

President's Report  
**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
Board of Regents' Meeting  
November 14, 2006

At the risk of sounding trite, I would begin by mentioning that these are remarkably challenging times in higher education generally and at Eastern Michigan University in particular. We continue to experience the stresses and strains associated with relations and relationships between and among various campus groups. There are many here that remain eager to address the root causes of these challenges and are going about the business of doing so. Until we can move beyond some of the more basic of these challenges, it remains difficult to make substantive progress on the key elements of our institutional vision statement. Indeed, it is nothing less than the full promise of this university that hangs in the balance until these matters get addressed.

The recent election added further complication to the university's progress. Proposal 2 strikes at the very heart of one of this institution's most cherished values. In a statement to the campus community last week, I reaffirmed the university's strong and abiding commitment to diversity and what this portends for all of our people. We are presently studying the impact of this measure on our programs and services. Given that this is so very important to the institution, there will be considerably more communication on this in the days ahead. Under girding all of our study and communication about this matter is the foundational understanding that diversity is as important to the Eastern Michigan University experience as academic facilities, computers and technology, and the very best faculty. Diversity remains one of the institution's most precious elements of distinctiveness.

Don't misunderstand the foregoing as either lament or excuse. We are blessed with these challenges. Without the benefit of such, we might become complacent or worse. These challenges stand to make us better and stronger, not unlike iron in a forge. We will pursue more collaborative approaches to our institutional mission and vision. We will commit to becoming even more diverse. And when we do manage to achieve these outcomes, we will take our rightful place among the best institutions of our character in the entire country. To do anything less would be to squander our precious opportunity, capitulate in the face of sentiments and forces that threaten our moral commitments, and foreclose on the magnificent promise that this university represents.

As we approach the end-of-year holidays, I want to take a moment to express my most genuine appreciation for all of the hardworking people who make Eastern Michigan University an institution of which we can all be proud. Your efforts are the foundation of our success, today and in the future.

As a concrete measure of success, many of you were present when we opened our new Student Center November 6. The 181,000-square-foot facility is the new hub for student services and organizations, along with a food court, bookstore, 24-hour computer lab, student lounges, theatre, art galleries and conference/banquet facilities. This facility is already a spectacular success in its goal of representing and serving students. Since the building was designed and

developed with the involvement of students every step of the way, it can be true to its name and its focus.

The following are among the great things happening at EMU:

A gift of \$200,000 from Phil Jenkins, a philanthropist from Ann Arbor, has funded additional scholarships for graduate students in Eastern Michigan University's College of Education. Jenkins has donated more than \$500,000 to EMU to date. His generosity supports the Jenkins-Tracy Expendable Scholarships in the Leadership and Counseling Department. Jenkins hopes his gift will help address a critical shortage of trained school administrators and counselors in Michigan and the nation. Two years ago, Jenkins' previous donation provided tuition for 16 graduate-level students. This year, full tuition was provided for an additional 20 students in the program, funding almost 500 graduate credit hours in total.

For the third year in a row, readers of the Ann Arbor News have given WEMU the gold award for "Best Radio Station, Music" in their third annual "Best of" readers' survey. WEMU also took the bronze award for "Best Radio Station, Talk."

EMU's College of Business has signed a transfer articulation agreement with Monroe County Community College that provides students with the opportunity to earn an associate of applied science in business management at MCCC, followed by a bachelor of business administration at EMU in any approved business major.

EMU's Apparel, Textiles and Merchandising (ATM) program has earned national accreditation by the Textile Institute, an international organization based in England. EMU's ATM program prepares students for careers in merchandising, marketing, and apparel.

EMU's Coatings Research Institute's (CRI) faculty, staff and students won a record number of awards at the Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology-International Coatings Exposition's annual meeting November 1-3. The A.L. Hendry Award for best student paper was awarded to undergraduate Antonio Saranillo, who received a \$1,000 cash award. EMU's laboratory also receives a \$500 grant. First place in the Roon Award competition for best technical paper was presented to Dr. Theodore Provder, director of the CRI. Students in the CRI won three awards for best posters: Ravi G. Josh won first place; Amit D. Shah won third, and Achin Geol won honorable mention.

Eastern Michigan University was one of approximately 140 colleges and universities recently placed on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This new initiative "recognizes and promotes outstanding community service by institutions of higher education and their students across the country." The program is co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. As the result of this recognition, EMU will be listed on the Corporation for National and Community Service's (CNCS) website, and will also be considered in selecting recipients of future CNCS programs.

