

## Getting off on the right foot

Orthotics/prosthetics  
certificate program  
designed to meet  
needs of profession

By Carol Anderson

That baby wearing a hockey-like helmet may not be gearing up for a career with the Red Wings. Rather, the infant may need an orthotic device known as a molding helmet for 3-6 months to correct his or her skull shape.

On the other hand, the loss of a limb due to diabetes, cancer or injury requires a more permanent solution. There are prosthetic legs and arms that help people become more mobile or regain their movement, and EMU is now a player in helping people to achieve those goals.

A new EMU certificate program, which began this past fall, addresses the need for skilled professionals called orthotists and prosthetists.

Orthotists evaluate, design, fabricate and fit braces to help strengthen or support the body or limbs. Prosthetists fit and make artificial limbs for patients with amputations or disabilities.

"We are extremely excited about this pro-



**MAKING STRIDES:** Detroit resident Theodore Caldwell has his prosthetic leg examined by (from left) EMU alum Brian Grose, a certified prosthetist; Doug Briggs, associate professor of HPERD; and Frank Fedel, an EMU graduate assistant. The Division of Sports Medicine within the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (HPERD) offers a 15-month graduate program that produces certified professionals who are trained in the latest advances in orthotics and prosthetics.

gram because it is the only university-affiliated graduate program in orthotics and prosthetics in Michigan," said Douglas Briggs, director of the orthotics and prosthetics program at EMU.

The Division of Sports Medicine within the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance offers a 15-month graduate program geared toward producing certified professionals who are trained in the latest advances in orthotics and prosthetics.

Orthotists, prosthetists and administrative staff from the University of Michigan Orthotics and Prosthetics Center in Ann Arbor provide clinical and teaching support.

Each year in the United States there are 160,000 amputations due to diabetes, Briggs said. However, only 173 graduates enter the field annually, not nearly enough to keep up with the number of amputations needed.

"By 2005, we'll only be able to supply between 56-60 percent of the practitioners needed to meet the needs in the United States," he said.

In the U.S., salaries for practitioners start between \$45,000 - \$60,000, nationwide. There are only eight accredited schools offering a bachelor's or master's degree or a

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## Presidential Scholars learn politics through TV

By Kathleen Shields

Every Wednesday night during the fall semester, a group of students met in Hoyt Conference Center to watch a movie. Although it's not unusual to find a movie series on a college campus, admission to these films was pretty steep.

Freshmen Presidential Scholars gained entrance past the velvet rope if they were willing to spend additional time outside of class reading and writing so they could watch a politically-themed movie a week during class.

In return, the students received dinner, courtesy of their professor, Edward Sidlow, and course credit for Political Science 179, "American Political Institutions Through Film."

The students watched classic movies like "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," and "The Candidate," along with more recent depictions like, "Red, White and Blonde," and "The American



**POLITICAL WINDOW:** Ed Sidlow, professor of political science, watches the movie, "Separate But Equal," with freshmen Presidential Scholar students in his "American Political Institutions Through Film" course.

The intent of the class is to familiarize students with how politics is popularized in American culture through films, so that students can become more informed consumers of politics and the election process in the United States.

President." They also viewed documentaries, including "The Making of the President, 1960," famous for the footage of the Kennedy-Nixon debate that showed a young, handsome and entirely comfortable Kennedy pitted against Nixon's more unattractive and uncomfortable television presence.

"To the extent that presiden-

tial candidates now host "Saturday Night Live," you can't say that politics isn't a part of our mass commercial culture," Sidlow said. "If students can get a sense of how politics is popularized in American culture through films, they can become more informed consumers of politics and more critical consumers of popular culture at the

same time. They can learn a lot from what's mass marketed."

Sidlow said that he had been playing around with the idea for the class format, "a mesh of popular culture, commercial film and political institutions," for years. More recent discussions with Michael Harris, associate

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# Arianna String Quartet returns as part of music lineup

By Summer Wilhelm

Chase away the winter blues during Eastern Michigan University's winter music season. Featuring performances by faculty, students, alumni and guests, the lineup of events offers something for everyone.

"Music department events are among the treasures of this university," said Marsha Rinke, assistant coordinator of music events. "They bring a variety of diverse entertainment and musical experiences to the campus community."

