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Eastern Michigan University

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Alumni Action

NEWS

June 1992

Alumni and Students Honored at Dinner Dance

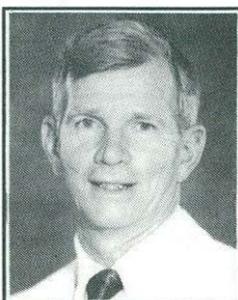
Outstanding alumni and students were recognized May 9 at the 31st Annual Alumni Awards Dinner Dance, sponsored by the EMU Alumni Association and the Alumni Relations Office.

More than 150 alumni, friends of the University, and EMU faculty, staff, and students attended the elegant dinner dance at the Radisson on the Lake in Ypsilanti. Alumni Association president John Fovenesi ('73) welcomed all in attendance at the awards ceremony held prior to dinner. Other distinguished guest speakers included Dr. William Shelton, EMU president, and John Fountain, who served as the master of ceremonies. A special addition to the awards program this year was the presentation of College of Business Recognition Awards and Accomplished Student Awards.

This year's alumni honorees included: Thomas Fagan, '55, and Thomas Fleming, '68 (Distinguished Alumnus Awards); Sheryl James, '73 (Alumna Achievement Award); Steven Magee, '80, '82, and Daniel McClory, '81, '82 (Outstanding Young Alumnus Awards); Darrell Cooper, and James Webb, '71, '76 (Dr. John Porter Distinguished Service Awards).

Thomas Fagan is a recipient of the 1992 Distinguished Alumnus Award.

He earned his bachelor's in education from Eastern Michigan University in 1955 and his master's



Tom Fagan

in education from the University of Michigan in 1958.

At Eastern he was a three-year starting defensive back and was named to the all-conference team in 1952. He was named Regional Coach of the Year seven times ('72, '74, '76, '78, '80, '81, and '82). In 1986 he received the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association James Crowley Award, the highest honor a Michigan high school football coach can receive. He was also inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame (1984) and the Michigan Coaches Association Hall of Fame (1987).

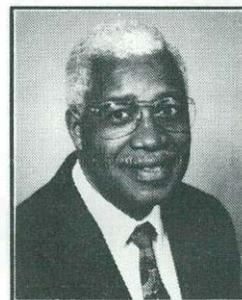
Fagan has taught and coached at Ypsilanti (1979-83), Huron (1974-79), Tecumseh (1962-73), Clinton (1957-62), and Roosevelt (1957) high schools. He currently is the president and owner of Coach's Carpet Care and Catastrophe Cleaning in Ypsilanti.

He founded and chairs the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame Banquet. He served on the board of directors of the Washtenaw-Livingston Private Industry Council (1988-89) and volunteers for the Red Cross.

Fagan has also been named the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of

Commerce Small Business Person of the Year (1986), earned the Washtenaw Council on Alcoholism Distinguished Service Award (1990), and the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors Pride of Ownership Award (1990).

Thomas Fleming is also a recipient of the 1992 Distinguished



Tom Fleming

Alumnus Award. He earned his master of arts, regular education certificate, and special education endorsement from Eastern Michigan University in 1968. He also holds a bachelor of religious education degree from Detroit Bible College.

Fleming's outstanding teaching career has earned him the 1991-92 National Teacher of the Year Award. He says the most rewarding part of teaching is "the hope I feel when students begin to change during my work with them. I find the under-achieving student to be the source of exciting discoveries and continual personal challenge. Even though my students have many problems, each one deserves a 'day in the sun.' When they experience such a day, without threats of failure or punishment or embarrassment, it may be the very first day of their lives in which they have really

Continued on page 2

The President's Pen

Recognizing the outstanding achievements of our alumni is a goal of the Alumni Association. Currently we have 85,000 alumni and have recognized the outstanding accomplishments of more than 150 of them. On May 9, we recognized the accomplishments of seven individuals at our traditional awards ceremony. In the future, the Alumni Association hopes to expand opportunities to identify and recognize outstanding alumni accomplishments by working with the deans, department heads, and alumni chapters. This year I am pleased to announce that the College of Business departments of Accounting, Finance, and ORIS identified additional outstanding alumni along with the Intercollegiate Athletics, Provost's, and Alumni offices.

Eastern is truly becoming a national and international institution. Award recipients came back to campus from as far away as Florida and Italy.

I would like to share with you some thoughts from Jim Webb, who received the 1992 John Porter Distinguished Alumnus Award.