The Children's Institute was awarded a Michigan Department of Education Grant for \$165,000 to provide a Full-Day School Readiness Program for At-Risk Four-Year-Olds.

EMU's chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the honorary accounting student organization, earned "Superior Status," the highest level of recognition from the national organization.

This year marks the first time that the Women's and Gender Studies program has been able to hire a tenure-stream faculty member, in this case shared with the Department of Sociology, Criminology and Anthropology. After a national search, we successfully recruited Sôlange Simões to serve on our faculty. A native of Brazil, Dr. Simões brings a wealth of global research, teaching, and policy expertise to the Women's and Gender Studies Program. After earning a Ph.D. in Sociology from the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, she served as a tenured Associate Professor at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. She served as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Michigan in 1993, and later became an adjunct faculty associate at the UM Institute for Social Research's Center for Political Studies, where she coordinated a cross-national research project, the Social Hubble Project. The current wave of that research focuses on poverty and inequality (gender, class, race, social capital, work, division of labor, and political) in Brazil, South Africa and Russia.

At the recent annual meeting of the National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE), EMU's Historic Preservation program is noted as the largest graduate program in the United States. At the same meeting, Professor Ted Ligibel was elected to serve as national President of NCPE, the certifying body for Historic Preservation programs in the United States. Bill Click, a Historic Preservation alumnus, has his own national cable TV show. Bill is the host of "Restoration Realities" on the DIY Network (HGTV series).

In December, Communication and Theatre Arts is producing "Treasure Island," a play done in the style of English Christmas Pantomime, more commonly known as Panto. This style of theater for the family—the transformation of a familiar story into a play full of song and dance and satire and audience participation—is enormously popular in England and Ireland and yet is almost unheard of here in the States. This is the second year CTA is producing a Panto; last year they did "Pinocchio" which Ryan and I also wrote, and which proved remarkably successful. That is the reason CTA wanted to do another. EMU could become nationally recognized as one of the very few places in the United States where people can see this wonderful style of theater every year.

Native American Heritage Month opened with a fall feast November 3, which included the EMU and local native communities. Asiniis (Little Stone Singers), a native drum circle performed during the feast. Asiniis returned to the Student Center for the grand opening, providing a ceremonial blessing for the kiva-inspired room in the Student Center. Dr. Kay McGowan presented a lecture on November 9 entitled "American Indians and the United Nations" and on Thursday, November 16, Michael Jacobs, a Cherokee performing artist will be in the EMU Student Center Auditorium. He artfully blends Native American and American "roots" music, fusing contemporary and traditional sounds to produce a powerful image.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center recently celebrated Out Week. The LGBTRC, Women's Center and Poetry Society welcomed Alix Olson, an internationally touring folk poet and progressive artist-activist. They also hosted a Coming Out to a Safe and Inclusive Campus panel, where faculty, staff and students discussed ways to create a safer and more inclusive environment for all university students. Other highlights included hosting a performance about the life of gay civil rights activist, Bayard Rustin and creating a visual display of 2,400 flags to represent EMU's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students.

On October 14, EMU and the Convocation Center hosted a National Health Care Policy Forum which included Governor Jennifer Granholm, Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, Congressman John Dingell, EMU's own Richard Douglass and other national and local health care experts. The National Health Care Forum represents a collaboration between The National Health Policy Council, The AARP, and the National Coalition on Health Care to create an opportunity for gubernatorial candidates, as well as a panel of health care policy experts to discuss the future of health care in the nation. This was the only such event in Michigan. The presenters of this forum have expressed their interest in EMU as a possible site for a similar event prior to the presidential election in 2008.

The Eastern Michigan Writing Project, a federally-funded education and outreach program designed to improve the teaching of writing in our nation's schools, has developed a new community-based effort called the Family Literacy Initiative. The program offers workshops for parents on how to support their children in writing and workshops for whole families on composing stories as a family. In the last six months, five workshops have reached over 60 parents and families. Combined with "Inkstains," the Youth Writing Camp held at EMU every summer, this program has doubled the Youth and Family Service Programs of the Writing Project to nearly 2,000 contact hours over the past school year.