Some of the schedule's highlights include:

■ **Guest Viola Recital**, by Mahoko Eguchi, a member of the Arianna String Quartet during its residency at EMU. Eguchi and Zhihua Tang, piano, present a program of music by Brahms, Shostakovich, Elgar and Tchaikovsky. Eguchi, who currently performs with the National Symphony Orchestra, has earned international acclaim in Japan, France, Italy, Austria and Switzerland. This free performance is sponsored by the Friends of Chamber Music at Pease and is scheduled Sunday, Jan. 25, 4 p.m., in Pease Auditorium.

■ Guest drummer Tim Froncek picks up the beat with EMU's **Jazz Ensemble** Monday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., at Pease Auditorium. Froncek, who currently teaches at Grand Rapids Community College, has played with Woody Herman and the Thundering Herd, Bobby Shaw and others. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.

■ "The Music of Igor Stravinsky" is the theme for the **Endowed Scholarship Benefit Concert** presented



**OLD FAVORITES RETURN:** As part of EMU's winter music schedule, the Arianna String Quartet will make their annual appearance April 18 in Pease Auditorium. Members are (seated) Kurt Baldwin, cello; and (standing, from left) Robert Meuer, viola; Rebecca Rhee, second violin; and John McGrosso, first violin.

by the Festival Wind Orchestra Thursday, Feb. 19, 8 p.m., at Pease Auditorium.

Faculty, students and alumni perform noteworthy chamber works of Igor Stravinsky, including "Concerto for Piano and Winds," featuring pianist Garik Pedersen; "Symphonies of Wind Instruments," conducted by Max Plank; and "Ragtime," conducted by Diane Winder. The event raises money for endowed scholarships. Past schol-

arship recipients will offer brief testimonials, and pledges for scholarship gifts will be solicited.

■ Pianists Garik Pedersen and Anne Beth Gajda present the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual **Child's Play** program, "An Invitation to the Dance," Friday, March 19, 10 a.m.; and Sunday, March 21, 4 p.m., in Pease Auditorium.

The program includes music from Brahms, Bartok, Chopin and Moszkowski. This series of themed concerts is designed for family audiences and is sponsored by Friends of Chamber Music at Pease. Admission is free.

■ The **Wind Symphony**, conducted by Scott Boerma; the **Symphonic Band**, conducted by Mark Waymire; and the **Alumni Band**, along with guest conductor Whitney Prince and guest bassoonist Christine Prince, perform Sunday, April 4, 4 p.m., at Pease Auditorium.

The concert includes works by Arnold, Boerma, Prince, Whitacre, Curnow and Chance. Haab's Restaurant in Ypsilanti donates 10 percent of all receipts on this date to raise funds for EMU bands. This event is free.

■ The **Arianna String Quartet** welcomes new violist Robert Meyer as he joins violinists John McGrosso and Rebecca Rhee, and cellist Kurt Baldwin in a program of works by Haydn, Shostakovich and Beethoven. This free event, sponsored by Friends of Chamber Music at Pease, takes place Sunday, April 18, 4 p.m., in Pease Auditorium.

For information on other winter term music events, call 487-2255.

## EMU receives another \$2.1 million for coatings research

Eastern Michigan University's Coatings Research Institute (CRI) will receive an additional \$2.1 million from the U.S. Department of Defense for the second phase of a project to research and develop coatings that will protect military equipment and vehicles from corrosion, chemical and biological agents.

The CRI is a national center within EMU's College of Technology that partners with gov-

ernment, industry and other universities to conduct basic and applied research on high-tech coating materials. In 2003, the CRI received \$2.1 million in federal funding to partner with the Army Research Laboratory in Aberdeen, Md., and the Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center in Warren, Mich.

"Corrosion is a major contributor to the operation, maintenance and support costs for

Army vehicles, equipment and metallic structures that function outdoors," said Ted Provder, director of the CRI. "It leads to shorter equipment and vehicle service life and presents a readiness issue. Not only do troops need to be ready to go when called, so do vehicles and equipment."

Provder said the first year of funding is being spent on formulating new coatings and running feasibility studies on the mate-

rial. In its second year, the project will move into a demonstration phase, where the coatings will be applied to panels or vehicles and subjected to laboratory tests that mimic hours of wind, water and temperature fluctuations.






"We will be looking to see how the coatings that we are developing will stand up in the field," Provder said. "The success of this phase could lead to a commercial partnership with a

manufacturer to produce coatings for the military."

"Research projects like this are positive from a number of viewpoints," Provder continued. "Not only will the CRI build a skill base and competency in the area of corrosion coatings, but by working side-by-side with army scientists on campus and in army labs, EMU students become the well-trained coatings professionals sought after by industry and government."