"This is truly a school for middle America. It is a university that provides free tutoring for residence hall students to ensure their success. Eastern also sponsors the College Days Program. Staff and faculty members work with five urban school districts focusing on under-represented students—Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans. Working with the school districts, they identify 8th grade students who are "at risk" of failing to complete twelve years of formal education. They bring these students to Eastern's campus during the summer and work to instill them with pride, self-confidence, and discipline. The program started out five years ago with 657 students. So far, 451 of them have

graduated from high school. That's a 71 percent success rate. There are currently 2,400 students involved in this program and, if the success rate continues, 1,700 students will graduate from high school and, hopefully, become productive members of society.

Eastern also operates the Summer Incentive Program, where 50 inner-city students who have been denied admission to Eastern Michigan University because of poor academic performance are identified. They are put through a seven-and-a-half-week academic boot camp, during which time they take two regular Eastern Michigan University classes and are counseled in study techniques and discipline. The retention rate for students in that program through graduation from EMU is 80 percent.

Eastern also administers the Wade McCree Incentive Scholarship Program, which also identifies 8th grade students at risk of dropping out before graduation. If they maintain a 3.0 grade point average throughout high school, secure a 21 on the ACT, and maintain a 2.5 GPA in college, they will be guaranteed a full tuition scholarship to Eastern Michigan University. Each year, 30 of these scholarships are awarded. This is the largest number of such scholarships given by any college in Michigan.

This university helps those who want to help themselves: those first generation college graduates who will go out into the world and, borrowing a line from John F. Kennedy, "ask not what their country can do for them, but rather what they can do for themselves."

John Fovenesi, '73
Alumni Association President

Dinner Dance

Continued from page 1

wanted to have an education."

He began teaching English and social studies at Maxey Boys Training School in Whitmore Lake. From there he went on to serve as an educational consultant for the U.S. Government Compensatory Education Program in Chicago. Currently he is the social studies teacher and coordinator of the Washtenaw County Juvenile Detention School. He has maintained his ties with Eastern through student teaching supervision and lecturing.

Sheryl James received her bachelor's degree from Eastern



Sheryl James

Michigan University in 1973. She has brought the highest honor in her profession to herself and her alma mater when she received

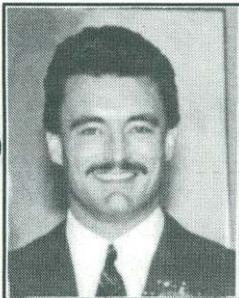
Pulitzer Prize in feature writing in 1991 for her series of articles titled "A Gift Abandoned," about a woman who abandoned her child. She has also been named as a finalist for a second Pulitzer Prize.

James is a reporter with the *St. Petersburg Times* in Florida. Previously she worked at the *Greensboro News and Record* in North Carolina.

Although she earned a teaching certificate from EMU in 1974, James has never worked as a classroom teacher. However, she still has been able to put her teaching skills to use by working with high school students through the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, an organization associated with the *St. Petersburg Times*.

Steven Magee, a recipient of the 1992 Young Alumnus Award, earned his bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1980 and his master's in 1982.

Magee began his career as a senior planner for the city of Pom-



Steve Magee

and is responsible for 180 employees and a \$20 million annual budget.

His professional affiliations include membership in the American Institute of Certified Planners, the International City Management Association, the American Society for Public Administration, and the Florida City and County Managers Association.

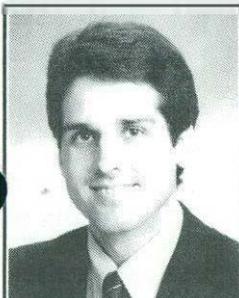
Magee worked extensively to develop the S.O.S. Children's Village. Currently under construction, it will be the first "family placement" foster home project in the United States, providing housing for underprivileged children in a family setting. This project was recently cited by President Bush as a pilot for future American efforts to support dislocated children.

He is the curriculum adviser to the master of public administration program at Nova University and is an adjunct professor in the urban and regional planning master's program at Florida Atlantic University.

He has served as chairman of the Broward County League of Cities Technical Advisory Committee and was a member of the State Legislative Blue Ribbon Panel on Higher Education Facility Planning.

Daniel J. McClory earned his bachelor's degree in 1981 and his master's in 1982 from Eastern Michigan University.

His majors were English and language and international trade respectively.



Dan McClory

pano Beach, Florida, and was promoted to Coconut Creek city planner in 1983. He is currently the city manager of Coconut Creek

While at Eastern, McClory received the Campus Leader Award and was named a Barton Scholar. In addition to his exemplary academic career, he was a seven-time varsity letter-winner in track and cross country. He was also captain of the cross country team and was named to the All Mid-American Conference squad. He worked with EMU Vice President Laurence N. Smith in 1981 to found the University Ambassador Society, which won an American Council on Education National Award that same year.

