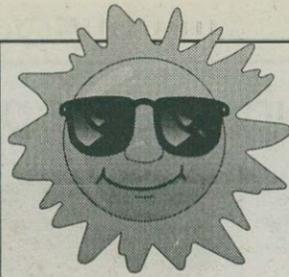




HONORING WOODS

Ron Woods, professor of African American Studies, is one of eight people being honored by the EMU Alumni Association May 9. PAGE 2



FOCUS ON SUMMER

This is the last weekly issue of FOCUS EMU. FOCUS will be published twice a month during the spring and summer, beginning with the May 12 issue.

FOCUS EMU

Volume 45
Number 36

April 28, 1998

News for
Eastern Michigan University
Faculty and Staff

Barriers to Learning starts new teams

A new group of Barriers to Learning (BTL) teams will soon begin work on several different projects that affect students' experiences at the University.

"President Shelton asked the advisory committee to identify new team projects and we found a variety of areas where we felt there may be room for improvement," said BTL Coordinator Lee Reed.

The topics are purposely general and the teams will decide where there are areas in need of improvement. According to Reed, "It is each team's responsibility to determine whether there are aspects of the larger issue that they can themselves work to improve."

The teams are currently being formed and will work with the assistance of one of the BTL facilitators.

The advisory committee has also been busy making information available to others via the Internet. A website located on the University's home page contains information about the past BTL team projects and current activities. Visitors to the site can read

reports from past BTL team efforts, look up current members of the advisory committee, and read about the team problem-solving model. The Barriers website is located at: <http://www.emich.edu/public/btl>.

The success of BTL is also being disseminated to other universities.

President Shelton, Lee Reed, and former BTL Coordinator Mary Hermon presented a workshop at the March 1998 National Conference of the American Association of Higher Education in Atlanta.

"People were extremely interested in President Shelton's idea of improving services to students and removing unnecessary barriers to their academic success," said Sherry Sayles, an advisory committee member who attended the conference. "As a longtime member of the advisory committee, it is exciting to see the Barriers to Learning Initiative enter its fourth year still improving the experience for students at the University."

