

Dean search continues with Medeiros

By Ward Mullens

The second candidate in the University's search for a dean of graduate studies and research visited campus Feb. 18.

Dr. Denis M. Medeiros, who is currently on sabbatical leave at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, spoke at an open forum at the Halle Library Auditorium sponsored by the graduate council.

The final candidate is Robert Holkeboer, interim dean of graduate studies and research at EMU. His open forum is scheduled for March 8, 3-4:30 p.m. in the Halle Library Auditorium.

Medeiros said he is interested in the job because of the combination of graduate studies and research under the same umbrella.

"This position sounded like it was created for me," said Medeiros, who served as the associate dean of research at the College of Human Ecology at Ohio State University from 1993-1997. "I have lived that link since I walked out of graduate school."

Medeiros earned his master's degree in physiology from Illinois State University in 1976 and his Ph.D. in nutrition from

Clemson University in 1981.

In his academic travels he has been an assistant professor at Mississippi State and the University of Wyoming and has been an associate professor and full professor at Ohio State.

Responsibilities in administrative positions he has held include: managing the overall operation of the college, including personnel, budget (\$10 million), academic programs, alumni and external relations development; obtaining \$150,000 in new monies for instruction, secured a 100 percent increase in the budget for the Experiment Station and raised \$500,000 in development funds; created a research office for the College of Human Ecology and managed grants for the College research agenda.

Among his selected accomplishments he lists:

- increasing the College of Human Ecology grants from \$100,000 a year to \$1 million a year; awarded \$3 million in one year
- author or co-author of more than 90 articles for scientific publications; presented numerous scientific conferences and
- member of a planning committee that just implemented a new Ph.D. program.

Shelton announces creation of new post

Eastern Michigan University President William E. Shelton has announced the creation of a new Cabinet level position that will be responsible for various public relations activities at the University.

"During the last 10 years, we have addressed several significant organizational needs of the University," Shelton said. "I think it is a logical progression now to focus on the public relations dimension of the University. We live in a rapidly changing environment, and our institution is changing to meet the needs of that environment. It is incumbent upon us to provide greater focus on presenting the strengths and new initiatives of the University to its various constituencies. Eastern is a solid institution of high learning offering quality educational experiences at a reasonable cost. We need a systematic, pro-active approach to telling the University's story."

This new position will report directly to the Office of the President and will serve as a member of the President's Cabinet along with the vice presidents, the chief budget officer, the general counsel and the executive associate to the president. Responsibilities

"I think it is a logical progression now to focus on the public relations dimension of the University."

- President Shelton

are expected to include Public Information, University Marketing, University Publications and video production. The position will be filled as soon as possible. A search advisory committee will be established to seek candidates with the creativity, vision, energy, public relations experience at the administrative level and communication skills necessary to be effective in an environment where technological change is commonplace.

"The marketplace is much more competitive than it has ever been in terms of attracting students and employees to the University," Shelton said. "In responding to this environment, we need an administrative unit dedicated to the effective communication of Eastern's messages."

National speakers highlight March events

Two nationally known speakers will continue the Sesquicentennial celebration in March when award-winning columnist Mitch Albom shares "lessons for living" March 10 and activist Bell Hooks highlights activities March 12 during the return of EMU's popular "Girls and Women in Conversation."

Albom, an Emmy award-winning broadcaster, newspaper columnist and best-selling author, will present "Tuesdays with Morrie: Lessons for Living" 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 10. The Spectrum Lecture is free and open to the public in Pease Auditorium.

Albom was a Brandeis University student in the 1970s when he met Morrie Schwartz, a sociology professor. Some 16 years later, Schwartz's battle with Lou Gehrig's disease created a final lesson for Albom -- a powerful, unforgettable

class. Their weekly talks on what really matters in life became Albom's newest book.

Call Campus Life Programs at 487-3045.

On Friday, March 12, the collaborative spirit born of last year's highly successful



Bell Hooks

"Girls and Women in Conversation" returns to EMU with two special events. Hooks, an internationally known African American cultural critic, will speak on the political and social challenges

facing girls and women in the 21st century. Her 7 p.m. presentation, which is free and open to the public, will be in Bowen Field House.