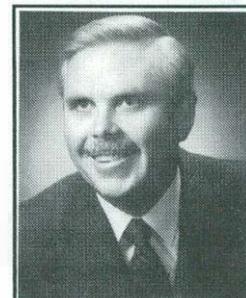
McClory is the founder and managing director of Industrial Technologies Italia srl of Teramo, Italy, and chairman of ITI USA, Inc., its California-based subsidiary. ITI is an international software manufacturing services operation, concentrating on floppy diskette duplication, assembly, packaging, distribution, and fulfillment.

His achievements in the corporate world as well as his outstanding contributions to Eastern make him a well deserving recipient of 1992's Young Alumnus Award.

Darrell Cooper is one of the recipients of the 1992 Distinguished Service Award.

Cooper worked to establish the Gary Owen College of Business Building by chairing the College of Business Development Board as well as the College of Business capital campaign. He is a trustee of the EMU Foundation, and his personal generosity to the University has earned him membership in the Regents' Council.

His professional career began at General Motors as a supervisor in the Materials Handling Department. Since then he has worked as a plastic production supervisor for Allen Industries, a plastic consultant, regional sales manager for Cosden



Darrell Cooper

Oil and Chemical Company, executive vice president for Fernco Joint Sealer Company, and is now the president and owner of Fernco Connectors, Ltd., of Sarnia, Ontario.

He is a member of the Society of Plastic Engineers, the American Society of Sanitary Engineers, the Southern Building Code Congress, and the Plumbing Inspectors Association of Michigan.

Cooper is a member of the City of Davison Economic Development Corporation, a patron member of Boy Scouts of America, and a member of the Davison-Richfield Area Business and Industrial Association Development Committee. In addition, he is an honorary member of the board of directors for Youth Home Inc. in Little Rock, Arkansas, and is an Arkansas Ambassador of Goodwill. He is also a member of the Sports Car Club of America and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

Continued on page 4

Alumni Action News is published monthly by the Eastern Michigan University Alumni Association.

Next Board Meeting:
Saturday, September 26
9:00 a.m.
205 Welch Hall

Alumni Association Officers

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- William Mays, Jr., '54
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- Joan Colladay, '72
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- Pam Cardell,
Student Assistant
- Sue McKenzie,
Special Projects

Dinner Dance

Continued from page 3

tion.

James Webb, president and CEO of Frank B. Hall and Company, is the recipient of a 1992 Distinguished Service Award. Frank B. Hall is a multi-national insurance brokers specializing in insurance and risk management needs. Webb is responsible for all operations of Michigan corporations, with total premium sales of \$130 million.

Webb is the volunteer chairman of the Campaign for Champions, a fund-raising effort to benefit intercollegiate athletics.

He received a bachelor of business administration degree from Eastern in 1971 and a master of business administration in 1976, also from Eastern.

Webb began his career as a corporate insurance analyst at MASCO Corporation. From there he went to the BUDD Company as assistant risk manager. He then moved to the Republic Steel Corporation as a supervisor for insurance



Jim Webb

Where to Find a Job Right Now

If you're a new graduate and you need a job right now, what's your best strategy? The Career Services Center at EMU reports that the most successful job hunters approach their search as an ongoing systematic process. Candidates must utilize as many avenues as necessary to locate a position. Avenues to consider are networking, targeted mailings, cold calls, public and private agencies, government jobs, professional journals, and local and regional job fairs.

Networking is a highly effective strategy. There's some truth to the old adage, "It's not what you know, it's who you know." Employers often prefer to hire someone they know or who is referred by someone else that employer knows and respects. Starting with people you know, be-

gin a file of contacts. Hand out your resume to all those contacts.

"Recruiting Trends 1991-92," a national survey, found the job outlook is much better in the southeast, southwest, and north central areas of the United States than in other regions. Job prospects are more competitive in the south central region and most difficult in the northeast and northwest.

The most important quality a job hunter can have is diligence and energy. Employers want the most competent, energetic, and enthusiastic candidates. Career strategists advise candidates to build momentum, particularly in a time of recession. Candidates who draw on sources of energy and determination will stand out from the crowd.

services and later as assistant manager. At Frank B. Hall he has been vice president and senior vice president for casualty operations. He was promoted to president and chief executive officer in 1988.

Webb says, "I look at Eastern as a school that's not for elitists . . . It's a school that practices great ethical

behavior, I think, in attracting minority students and making sure that they succeed and graduate. It's a school for middle America. These are kids who come out with good solid educations and roll up their sleeves and know how to work ten or eleven or twelve hours a day in order to succeed."

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