BARRIERS PROJECTS

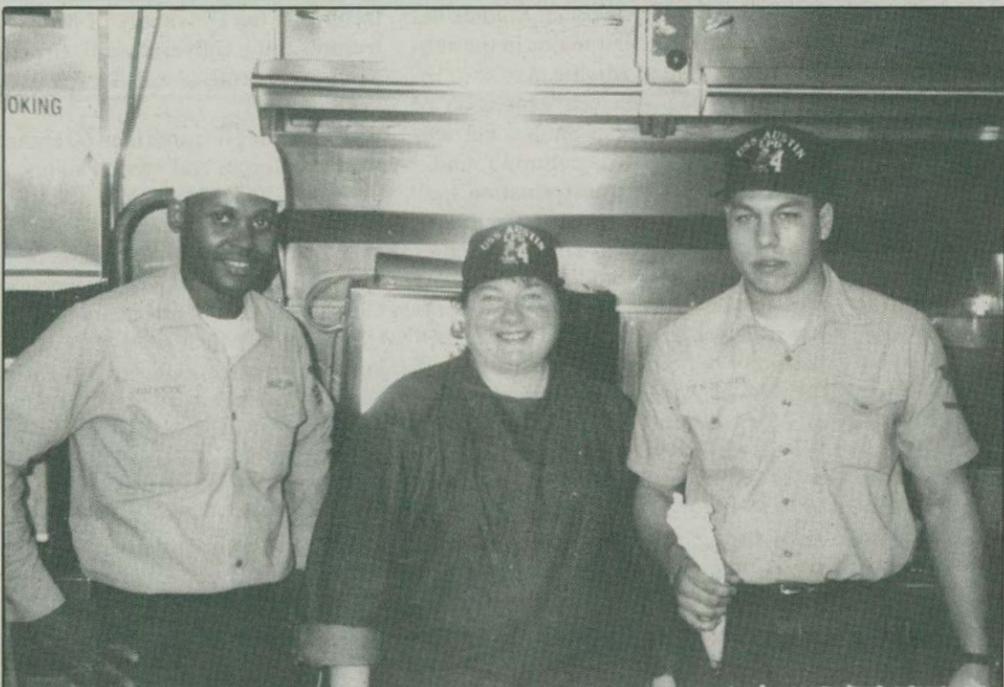
1998 Barriers Projects

*Tentative project list

- Automated Phone Attendant System
- Student Athletes
- Mandatory Health Insurance for Foreign Students
- Correspondence to Students
- Work-Study/Regular Student Employees
- Graduation Audits
- Employee Job Application Form

Anyone interested in serving on a team should call the Barriers office at 487-6890 or send an e-mail indicating their interest to Jo Ellen Roe, the BTL staff person in President Shelton's office. Suggestions for other projects are welcome.

IN THE NAVY



ONE OF THE CREW: Marilyn Szymanski, executive chef for Eastern Michigan University, spent four days aboard an active Navy ship with a crew of 900 sailors and Marines.

Szymanski gets taste of Navy aboard *USS Austin*

By Ward Mullens

As the executive chef for Eastern Michigan University, Marilyn Szymanski is used to cooking for an army of college students.

Recently she got to cook for the Navy and Marines.

As part of the Adopt-A-Ship Program of the American Culinary Federation, Szymanski lived aboard the *USS Austin*, an amphibious assault ship with a crew of 900 sailors and Marines.

"It was a great learning experience for me," said Szymanski, who spent four days aboard the ship.

"I was the first woman to ever stay on the ship," she said. "Everyone was very respectful of me." Szymanski said that the *Austin* is the oldest ship still in active service.

While she learned a lot about Navy life, Szymanski was on board to help

teach the ship's cooks new ways to decorate cakes.

"Since the personnel are at sea so much, it's hard for them to take classes," Szymanski said. "They want to know what is going on in the industry."

Szymanski said cake decorating is important because cakes are made for special occasions and anytime someone reenlists.

Szymanski also helped prepare the ship's Black History Month dinner and hosted Secretary of Education Richard Riley for a special event.

"I worked right along with them," she said of the 23-member food service staff aboard the *Austin*.

Szymanski started her days early to help prepare the day's three meals.

"I got up at 4 a.m. Inspection was at

Please see NAVY, PAGE 4

Conference highlights human side of dementia

Anne Robinson, coordinator of the Alzheimer Education Program at EMU, is quick to point out that "sufferer," "victim" and "patient" are not terms that should be used in describing those with the disease.

They are people.

Humanizing dementia and Alzheimer's is the goal of the Third Annual Edna Gates Conference on Caring for People with Dementia. The title for the April 29 conference at the Eagle Crest Conference Center is "See Me...I am a Person...Not a Disease."

"We're trying to sensitize people to the psychological experience of dementia," said Robinson. "Each person with dementia is a unique individual with a life story."

The conference, which is from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., has reached its registration capacity, but EMU faculty who want to attend are welcome. The cost is \$35. Call 487-2335.

The conference is being sponsored by the Eastern Michigan Gerontology Program. Elizabeth Schuster, director of the EMU Gerontology Program, is the conference organizer. Gwynn Gardner, field work coordinator for EMU's Alzheimer Education Program, is the conference coordinator.

The conference is the result of EMU partnering with the Michigan Department of Community Health, the advocacy group Citizens for Better Care, the Alzheimer's Association, Michigan's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the licensing divisions of adult foster care homes and nursing homes.

Robinson said that more than 400

Please see DEMENTIA, PAGE 4



AUSTIN POWER: The *USS Austin* is an amphibious assault ship. It is one of the oldest ships still in active service.