### EMU BY THE NUMBERS

Eastern Michigan University has a long history of athletic success in the Mid-American Conference (MAC). EMU teams have won a total of 88 MAC championships in 11 different sports. The top five teams with the most MAC championships are as follows:

	Men's swimming and diving	23
	Men's outdoor track and field	19
	Women's outdoor track and field	11
	Men's cross country	10
	Men's indoor track and field	8

Source: Intercollegiate Athletics

### SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

These people are celebrating service anniversaries with the University in January.

30 years

Mildred Williams (34 years)  
HDC support services-housing

Diana Clark (33 years)  
library-general account

Maria Davis (32 years)  
library-general account

25 years

Jeffrey Curtis (25 years)

grounds, walks and roadways

Scher Leibold (25 years)  
plant support services

20 years

Paul Webb (20 years)  
foreign student services

10 years

John Cooper (10 years)  
communication and theatre arts

Mary Desprez (10 years)  
health services administration

# Kinney's political science interest led to teaching

Rhonda Kinney once dreamed of a career in the courtroom. She eventually realized she'd be happier in the classroom.

So, rather than helping people with legal problems, she is teaching students

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political science. And even though she was named political science department head at Eastern Michigan University more than two years ago, students are still her main concern.

"I try to teach regularly as part of my job because it reminds me why I came here originally," she said.

While attending the University of Iowa, Kinney interned for an attorney, during which time she realized she liked studying the law more than practicing it.

"I originally thought I wanted to be an attorney," said Kinney. "I thought that was an exciting prospect, but it turned out to be an idea based more on movies and television rather than reality."

After earning her bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1988, Kinney decided she wanted to teach. So, she worked as a teaching assistant at the University of Iowa from 1991-93 before pursuing her Ph.D. in political science, which she earned in 1996.

After interviewing for a teaching position at several schools, Kinney arrived at EMU in 1994 as an assistant political science professor.

"At the time, (EMU) seemed like a good fit for me because I really enjoy teaching and I like research. It seemed like a good balance," said Kinney, who was named permanent department head in January 2002. "I think I've ended up where I wanted to be."

Adjusting to a different way of teaching American Government was something Kinney didn't have a problem with. She said having faculty in classrooms with

smaller sections makes it easier to address individual concerns.

"It's one of the best things about the way we teach here," Kinney said. "It makes the class a lot more rewarding."

Eastern Michigan and the University of Iowa have different focuses, Kinney said. Both are legitimate, but choosing one is just a matter of where you belong.

"Here, we have a much clearer vision of ourselves as being student-centered, focusing on undergraduates as well as graduate research," Kinney said. "I remain committed to my research agenda, but I see it as a way of supplementing and enhancing my teaching as well."

As department head of political science, Kinney balances working on curriculum development, advising, research and teaching. Kinney's primary research interest is the U.S. presidency. She's working with her former dissertation adviser on a project about the success of presidents in proposing legislation. The project includes reviewing 4,400 cases of proposed legislation from every president since Dwight D. Eisenhower.

As an elementary student, Kinney met former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, the latter whom she is writing a biographical essay for the "Encyclopedia of the Midwest."

She was a political campaign volunteer in her hometown of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where her interest in politics was first sparked in her family's small home.

"If you want to be a political scientist, Iowa is a great place to grow up," Kinney said. "You get the feeling that you can make a difference and that's something I want to give to my students."

A resident of Ann Arbor, Kinney also has been active in community service, including the United Way and a literacy project called Helping One Student to Succeed (HOST).

Her interests include traveling, spending time with family and friends; reading, especially biographies and travel narratives; and gardening.— *contributed by Sara Witt*



**BALANCED CAREER:** Rhonda Kinney, head of the department of political science, said she first came to EMU because it offered her a balance between teaching and research.

## IN THE BLOOD



**BLOOD TIES:** EMU theatre arts majors Rashon A. Massey (left) and Afton Williams perform a scene from "In the Blood," directed by Wallace Bridges and written by Pulitzer Prize winner Suzan-Lori Parks. The play continues at Sponberg Theatre through Jan. 24. For tickets, call 487-1221.

## Two former EMU employees die

**Donald Magoon**, former professor of business at Eastern Michigan University from 1965-1980, died Dec. 13, 2003, at Aultman Hospital. He was 93.

Magoon earned three degrees from the University of Michigan and served as a captain in the Army Signal Corps during WWII.

Upon retirement from EMU, where he was honored with emeritus status, Magoon began volunteering. He was a member of the Rotary and many charitable organizations. He also enjoyed reading, listening to music and studying minerals and precious stones. Because of that interest, Magoon later became a registered gemologist.