Participants will then move to the Rec/Im Building at 8:45 p.m. for workshops focused on "real life" issues concerning girls and women. There is a \$25 fee for the Rec/Im portion of the event. Girls should be in the eighth grade or older to participate.

To register, call 487-6964.

Rich shares storytelling style with Japanese students

By Eleanor Loikits

Dr. Anita Rich has plenty of stories to tell about her first trip abroad to Japan. Of course, the reason she went to Japan was to tell stories.

Rich, assistant professor in communication and theatre arts at EMU since 1996, was the invited guest artist/critic at the Third Oral Communication Festival in Japan in December. The festival was sponsored by the Japanese Association College of English Teachers (JACET) and was simulcast to three different Japanese universities. Rich was the guest of Michiyo Hirano, assistant professor, department of English Language Teaching at Ibaraki University, about two hours north of Tokyo.

"I have never been abroad before, so this was very exciting for me," said Rich. She presented a five-hour workshop on Playback Theatre, a form of storytelling that

involves the audience as well as actors on stage.

Playback Theatre involves audience members telling their own stories. Performers then act out the story in front of the rest of the audience.

"In Playback Theatre we learn to celebrate individuals in the community, it's almost therapeutic," said Rich. "The first time I did Playback I didn't fully understand why we were doing it but when I saw the 'teller' in tears I realized how big an impact it was and what a service it was."

According to Rich, the Japanese, who are traditionally private people, were willing to share their stories for the interactive performances.

"It was a treat to see Anita work with my students. She created a

comfortable environment which allowed us to break down barriers and try this new form of theater," said Hirano.

Rich said she discovered interactive theater at Southwest Missouri State University, while an assistant

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Rich will be a "conductor" for the Spotlight Performance Series on Playback Theatre. Performances are Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 25 at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., in the Forensics Room, 125 Quirk Theatre. A donation of \$2 is requested.



RICH EXPERIENCE: EMU's Anita Rich (center) poses with Japanese students she met on her recent trip. Rich was the invited guest artist at the Third Oral Communication Festival.

submitted photo

professor in the department of theatre and dance. "I've always been interested in performance for social issues. SMSU hosted a festival called 'Performance for Social Well-being' where I was exposed to three forms of interactive theater," said Rich.

Rich said she hopes to return to Japan in a couple of years and is interested in helping to establish a student exchange program with Ibaraki.

"The experience was sagoi, (awesome, great in Japanese). It was very invigorating to know that the training and expertise you develop does connect and is insightful to others," Rich said. "And all the belief in the power of performance is true. It was touching that they were willing to trust me with their experiences, and when I leave there, it is not over. What I learned there, I bring back."

Oestrike's legacy at EMU shines on, off diamond

By Ward Mullens

Ron Oestrike is known as "Oek (pronounced Oak)" and in his 34 years at Eastern Michigan University he has put down a lot of roots.

Oestrike, who recently retired from EMU, was honored during half-time of the Feb. 17 men's basketball game for his service to the University as a teacher and a coach. He was given a standing ovation by the crowd.

"I have a great love for this University," Oestrike said. "You're not going to get rid of me," he said with a smile.

"Oestrike and his teams rewrote the record book in baseball at EMU," said John Fountain, a radio broadcaster and former EMU vice president. "He symbolizes everything that is good about teaching and coaching."

"He has taken Eastern Michigan from an 8-9 record to one of the top 75 or 100 clubs in the nation," said current EMU head

baseball coach Roger Coryell, who played for Oestrike and was his assistant coach. "He has been more successful by getting his players to graduate."

Coryell said it would be "hard to say" where EMU's baseball program might be had not Oestrike decided to coach.

When he was asked to become an assistant coach at EMU in 1965, Oestrike said he had to think about the offer.

"It was a pay cut," said Oestrike, who was a high school football coach in Trenton at the time.

Oestrike took the pay cut, in part because the coach he had played for at Eastern, Bill Crouch, was the one asking him to coach. Five years later Oestrike was the head coach and his team finished the season with a 41-11 record, winning the NAIA Small College National Championship.

Eastern's baseball team gained even more national prominence in 1976 by reaching the College World Series championship game in

COACHES BOX

◆ Leads EMU baseball team to 1970 NAIA Small College National Championship.

◆ Takes EMU to the College World Series Championship game in 1976.

