michigan its first loss this season.

~ 1980s ~

Bonnetta (Bensinger) Wright (BA, ’84) is a certified medical transcriptionist and works as a quality assurance editor for a national transcription service. She is treasurer of the Greater Miami Chapter of American Association for Medical Transcription and says she is “too young to think about retiring!”
~ 1970s ~

Jeffrey D. Brasie (BS Edu. History & Journalism, ’70; MA Journalism, ’76) was recently appointed president of Cloverbrook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The organization is headquartered in Cincinnati and has operations in Dayton and Memphis.

Lawrence L. Brenner (BS Sociology, ’75; MSA, ’81) retired from the Michigan Department of State Police with the rank of lieutenant on February 19, 1991. He is in the ninth year as a discipline/security officer. He was in the Michigan State Police with the rank of lieutenant on February 19, 1991. He is in his ninth year as a discipline/security officer.

Diane Kuschel dated schools. Coloma Community and Lincoln Consolidated Schools. She is in her ninth year as a discipline/security officer on February 19, 1991. She is in the ninth year as a discipline/security officer.

Lawrence L. Brenner (BS Sociology, ’75; MSA, ’81) retired from the Michigan Department of State Police with the rank of lieutenant on February 19, 1991. He is in his ninth year as a discipline/security officer at Heritage High School in Saginaw Township. His son, Tony Brenner (BS Sociology: Criminal Justice) graduated from CMU in 1995.

Jeffrey C. Collison (BA Sec. Edu., Social Science, ’78) was elected president of the Saginaw County Bar Association for 2003-2004. He is a partner in the law firm of COLLISON & COLLISON, P.C., in Saginaw.

Darrell K. Emerson (BS Edu., Journalism & History, ’71; MA Journalism, ’76) retired after teaching 32 years in Michigan. Joy (Pippin) Emerson, ’71, worked at the Livonia Church of Christ for 15 years. The Emersons moved to Tennessee to be closer to their three children and three grandchildren living in the South.

Raymond F. Jones (BS Sec. Edu., Political Science, ’73; MA Edu. Admin., ’80) retired July 1, 2003, as assistant principal and athletic director for Carrollton Public Schools after 30 years of service. He also served in Coloma Community and Lincoln Consolidated schools.

~ 1980s ~

Diane Kuschel (BA Sociology & German, ’89) is a filmmaker, artist and university extension educator and program director for the Center on Adolescent Sexuality, Pregnancy and Parenting. She works with issues of violence against adolescent girls, women and children.

Janet (Logan) Okagbue-Reaves (BSW, ’85) received an MSW from Michigan State University in 1996. She is now an interdisciplinary Ph.D. candidate in social work, sociology, and family and child ecology at MSU’s College of Social Sciences. Her dissertation on treatment outcomes for African-American drug addicted women with children is supported by a fellowship from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration and an MSU Competitive Doctoral Enrichment Fellowship. She has worked in transitional housing group homes and in hospital social work, inpatient mental health and geriatric social work settings. Janet now lives near New York City.

~ 1990s ~

Dr. Paul D. Anderson (School Psychology: MA ’96, Specialist ’96, Ph.D. ’98) is a school psychologist for Bloomfield Hills Schools. He passed the national exam in October 2000. He also works part-time at the Davis Counseling Center in Farmington Hills and as a research and development consultant in the psychological/educational publishing industry. He and his wife have a three-year-old daughter named Olivia. Paul would love to hear from past psychology graduate students at panderson@bloomfield.org.

Anthony Grant Austin (BS Psychology & Sociology, ’97) commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force on July 27, 2002. He is stationed at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico and works in security forces. His wife, Alissa (Fox) Austin (BS Journalism: Public Relations, ’99), is taking science courses—necessary to attend medical school—at New Mexico State University.

Frank Bublitz (BSW, ’80) has worked as a consumer ombudsman for Thumb Mental Health Alliance Prepaid Health Plan since September 2002. The organization serves Lapeer, St. Clair and Sanilac counties. His job involves mediating grievances between consumers and staff and reporting consumer feedback to the Prepaid Health Plan board.


Kristen L. Hunter (BS English, ’99) received a juris doctorate degree (cum laude) from Boston University School of Law. She is a judicial law clerk to the Hon. Cornelia G. Kennedy, U.S. District Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit, Detroit.

Jeff Lata (BS Psychology & Family Studies, ’97) is a family therapist for the 18th Judicial Circuit Court of Illinois, which is located west of Chicago. He and his wife, Kari, maintain a private practice specializing in couples therapy.

Website: www.thecouplesclinic.com

Susannah Szeidel (BS Psychology, ’98; MS Physical Therapy, ’01) works for Michigan Spine Care (an affiliate of Genesys Health Systems) in Flint.

Kimberly (Hunter) Wollschlager (BS Psychology, ’96; MS Experimental Psychology, ’98; MS Clinical Psychology, ’01) has been a full-time student at CMU since 1992, earning three consecutive degrees. She is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology and expects to receive her Ph.D. in May 2004. She recently completed a clinical internship at Hawthorne Children’s Psychiatric Hospital in Northville and is now completing a one year fellowship at the Medical College of Toledo. Kimberly married Michael J. Wollschlager, C.P.A. (BS Accounting, ’96) in July of 2000.

~ 2000s ~

Christopher J. Borawski (BA History, ‘01) received an MSI with a specialization in Library and Information Services from the University of Michigan in April of 2003. In November of 2003, he began working as a Librarian I – Juvenile for the Wheaton Regional Library in Wheaton, Md.

Kirsten Simmons (BS Political Science & IPC, ’03) is an issue specialist and assistant special correspondence writer in Gov. Jennifer Granholm’s office.

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