Survivors include: his wife, Martha of North Canton, Ohio; two daughters, Louise Libii of Fort Wayne, Ind., and Carol Feakins of Madison, Wis.; and two brothers, Robert of St. Mary's, Ohio, and Charles of Berkely Springs, W. Va.

**Wayne Morgan**, former manager of Eastern Michigan University's bookstore from 1951-1980, died Dec. 12, 2003. He was 92.

Morgan was born on the family farm in Rubio, Iowa. He attended college at Iowa Wesleyan, John Fletcher College and William Penn University, where he graduated with money earned by work-

ing on ranches in Colorado and Wyoming.

After graduation, he taught school in Iowa and sold instruments in Indiana and Detroit before enlisting and serving in the Army Air Corps during WWII. As part of his training, Morgan was sent to the University of New Hampshire and Yale University to study at the Japanese Language School. He then was sent to the University of Michigan for another year of Japanese.



**Morgan**

Following that, he sold musical instruments for Conn Music and Grinnell Music and then came to Eastern to manage the bookstore. Under his direction, the store expanded and ranked in the top 10 percent of sales in university bookstores.

Survivors include: his wife, Virginia; three sons, Scott of Ann Arbor, David of Franklin, Tenn., and John of Ventura, Calif.; a daughter, Jean Compton of Concord, Mich.; two brothers, Owen of Arizona and Alan of Colorado; one sister, Margaret of Iowa; and six grandchildren.

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graduate certificate in orthotics and prosthetics.

"The University must offer programs where there is a need for jobs," he said of the EMU program that first offered classes during fall 2003.

The EMU program, which Briggs expects to become fully accredited by September 2004, requires 31 hours of coursework, which is offered evenings and on Saturdays.

Applicants for the graduate certificate program must have a

bachelor's degree in a related field, typically mechanical engineering, engineering technology, exercise science or occupational therapy. Class topics offered include: theory of orthotics or prosthetics, biomechanics, mechanics, materials and basic principals of running a business.

Briggs said that Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., is the "blue chipper" of prosthetics because that facility handles amputations resulting from soldiers' injuries in combat and children stepping on land mines.

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provost for academic affairs and fellow political science professor, on freshmen retention and freshmen programming, led to a more serious dialogue about Sidlow's longstanding idea.

"Michael Harris asked me if I could tailor anything I wanted, what would I do?" Sidlow said. "It evolved from there."

Sidlow and Harris determined that such a class format called for a group of students that could be somewhat self-directed in reading text material. That was necessary because the large block of ordinary class time would be needed in order to show two-hour films.

Since Sidlow regularly teaches American Government 113 for honors students, he decided that the Presidential Scholars seemed the perfect population for the film class format.

"Here, we can take a special group and do something a little different," Sidlow said.

As a result of the course, Sidlow hopes that the students become more serious about the political world around them.

"We want them to have a little deeper appreciation and understanding of what they're voting for, why they're voting, or why they're not voting," Sidlow said. "If they choose to opt out, I want that to be an educated choice, not a choice of 'I don't care,' or 'I'm bored.'"

"An argument can be made for rational non-voting and if that's where they choose to go, I want them to go there with the same level of decision-making skills and tools as those who choose to become participatory in the system."



*"I started out in a clerical position but, as time went on, I was given more duties — and I take on as much as I can."*

Sonya Bird McDowell  
Program Assistant  
Center for Organizational  
Risk Reduction

## Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

I first came to EMU as a student, and only because I saw online that EMU had family housing and a children's center. I arrived as a single mother with two young children, and since then my whole world has changed.

The Children's Institute was such a positive and nurturing environment for all of us. I could drop by between classes and visit my children, which really helped with those nagging questions I was asking myself—'Am I spending enough time with them? Am I doing too much?' The support helped all of us so much.

I'm still a student, in the interior design program, but now I'm also a staff member in the Center for Organizational Risk Reduction. I saw the posting for a job here after several semesters of full-time classes, and I

decided to apply.

I started out in a clerical position but, as time went on, I was given more duties — and I take as much on as I can. A lot of the credit goes to Pam Hill, who took me under her wing. She's very supportive of my degree program, plus I'm given every opportunity to advance myself here.

I've just gotten married. So again, as a family, we're going through a lot of changes. It's sometimes crazy, but my children have learned from watching me that we have a lot of good things going for us. I'm proud of that.

When I first came to EMU, I had a very simple resume. You should see it now!

*Sonya Byrd-McDowell*

### EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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