◆ The Sporting News Coach of the Year in 1976

◆ Inducted into EMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1979

◆ Inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame 1990.



Ron Oestrike

Omaha.

Oestrike, who amassed a 658-525-8 record in his 24 years as a coach at Eastern Michigan, said he has many fond memories of his time at EMU.

"The '75-'76 teams in Omaha and the naming of the stadium rank up there," said Oestrike, for whom the University named its baseball stadium in 1987.

"One of the old stories about him was that he was legendary for 'you played no

matter what the weather," said Jim Streeter, EMU's sports information director. Streeter said that it was a common practice to "burn" a baseball field in order to dry it out so that it would be suitable for play. Oestrike got into trouble a few times with opposing teams because he would "burn" their fields if the opponent didn't take care of it.

"He would get up early, go out, buy the gas and burn the field himself," Streeter said.

Streeter said that Oestrike

also was known for his work ethic.

"If you did the right things and worked hard you would always play," said Streeter. "He was notorious for getting rid of players who had the talent but didn't want to work."

"Oek" was a success because of the success his players went on to accomplish off the field, Fountain said. Among former players of Oestrike's are Terry Collins, current manager of the Anaheim Angels in Major League Baseball; Bob Welch, former pitcher for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Rocky Roe, an active major league umpire.

Streeter said that Oestrike was about tradition when it came to playing baseball.

"If you were supposed to play three games, you played three games. If you had a man on, you bunted," said Streeter.

Oestrike said he will miss being on the field.

"I will miss the competition and especially the relationship with the kids," he added.

New insurance benefit can help with medical emergencies far from home

By Ward Mullens

Whether you are a faculty member working abroad or a staff member on a weekend trip to the Upper Peninsula, there is a new insurance benefit that could help you in an emergency.

The service is called Assist America and is part of the University's new insurance, UNUM, which became effective August 1998.

"I want to stress that this is an enhancement to the benefits package," said Jeanette Hassan, director of the EMU's benefits program. "One reason we went with this company was that we felt this was an important addition to our plan."

Assist America is a medical emergency assistance company that offers medical assistance to employees and their dependents traveling 100 miles or more from home or to a foreign country. The benefit is provided free to full-time employees.

The plan covers a wide variety of services and is available whether you are traveling on business or pleasure. The only exclusion to the plan is that it does not cover a spouse traveling on business.

Services provided by the plan include: medical consultation and evaluation, medical referrals and medical monitoring, hospital admission guaran-

tees, emergency message transmission, care of minor children left unattended due to medical incident, dispatch of medication, legal and interpreter referrals and return of mortal remains.

Assist America also provides pre-departure information about necessary vaccinations, visa/passport requirements and traveler advisories, assistance with lost travel documents and luggage, and assistance with returning a vehicle or emergency international funds transfers.

Hassan said that the new service also provides for the transport of a family member or a friend to be with you if you are hospitalized for more than seven days.

"They will not pay your medical bills, but if you don't know where to turn or what to do they will help you," Hassan said. "Any resource we can give employees to deal with a travel emergency is well worth it. I hope no one ever uses this but it is worthwhile to have."

Hassan said employees will be receiving an Assist America card in March that will have the phone number to call. The number is 1.800.872.1414 in the United States and 301.656.4152 outside the U.S.

Assessment Expo set for March 12

From portfolios to field camps in Colorado to student surveys, there are many different methods being used to assess program effectiveness at Eastern Michigan University.

All of them will be on display March 12 as part of EMU's fourth annual Assessment Expo. The Expo features multimedia presentations, poster displays and representatives from all of the University's 33 academic departments. The Expo is from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the McKenny Union Ballroom and Guild Hall. All faculty and staff are invited.

"The Expo is an opportunity for faculty and staff to find out what other academic programs are doing and see if they want to revise their own process," said Don Bennion, EMU's director of academic assessment.

"The whole emphasis is on the program," Bennion said. "Faculty can see what good ideas are being used and may decide to add some of these methods to their own department's assessment activities."