Ohren helps EMU students reap benefits of Ypsilanti budget project

By Monica Wroblewski

The idea began in the classroom when Ed Koryzno, city manager of Ypsilanti, came to speak to Joseph Ohren's budgeting class.

In his lecture, Koryzno expressed his desire to get the citizens of Ypsilanti involved in the budgeting process.

That sparked an idea from Ohren that led to a proposal entitled "Ypsilanti Budget Project: Securing Citizen Involvement."

"I worked with Dr. Michael Harris, assistant professor of political science, and Luke Hennings, a graduate assistant in the political science department, to develop this proposal. We submitted the proposal to Koryzno and then he submitted it to the Ypsilanti City Council," said Ohren, professor of political science. "It was approved."

In November 1997, Harris and Hennings randomly selected 160 names from a list of voters provided by the Ypsilanti City Clerk's Office. Invitations were then sent requesting participation in a focus group that would discuss three "policy challenges."

"The topics of discussion were: should financing for solid waste services be shifted from property tax levy to a user fee?; should local funds be allocated to street repairs and improvements?; and should the city rely to a greater extent on user fees in its budget?" said Ohren.

Prior to the focus groups, a summary about the fiscal health of Ypsilanti was mailed to the participants. During January 1998, four separate focus groups were organized at the office of EMU's Institute for Community and Regional Development (ICARD).

"Twenty-three citizens attended the four focus group



MONEY MEN: Dr. Joe Ohren, right, talks with graduate assistant Luke Hennings about the Ypsilanti budget project on which they both worked. The project was designed to increase citizen involvement in the city's budget process.

meetings. As one would expect from a process like this, the group reflected a cross-section of politically involved citizens. We had a great mix of people," said Ohren.

The outcome of the project was a report that was submitted to the Ypsilanti City Council in February.

"This was the final push. Luke (Hennings) transcribed all the focus group meeting tapes and rewrote them into a narrative form," said Ohren. "The City of Ypsilanti was extremely pleased with the outcome of the project."

This kind of work is not new to Ohren. In his role as the coordinator of public service programs at ICARD, he has worked with approximately 30 local communities in the areas of goal-setting, staff training and other

projects.

Ohren recently returned from a sabbatical leave. During the leave he worked with the Michigan Municipal League. The project involved writing a book on the history of the league, but another opportunity that Ohren seized was organizing a statewide conference on the future of local government in Michigan. The conference will be held in Midland, mid-1999.

"The work I do in the community comes right back into the classroom. For example, there has not been a day gone by this term where I haven't talked about the budget project in my undergraduate budget class," said Ohren. "Also, this work opens doors for our students to find internships and entry-level jobs."

Alumni Association to honor eight for accomplishments, May 9

Six Eastern Michigan alumni and two friends of the University will be honored by the Alumni Association at its 37th Annual Alumni Awards dinner, May 9.

"It's a very special event for us," said Vicki Mushisky, director of alumni relations for Eastern Michigan. "A sense of pride for EMU really comes through in their speeches."

The event is at the Ypsilanti Marriott at the Eagle Crest Conference Center. There is a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. Dinner and the award presentations are at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$45. For reservations, call 487-0250.

Being honored are three educators, four leaders from the business community and a local radio personality.

One of the educators being honored is Ron Woods, professor of African American Studies. Woods, along with WXYT radio host Jimmy Barrett, will be given the Dr. John Porter Distinguished Service Award.

EMU alumni receiving awards are Barbara Forker ('42), Anthony Snoddy ('73), Greg Smith ('77), Steven Wild ('74, '83), Andrea Oquist ('93) and Melvin Smith ('94).



Woods

Forker and Snoddy will be given Distinguished Alumni Awards. Greg Smith and Wild will receive the Alumni Achievement Awards. Melvin Smith and Oquist are the recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumni Awards.

"They all have displayed leadership in their fields," Mushisky said.

