In This Issue
• Seeking Board members
• Events around the United States
• Hit the road with pride

2008 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients

Nominations requested for 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award
Do you know of a Western Michigan University alumnus or alumna who has achieved a high level of success in his or her chosen field? Members of the WMU Alumni Association are encouraged to nominate fellow alumni for a 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award. For a nomination form, contact the WMUAA by phone (269) 387-8777, fax (269) 387-8770 or e-mail, alumni@wmich.edu. You may also visit www.wmich.edu/alumni and click “Awards” to submit or print a nomination form. Please submit the completed form before March 6, 2009, with a copy of the nominee’s resume.

For a list of alumni who have received the award since it was established in 1963, visit www.wmich.edu/alumni and click “Awards.”

The Board of Directors and the staff of the WMU Alumni Association wish all of our members a very happy and healthy holiday season and a wonderful start to the New Year.
Welcome, new WMU Alumni Association members!

The WMU Alumni Association would like to extend a warm welcome to all of its new members! As the Association continues to grow, it is important to acknowledge that our members make everything possible. From scholarships for our students and the recognition of our alumni to the Alumni Admissions Ambassador program and the Bronco-2-Bronco initiative, we could not offer such quality programs and services without our members. Thanks to each and every one of our members who joined the Association for the first time this year and to those of you who continue to renew your membership in the Association as the years progress. You are the WMU Alumni Association.

Admissions Ambassador report

The WMU Alumni Association is once again looking for alumni to volunteer for the Alumni Admissions Ambassador program. This program offers alumni from all over the U.S. an opportunity to play a role in WMU’s enrollment efforts.

This program has been a complete success. Last year alone nearly 600 alumni volunteers sent handwritten postcards to more than 10,000 incoming freshman in an effort to share their enthusiasm, experiences and advice about WMU. Many Alumni Admissions Ambassadors have been asking if these efforts to connect with incoming freshman are worthwhile. The answer is unequivocally, YES!

Recently we asked the entire freshman class to complete a survey on the effectiveness of the program. When asked how they felt about the Alumni Admissions Ambassador program they offered very positive thoughts:

"Thank you for the postcard last winter! It helped me make the decision to come to WMU! I love it here!"

"I was very impressed when I received the postcard and immediately I was satisfied with my decision to attend Western Michigan University."

"Western Michigan’s alumni greatly influenced my decision to come here. They made WMU seem like a wonderful place to be and I am extremely happy with the decision I have made to attend WMU."

"The postcard made me feel like I was already a part of the WMU family."

To become an Alumni Admissions Ambassador, please apply online at www.wmich.edu/alumni and click “Volunteering” then “Alumni Admissions Ambassadors.” Or fill out the form and submit it to us via mail, or fax (269) 387-8770. Thank you for supporting the Western Michigan University Alumni Association!
WMU Week in Detroit a success

WMU took Southeast Michigan by storm in November beginning in Birmingham, Mich. where WMU President John Dunn and all of the University’s academic deans traveled to meet with more than 100 WMU graduates. It was a great opportunity for alumni to learn about WMU’s new and future initiatives. The event in Birmingham was followed up by a number of admissions related events and the week wrapped up at Ford Field in Detroit. Nearly 600 alumni attended the University’s pre-game event and thousands of graduates gathered in the stadium after the event to cheer the Broncos on to victory. They took their eighth win of the season in a 23-17 game against the University of Illinois, Fighting Illini. Mark your calendar for Nov. 7, 2009 when the WMU Broncos will take on the Michigan State University Spartans for a match at Ford Field.

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Achievement Awards

The WMU Alumni Association extends its congratulations to the recipients of the College of Arts and Sciences 2008 Alumni Achievement Awards. The awards are given in recognition of the recipients’ achievements in their fields and for service to their departments. Since 1997 the awards have been given annually to alumni who are recommended to the Dean by their departments.