EMU has recently created the Institute for Language Information and Technology (ILIT), which has become the parent organization of The LINGUIST List. ILIT will continue the work of The LINGUIST List as an online network that is the electronic center of the discipline of linguistics. ILIT also pursues work as a research facility in the forefront of developing language technologies. Currently, ILIT is pursuing research on four projects funded by the National Science Foundation.

On October 24, EMU hosted the 23rd Annual United Nations Day celebration, which included international students, staff and activities within every division.

Noel Levitz consultants have been working with Enrollment Management staff to help recruit our Fall '07 entering class. The first two visits have focused on strengthening our recruitment efforts setting financial aid leveraging goals.

Winter '07 registration began on November 7. During the first week of priority registration, both headcount and credit hours are up by over 7 percent compared to last year.



A new retention program called "Destination Graduation" will be implemented in Winter '07 to educate students on the implications of such actions as course withdrawals and non-attendance. This is a comprehensive support program to help our students stay on track to graduation.

The National Scholarship Service Fair, co-sponsored by Kappa Alpha Phi, EMU Admissions and the National Scholarship Service, was held at the Convocation Center on November 8. Over 700 students attended the fair from 20 different high schools. Additionally, 250-300 parents, counselors, teachers and chaperones were also in attendance. The students had a chance to meet with over 70 different colleges. This is the second year hosting this event, with an attendance increase of 50 percent over last year.

Enrollment Management staff have participated in 11 Ford Company plant closing fairs and are scheduled to attend eight more. The goal of these visits is to encourage the affected employees to enroll at Eastern.

## **STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Economics students Gary Campbell, Monica Long, and Patricia Cox placed second in the regional College Fed Challenge at the Chicago Federal Reserve October 31. This was EMU's first time in the competition, at which 13 universities competed. Students were tested on their knowledge of how the Federal Reserve creates policy that fosters a strong and stable economy, and their recommendations regarding the Fed Funds rate. Dr. David Crary, associate professor of economics, is their adviser. Schools competing were Northwestern, which placed first; EMU, Ball State, Central Michigan, Indiana/Purdue, Marquette, Michigan State, University of Chicago, University of Iowa, Notre Dame, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, University of Wisconsin-Parkside and Western Illinois University.

Richard Brophy, a presidential scholar who is a leader on the EMU Forensic Team, has been elected by his national peers to serve as the student representative on the National Forensic Association's executive council. This group decides policy and procedures for the entire intercollegiate forensic community (students/faculty/coaches). This NFA executive council is made up of individuals, primarily directors of forensics, at some of the most distinguished universities in the nation.

The Eastern Michigan Forensics team, which finished 5th in the nation last year, continues its legacy of success this season, receiving many first place rankings. Junior Richard Brophy won Persuasive Speaking at Ball State University. Senior Chris Griesinger won Informative Speaking at Berry College, Bowling Green, and Illinois State, as well as winning Interpretation of Prose and After Dinner Speaking at Berry College. Novice Daniella Kalota won Interpretation of Prose at Ball State University, and senior Kyle Zrenchik won Interpretation of Poetry at Bowling Green, Berry College, and Bradley University. The team has also placed in the top seven at every tournament this season including second in team sweepstakes at Bowling Green State University, as well as Ball State University, and third at Bradley University and Berry College.

Three Biology department students presented at the Arachnology Meetings in June, and Todd Stoltey, a graduate student in Biology, received second place for his presentation at this meeting.

Professor Allen Kurta and three of his students recently presented their data at the North American Bat meetings in October.

A group of students joined Professor David Kass in the publication of several papers (all of the coauthors on these papers were undergraduates): Tecle E., Zielinski L., Kass D.H. "Recent integrations of mammalian Hmg retropseudogene." Kass D.H., Jamison N., Mayberry M.M., and Tecle E. "Identification of a unique Alu-based polymorphism and its use in human population studies."

The CloseUp Theatre Troupe celebrated 10 years of challenging EMU's campus to think, laugh, question and feel with a reunion show on November 10. The show, simply titled "Evolution," showcased scenes from the past 10 years, updated versions of past scenes, as well as new scenes that highlight CloseUP's look toward the future.