The Alumni Board makes the selections.

Woods, who has been at EMU since 1976, has been instrumental in the development of the discipline of African American Studies at Eastern Michigan. During his tenure, enrollment in the

program quintupled and faculty increased five-fold. When Woods led the program to departmental status in 1990, it gave EMU the distinction of having the first African American Studies department and the first major in the subject in the state of Michigan.

Woods has overseen expansion of the African American Studies curriculum into such areas as cultural foundations, health, social transformation, law, gender, public policy, and Caribbean and African societies. The inclusion of African American Studies courses as a part of the basic studies requirements has provided all EMU students the opportunity to become knowledgeable of the African American experience.

After completing his education, Woods worked with the Legal Aid Society of Cincinnati as a staff attorney from 1974 to 1976.

A strong desire to teach brought Woods to Eastern Michigan. He served as director of African American Studies

from 1978-90; head of the Department of African American Studies from 1990-96; and returned to the faculty as professor in 1997. He has served as adjunct lecturer at the University of Michigan, lecturer at the University of Detroit and as visiting professor at Syracuse University.

His service on more than 60 committees, task forces and special ad hoc initiatives at EMU have helped shape the character of the University.

Woods earned his bachelor of arts degree from Wittenburg University in 1969, his master of arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1971, and his juris doctorate from University of Michigan Law School in 1974. He resides in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The Dr. John W. Porter Distinguished Service Award was established in 1987 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to EMU and its alumni association. Porter is a former president of Eastern Michigan.

SECRETARIES DAY

HAVING FUN: Sharon Crutchfield, sociology, anthropology and criminology, and Paula Misselhorn, admissions, share a laugh during the Secretaries Day Breakfast, April 22. More than 165 University clericals and secretaries attended the event, hosted by President William E. Shelton. This was the second year for the event.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
The Learning Edge

FOCUS EMU is published weekly from September to April and biweekly from May to August for Eastern Michigan University faculty and staff. Please send all submissions to: Editor, *Focus EMU*, Office of Public Information, 18 Welch Hall. Please direct questions to 487-4400.

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Printed on recycled paper by the Tecumseh Herald, Tecumseh, Mich.

After soaring with Eagles, Batch ready to roar with NFL's Lions

By Ward Mullens

Just in case you were on a different planet this week, Eastern Michigan quarterback Charlie Batch was drafted by the Detroit Lions in the NFL Draft.

Batch was the 60th player taken overall, making him the second highest drafted football player in the history of Eastern Michigan University. Ron Johnson was the 22nd draft choice (Pittsburgh Steelers) in the first round of the 1977 draft.

Batch was the third quarterback taken in the draft and was chosen ahead of the highly touted Brian Griese of the University of Michigan. Peyton Manning of Tennessee and Ryan Leaf of Washing-

ton State were the top two quarterbacks drafted. Manning and Leaf were the top two draft picks overall, going first and second respectively.

"I think it's fantastic!" said Rick Rasnick, head football coach at EMU. "He's (Batch) done a great job here. They (the Lions) knew exactly what they wanted and found it in Batch."

"He was too good to pass up," Ron Hughes, the Lions vice president of player personnel, told the *Ann Arbor News*.

The Lions traded their third-, fifth-, and sixth-round picks to the Miami Dolphins to get the spot to draft Batch.

Batch is excited about his prospects

but seems to be keeping things in perspective.

"I know, and everybody else knows, that Scott Mitchell is the starter. My job is to compete for the backup job," said Batch, who has started a graduate program at Eastern.

Mitchell is in the second year of a four-year, \$2 million contract that included an \$8 million signing bonus.

The Lions have two other veteran quarterbacks under contract. Frank Reich, last year's backup, and Jim Miller, who signed as a free agent in March. Reich, a former backup to Jim Kelly of the Buffalo Bills, has played 13 seasons. Miller was with Pittsburgh for three seasons, starting in one game. Miller also has been with Jacksonville and Atlanta.