Africana Studies, Toni Woolfork-Barnes, B.S. ’82, M.A. ’84, EdD ’93; Anthropology, Deb Rotman, M.A. ’95; Chemistry, Marsha Oenick, B.S. ’79; Communication, Patricia A. Dolly, M.A. ’89, EdD ’95; Comparative Religion, Daniel Pellegrom, B.S. ’66; Economics, Happy Siphambe, M.A. ’89; English, Robert W. Bradley, B.A. ’51; Environmental Studies, Derek Humphries, B.S. ’94; Foreign Languages, John Van Gessel, B.A. ’73; Geography, Paul F. Krause, M.A. ’76; Geosciences, Barry C. McBride, M.A. ’88; History, Werner G. Marten, B.A. ’68; Mathematics, Donald G. Southwell, B.A. ’73; Philosophy, Luis Samuel Gonzalez, M.A. ’94; Political Science, John R. Petrock, B.S. ’67; Physics, William Sigourney Hough, B.A. ’48; Psychology, Douglas W. Woods, PhD ’99; School of Public Affairs and Administration, Karen Aldridge-Eason, M.A. ’95; Spanish, Tiffany Moore, B.A. ’96; Statistics, Diana R. Cucos, PhD ’02.

Prospective board members sought

The Board Development Committee of the WMU Alumni Association Board of Directors is asking Association members to recommend prospective board members for the 2009-2012 term. Members of the WMU Alumni Association are encouraged to suggest alumni to serve on the Association’s Board of Directors for a three-year term, beginning July 1, 2009. Potential board members must be members of the WMU Alumni Association, able to attend the fall and spring board meetings in Kalamazoo, and willing to serve on at least one standing committee. Please submit your suggestions no later than Jan. 5, 2009. For more information or to submit a nomination form, visit the WMUAA Web site, www.wmich.edu/alumni and click “About Us” then “Board of Directors” or call (269) 387-8777.

Hit the road with Bronco pride

Whether you live in Michigan or around the United States, license plates are a great way to show off your school spirit and let everyone see that you have “WPRIDE” and you “LUVWMU” by purchasing a WMU plate through Michigan’s University License Plate Program. The state shares this program’s revenue with the University, and in recent years the annual income has averaged approximately $70,000, all of which goes to fund scholarships. Therefore, when you purchase a plate, you are supporting students and demonstrating your Bronco pride.

And, if you don’t live in Michigan but you still want to show your school spirit through your license plate, consider the fact that many states offer drivers the opportunity to personalize their license plates. So you can still show the world that “WMUROX,” whether you live in Michigan or elsewhere.
Refer a Bronco

It’s never too early to identify future Broncos. Refer the best and brightest middle school and high school students in your family, church and community and help shape WMU’s student body of tomorrow. Return this card and we will send the future Bronco information about our great University.

Prospective Bronco’s:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MIDDLE SCHOOL</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL/YEAR OF GRADUATION</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP CODE</th>
<th>MAJOR INTEREST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR NAME</th>
<th>YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE STUDENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE MAIL TO: WMU Alumni Association, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI, 49008-5404.

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Based on an opinion from a “Big Four” CPA firm, effective for payments made after July 1, 2008, membership dues paid to the WMU Alumni Association by annual members of the Association can be considered tax deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes. Annual members are, however, advised to consult with their personal tax advisor to be certain that this applies to their particular circumstances. This opinion does not, however, extend to life membership dues payments as it was determined that the life membership dues payment was likely to be considered not deductible.

Don’t miss out on important communication

Did you know the WMU Alumni Association distributes a monthly electronic newsletter called @WMU? It is e-mailed to more than 33,000 alumni every month and contains the latest news about WMU. If you are not receiving @WMU, we may not have your current e-mail address. In addition to @WMU, we will notify you about upcoming events in your area. Update your records online at www.wmich.edu/alumni.

More than 500 WMU alumni and friends attended the 2008 Onyx Society Scholarship Ball which took place at WMU’s Fetzer Center in October. A portion of the funds raised at the dance are used to fund the Onyx Society Endowment Scholarship.

Tax deductibility of annual membership dues:

Based on an opinion from a “Big Four” CPA firm, effective for payments made after July 1, 2008, membership dues paid to the WMU Alumni Association by annual members of the Association can be considered tax deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes. Annual members are, however, advised to consult with their personal tax advisor to be certain that this applies to their particular circumstances. This opinion does not, however, extend to life membership dues payments as it was determined that the life membership dues payment was likely to be considered not deductible.