The Eastern Echo recently won 18 awards in Division I of the 2005-2006 Michigan Collegiate Press Association competition. The Echo scooped up awards in pretty much every category, from News to Marketing Campaign. Ad designer Lisa Dubicki won four awards, and Mike Greenlee won two awards. Other staff won awards a second or third year in a row, including Drew Dorian, Nathan Bomey, Brandon Neel, Andrew Potter and Hannah Esper. Two newcomers, including current EIC Amanda Hamon and Aaron Deakins, won as well.

EMU senior Jon Fenlon caught the home run ball that launched the Detroit Tigers into the World Series. Fenlon caught the home run ball that was hit by Magglio Ordoñez that clinched the Tigers' first World Series appearance in 23 years. Ordoñez wants the ball to go to the Hall of Fame, but Fenlon has not decided if he is going to give it back.

## **FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Seven Eastern Michigan University professors were honored at EMU's 16th Annual Teaching Excellence Awards Saturday, Oct. 21. The awards ceremony honors faculty who have distinguished themselves in the classroom. Faculty members, nominated by former students, current students or other faculty from each of the five colleges, were honored. The award recipients are:

- Henry B. Aldridge, professor, communications and theatre arts.
- Patricia Williams-Boyd, professor, teacher education.
- Ronald F. Fulkert, associate professor, business and technology education.
- Heather L.S. Holmes, associate professor, chemistry.
- Steve W. Moyer, professor, health promotion and human performance.
- Barbara Waddington Ross, associate professor, accounting and finance.
- Margrit V. Zinggeler, associate professor, foreign language and bilingual studies.

Ted Ligibel, historic preservation, has been elected President of the National Council for Preservation Education. It is the first time someone from Michigan has been head of this organization.

Allen Kurta, biology, has received a \$113,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to study the evening bat. The species is native to the South, and the DNR says it has rarely been seen in Michigan. Kurta and graduate students discovered the colony of about 40 bats near Palmyra in 2004. The two-year project seeks to answer questions such as what the species needs to survive in Michigan and how it is faring on the northern edge of its range.

Joseph Csicsila, associate professor of English language and literature, has the unique opportunity to bring American humorist Mark Twain 'back to life,' thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for Humanities. Csicsila, along with co-directors Lawrence Berkove, from the University of Michigan; and Barbara Snedecor, of Elmira College, will conduct the seminar, "Mark Twain in His Age," at Twain's home in Elmira, N.Y., July 9-August 4, 2007.

Susan Gregory, associate professor of human and environmental consumer resources, has been honored with the Stephenson W. Fletcher Award for outstanding achievement in the field of hospitality and tourism education. The International Council of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education presented Gregory with the award for her innovative ideas, methods and programs for advanced teachings.

Shel Levine was selected by the American College of Sports Medicine to travel to Taiwan for a certification workshop and examination preparation session. Professor Levine was also invited to present a paper on "Diabetes and cardiac rehabilitation: A pharmacologic update" at this year's meeting of the American College of Sport Medicine.

Alice Jo Rainville (Health Sciences - Dietetics) recently received a grant from the Food Service Management Institute. Professor Rainville also was invited to speak on school nutrition programs at the eighth annual HealthFOCUS Conference at Wayne State University.

Betsy Francis was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Quinnipiac University's Occupational Therapy Alumni and Program Celebration in February 2007, where she will discuss evidence-based practice. Francis is also the 2007 Conference Chair for the Society for the Study of Occupation: USA.

George Liepa had a paper entitled "Coronary heart disease: How do the benefits of Omega-3 Fatty Acids compare to those of aspirin, alcohol/red wine, and statin drugs?" accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Oil Chemists Society.

David Thomas had a paper entitled "The effect of a supervised walking program on wandering among residents with dementia" accepted for publication in the journal Activities, Adaptation, and Aging.

Subhas Ghosh, coordinator of the Apparel, Textiles and Merchandising program, received a research grant of \$250,000 from the Signal Medical Corporation to develop a new generation of bulletproof vest. Ghosh works closely with researchers at the Bolton University in Manchester, England. This research is an example of how local industry, an international university and EMU can work together to serve a global need to provide a lightweight personal safety product that will protect its wearer.

At the 2006 Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology-International Coatings Exposition (FSCT-ICE) annual meeting, Wade Shen and others received a first place prize for their poster "Comparison of Film Properties Obtained From Internally and Externally Crosslinked Latexes."