Batch started in all 11 games for EMU in 1997 and has single-handedly rewritten the EMU record books. Batch set 16 EMU records during the 1997 season, in addition to Mid American Conference records for total offensive yards in a season (3,390) and passing yards in a season (3,280).

Despite the crowd of signal callers, Lions head coach Bobby Ross has said

EMU IN THE DRAFT

The football program at Eastern Michigan football has produced 10 NFL players, including Charlie Batch. They are:

- 1987 **Gary Patton**, 7th Round
New York Jets
- 1977 **Ron Johnson**, 1st Round
Pittsburgh Steelers
- 1973 **Bill Dulac**, 7th Round
Los Angeles Rams
- 1973 **Ron Fernandes**, 10th Rnd.
Miami Dolphins
- 1972 **Will Foster**, 7th Round
Philadelphia Eagles
- Larry Ratcliff**, 8th Round
Philadelphia Eagles
- 1971 **Dave Pureifory**, 6th Round
Green Bay Packers
- Al Clark**, 3rd Round
Detroit Lions
- 1969 **Bob Lints**, 3rd Round
Green Bay Packers

publicly that Batch will get some work, especially during the exhibition season.

"We're going to give him equal time and let's see where this thing develops," Ross told the *Ann Arbor News*.

WRITER'S BLOCK

Here are a few remarks from the professional pundits about the Detroit Lions selection of Eastern Michigan University quarterback Charlie Batch:

"Regardless of what happens, the Lions can't lose. That doesn't mean Batch will definitely be a good player, but it means Ross did everything he could to keep the quarterback position strong."

— Tom Kowalski, *Ann Arbor News*

"A major reach" — ESPN draft analyst Mel Kiper

CAMPUS CAPSULES

Get fit

Spring into a new semester of total fitness and aerobics at the Rec/IM. Classes begin Monday, May 11 and run through June 26. The program fee is \$40 and allows you to attend all classes. You must be a current Rec/IM member or currently enrolled student to participate in the program. The Rec/IM also is offering personal training sessions. For information, call Barb Figurski at 487-1338.

Walk the dog

EMU is organizing a team of walkers for the Humane Society Walkathon, May 2, beginning at 9 a.m. Walker pledge forms are available from Linda Woodland, 505 Owen; Ron Collins, 106 Welch; Paul Kuwik, 122 Sill; economics, 703 Pray-Harrod; and chemistry, 225 Mark-Jefferson. Call 487-2021 for details.

Making Michigan safer

Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) has announced a new program to reduce preventable injuries called "Safe Michigan." BCBS members will get a 20 percent discount on safety products when they show their BCBS ID cards at any of the 65 MC Sports and Dunham's Sports stores in Michigan. The discount includes: protective helmets for biking, rollerblading and skate boarding; sport safety glasses; protective padding; athletic braces and support; and life jackets and vests.

BCBS members can also get free brochures about tips on preventing injuries; helmet safety, car seat safety, home fire safety, and smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. To get free brochures or order discounted safety equipment, call 1-888-SAFET22.

Mental Health Parity Act

The Mental Health Parity Act went into effect Jan. 1. This is a federal law which prohibits group health plans from imposing annual or lifetime dollar limits on mental health benefits that are less than the dollar limits that apply to medical surgical benefits. The law does not affect plans that impose day and visit limits or member co-payments on mental health services (HMOs). The law impacts mental health benefits only, such as the University's Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan. Substance abuse benefits are not affected.

This act allows the University to evaluate the cost impact of removing the dollar maximums and determine what changes, if any, will be implemented. As soon as that is determined, all BCBS participants will be notified.

Anyone who has experienced claim rejections should call BCBS at 1-800-240-7451.