## **ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Maj. Gerald M. Bloomfield II ('88) died recently while serving his third tour of duty in Iraq. Bloomfield joined the ROTC while a student at Eastern Michigan University because military service gave him the opportunity to live out his love for education and the armed forces. The Ypsilanti native, who volunteered for a third tour in Iraq because "it was worth fighting for," was killed November 1 during combat action near Ramadi, Iraq, when his helicopter apparently was shot down. Bloomfield was with the Marine Light-Attack Helicopter Squadron 369, Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendleton, California. Bloomfield was born in Detroit, graduated from Fowlerville High School in 1984 and from Eastern Michigan in 1988. He also earned a master's degree in electrical engineering. He also is survived by wife, Julie, and 13-year-old son Ryan.

Korey Mahoney ('05) completed the level one tournament at the PGA Tour Q-School November 3 at Daytona Valley Country Club in Dayton, Nevada. Mahoney fired a nine-under 279 (72-74-67-66), to finish 12th at the qualifier. Mahoney tied for the low 36-hole total with his rounds of 67 and 66. Mahoney holds several records at Eastern Michigan, including the top-three, low single-round records with a 64 and two rounds of 65. Mahoney has completed the pre-stage and the first stage at Q-School, and will now compete in the second stage on November 15. If he completes the second stage, he will move on to the third stage. If he completes the third stage, Mahoney will qualify for his PGA Tour Card. The final stage will be November 29-December 4 at PGA West in La Quinta, Calif.

State Rep. John Stakoe was one of the few Republicans to win reelection in Michigan November 7. Stakoe beat challenger Mark Venie with 67 percent of the vote in District 44. After earning a degree in secondary education from Eastern Michigan University, he began a career in law enforcement. As a Milford police officer, he returned to EMU to earn a master's degree in criminology. He began his political career in 1996, as Highland Township Supervisor. As a state representative, Stakoe is currently Assistant Majority Floor Leader.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ATHLETICS**

The Eastern Michigan University women's gymnastics team led the nation in the total number of scholar-athletes honored for the 2005-06 season. The National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches/Women (NACGC/W) released its 2005-06 recognitions for academic teams and scholar athletes, and head coach Steve Wilce's Eagles had a total of 12 gymnasts on the scholar-athlete list, the most of any school. Eastern placed 12th as a team with a 3.44 team GPA. A total of 406 gymnasts from 65 universities were named on the scholar-athlete team and a record 61 gymnasts recorded perfect 4.00 GPAs. EMU gymnasts Rebecca Fuss and Michelle Wasilewski both posted 4.00 GPAs.



For the second straight season, the Eastern Michigan University men's cross country team has won the Mid-American Conference title. Senior Corey Nowitzke continued his march into the EMU record books, winning the individual championship with a time of 26:52.60. Nowitzke's finish was roughly 28 seconds better than the second place finisher, teammate Josh Perrin (27:20.95). The Eagles rounded out the top three with sophomore David Brent, who posted a time of 27:56.05. First-team All-MAC honors went to Nowitzke, Perrin, Brent and Karanja while second-team members were Naughton, Vollmar and Baldwin. EMU head coach John Goodridge earned his second consecutive MAC Coach of the Year Award.

Eastern Michigan University's women's basketball team has been picked to repeat as the Mid-American Conference's West Division champions by the voting members of the MAC News Media Association. EMU received 21 of 41 first-place votes in garnering 214 total points.

## **EVENTS**

As we head into the holiday season, please mark your calendars for one of the highlights of the year, Commencement, Sunday, December 17, at 2 p.m. Prior to that time, EMU hosts the annual Presidential Scholarship Competition December 2 and 9, along with numerous events at the Student Center, including this Friday's official dedication. Please join us for these important University activities. Visit EMU's home page for details.

Before I conclude today, I would like to take a moment to publicly express my gratitude to Regent Joe Antonini for his distinguished service as an EMU Regent. Joe has contributed his time, wisdom, experience and heart to the betterment of this institution for the past 10 years. Particularly in the area of our financial stewardship, we have many reasons to be grateful to Joe, who has served as chair of the Finance and Audit committee. Joe has spent untold hours advocating for the highest standards of excellence in all our endeavors. Since Joe's term on the Board comes to a close at the end of December, this is his final Board meeting. Please join us across the hall for a reception immediately following today's meeting. Once again, Joe, on behalf of all of us, we offer you our heartfelt thanks for your outstanding service, and we wish you the best in all that you do.

Madam Chair, that concludes my report.