'Building Learning Together'

The Office of Alumni Relations is sponsoring a community service project called "Building Learning Together" (BLT). BLT is collecting new children's books through May 31. Drop-off sites include Alumni Relations (13 Welch), the McKenny Union information desk, and the Rec/IM. Call 487-0250 for details.

Spring tuition waiver deadline

The last day for Spring Term Tuition Waiver applications for staff, faculty and spouse/dependents is May 18, 1998. Please submit waivers to 317 King Hall. Call 487-3195.

Media workshop

University Marketing and Communications will present a media workshop for faculty and staff, 9 a.m.-noon, Friday, May 1, 201 Welch. The seminar, "Working with Media," will offer tips for dealing with media; ways of identifying newsworthy stories; and hands-on practice for television interviews. To register, call 487-4400.

Got an idea?

Campus Life Programs is looking for suggestions for performers/speakers/concerts for the 1998-99 academic year. Send ideas to 11 McKenny Union or call 487-3045.



Road thrill

SIGN OF THE TIMES: There are several new billboards visible on area roadways. This billboard is on the west bound side of I-94, just past the Willow Run exit. Another sign is on southbound side of US-23 near the Thompson Rd. exit in Flint.

Credit Union hours change

The Eastern Michigan Credit Union will be open from 1-5 p.m., Thursday, May 14.

Eagle Crest Grille open

The Eagle Crest Grille at Eagle Crest is open for the season. Spring hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. EMU students and staff with ID will receive a 20 percent discount. Call 487-0600.

Kevin Williams Memorial Golf Outing set

The first Kevin Williams Memorial Golf Outing, sponsored by the Eastern Michigan University Foundation, is scheduled for Friday, May 22, with registration and lunch at 11 a.m. at the Eagle Crest Golf Club. The scramble tournament will raise funds for the Kevin A. Williams Athletic Endowment. Call 487-0252 for reservations.

Correction

In the article about David Thomas and therapeutic recreation (April 21), Nikki Cummins was identified as an Eastern Michigan student. She is not. Cummins is the team leader of therapeutic recreation, physical medicine and rehabilitation for St. Joe's Hospital. In the same story Dr. David Thomas was identified as a new assistant professor in the Department of Human, Environmental and Consumer Resources. He is actually in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Submissions for Campus Capsules should be sent to the Office of Public Information, 18 Welch Hall. Call 487-4400.

NAVY, from page 1

7:30," she said. "We probably fed 450 a meal."

There were a few adjustments to be made between her kitchen at EMU and the galley of the *Austin*.

"Everything is very compact and very organized (in their kitchen)," Szymanski said. "They don't have a lot of space."

Even in the dining area.

"They have to eat and get out because the area is so small. They eat in one hour increments," she said.

Another difference is that the meals are served in portions as opposed to all-

you-can eat, Szymanski said.

"They (the cooks) get \$5.25 to feed one crew member for a day," she said.

One thing that impressed Szymanski about the kitchen process on the *Austin* was that every cook put their name on what they made.

And how were Szymanski's creations received?

"I had a lot of positive feedback," she said.

Szymanski may have been the only woman on board, but she was not the only person from Eastern Michigan.

"The navigation officer was from EMU," she said. And the head cook on the *Austin* had attended the same high

school in Detroit as Szymanski.

Although the *Austin* never left the port of Norfolk, Va., during Szymanski's tour of duty, she said she did get a taste of Navy life.

"The night before the ships were to pull out, the whole town was out. The next day it was a ghost town. It was sad. I think it's very hard on the families for them to be gone for six months at a time," Szymanski said.

The *Austin* will be leaving for its six-month tour sometime this week.

"It was a wonderful experience. It's one of those things that you can read about but not truly experience until you do it," Szymanski said.

DEMENTIA, from page 1

professionals have registered for the conference and that is a "record turn out." The conference is for nurses, in-service educators, directors of special care units, mental health clinicians, nursing home administrators, activities staff and foster care home owners.

Participants will learn innovative caring techniques for people with dementia and brain damage, Robinson said.

Conference attendees also will get a first-hand account of a disease which affects one in 10 people over 65 and half of those 85 and older.

Byron Groesbeck, former associate dean of the graduate school at the University of Michigan, will discuss living with Alzheimer's with Lisa Lambert of the South Central Michigan Alzheimer's Association.

The keynote speaker is Anna Ortigara, director of residential care ser-

vices at Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center in Chicago. Her presentation is entitled "Building Effective Staff Teams and Keeping Them."

The conference is the result of an endowment by the family of Robert and Edna Gates. Edna Gates had a career as a secretary for 30 years as a civilian employee of the federal government. Alzheimer's began to manifest itself when she was in her 70s. She died in 1995.

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

Since I began working here in 1974, I've loved getting up in the morning and coming in to work. I love everybody I work with, including the students in our office. The kids are active—something I can relate to from having six of my own. They're like an extended family of mine. They're considerate and caring, and I care about what happens to them.

Our office is so important. Telephone operators are probably the first people callers talk to at EMU, so we need to have a good crew. We have to make a very good first impression and know how to handle every call. As far as I'm concerned, we *are* Eastern Michigan.

I love what I'm doing so much, I don't want to do anything else. There are so many benefits to this job. You can always help someone; you just put yourself in their shoes and try to understand their predicament.

Three of my kids graduated from EMU, one works here and another worked here until she married and moved away. We're a real EMU family.

My husband says I'll probably never retire from Eastern Michigan. He's probably right.



Carol Frisbie,
Telephone Operator,
EMU Telephone Services

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

The Learning Edge™

JOBLINE

www.emich.edu/public/hr/employ.htm

To be considered for vacant positions, all Promotional Openings Application Forms **MUST BE SUBMITTED** directly to the Compensation/Employment Services Office and received no later than 4:45 p.m., Monday, May 4. **NOTE: LATE OR INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

The Compensation/Employment Services Office announces the following vacancies.

Vacancy information may also be obtained by calling our 24-hour Jobs Line at 487-0016. Compensation/Employment Services office hours are Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL

(Minimum Bi-Weekly Salary)

CSEN9816 CS-04 \$742.35
Secretary II, Learning Center.

FOOD SERVICE/MAINTENANCE

(Minimum Hourly Salary)

FMSA9814 FM-14 \$8.34
Facilities Maintenance Worker, McKenny Union/Campus Life. 50% appointment.

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL

(Minimum Bi-Weekly Salary)

PTSA9822 PT-08 \$1,209.55
Coordinator of Multicultural Center, Multicultural Center.

ADMINISTRATIVE/PROFESSIONAL

(Minimum Semi-Monthly Salary)

APBF9801 AP-13 \$2,503.38
University Controller, Controller's Office.

FACULTY

F9853 Instructor/Assistant Professor, Librarian Public Services, Learning Resources and Technologies. Academic Year.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

RESEARCH

www.emich.edu/public/ord

The National Institutes of Health is inviting applications for the new clinical research curriculum award to stimulate the inclusion of high-quality, multi-disciplinary didactic training as part of the career development of clinical investigators.

The applicant institution must have a highly trained faculty that is active in clinical research, as evidenced by current research support, and have the commitment and capability to provide the core curriculum to individuals in the development of a clinical research career. Funding is set at \$4 million in fiscal 1999 for about 20 awards. Awards generally will average \$200,000 a year. The deadlines are Sept. 23 for optional letters of intent and Oct. 21 for applications.

The Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service is inviting applications for administrative projects in sport fish and wildlife restoration. Focus areas are outreach, education management, administration and research in areas related to fish and wildlife and responsible use of resources. The deadline is June 1, 1998.

If you would like to receive guidelines for these programs, please respond via E-mail, or call Wendy Winslow at 487-3090. For further information regarding submission and program requirements contact your college's ORD program officer.