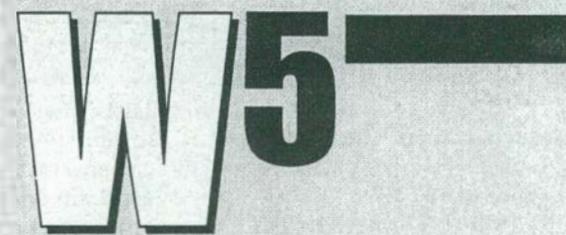
Bennion said the idea for the Expo came after

he attended a quality expo at the University of Michigan five years ago. "The U of M Expo dealt with non-technical areas such as office efficiency. I thought it would be interesting to use the Expo format to explore the range of techniques available for assessing academic programs," said Bennion.

The assessment activities highlighted at the Expo are central to EMU's upcoming North Central Association (NCA) accreditation visit. "One of the purposes of assessment is to prove to the NCA that we are doing what our mission says - that students are really learning," Bennion stated.

In the past two years, the Expo has invited colleagues from area community colleges and several four-year institutions, Bennion said. Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, Wayne and Monroe Community Colleges regularly attend.

"I believe that anyone attending the Expo will see some impressive and exciting illustrations of assessment activities. Eastern is fortunate that the faculty take the assessment of their programs so seriously," said Bennion.



Teaching Excellence Awards nominations due

The Eastern Michigan University Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for its annual Teaching Excellence Awards. Alumni, graduate students and undergraduate students with senior status can make nominations. All faculty members who have held a full-time appointment at EMU for three or more academic years are eligible. The deadline for award nominations is Friday, March 12. Nomination forms are available in the Alumni Relations Office, 13 Welch Hall or by calling 487-0250. The 1999 award ceremony is during Homecoming, Saturday, Oct. 9.

Dissertation defense

EMU doctoral candidate Theresa M. Spencer will present her dissertation "The Systemic Impact of Integrated Learning Systems on Mathematics Achievement of Elementary Students: A Six-year Longitudinal Study," Monday, March 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Pittman Hall Conference Room, ground floor.

Doctoral candidate Rebecca Moore will present her dissertation "The Relationship of School Board Meeting Agendas to Curriculum and Instructional Issues and Student Academic Achievement in Selected Michigan School Districts," Tuesday, March 9, 2-4 p.m., Pittman Hall Conference Room, ground floor. Call 487.4608.

Halle Library hours

Halle Library winter recess schedule: Feb. 26, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Feb. 27, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Feb. 28, noon-10 p.m.; March 1-6, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; March 7, noon-midnight (regular hours) Computing commons on ground floor open until 2 a.m. Call 487.0020.

Sealed in

The Convocation Center will be closed Saturday, March 6, and Sunday, March 7, to have its floor sealed. No one is permitted to enter the building on these dates for any reason. Please address any concerns to Cheryl Swanson, director, at 487.5386.

Honoring Charlie Batch

The EMU Athletic Club will host a testimonial dinner for Detroit Lions quarterback and former EMU standout Charlie Batch, Thursday, March 11, 6 p.m., Ypsilanti Marriott. Tickets to the general reception are \$125. To RSVP, call the EMU Foundation at 487.0252.

You deserve a break

There will be no issue of FOCUS EMU during the week of March 2. That is spring break. FOCUS returns March 9.

If you have an item you'd like to submit, please call us at 487.4400

TIME LINE

Sesquicentennial

If you have a favorite fact about the University's 150-year history and would like others to know, please send it to us at 18 Welch Hall or call 487.4400.

Normal College

In 1895 additional normal schools were established in Michigan, one in Mt. Pleasant and another in Marquette. In order to secure legal recognition of the pre-eminent position of Michigan State Normal School in Ypsilanti, then University president Richard Gause Boone fought for the Act of 1897, which limited the new schools to preparation of teachers below the high school level. The act confirmed that Ypsilanti Normal would issue teaching certificates at all levels and authorized the institution to use the title of Michigan State Normal College.

JOBSLINE

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, March 1. **NOTE: LATE OR INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

The Compensation/Employment Services Office announces the following vacancies. Detailed job descrip-

tions may be reviewed in Room 204 Bowen. Posting Boards across campus also highlight necessary and desired qualifications. Locations of these boards are main traffic areas in: Bowen, McKenny Union, Roosevelt Hall, Business & Finance Building, Sill Hall, Pray-Harold, Rec/IM Building, Physical Plant, Mark-Jefferson, Hoyt Meeting Center, DC #1, Halle Library, Pierce, and the College of Business - Owen Building.

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)

CSBF9911 CS-04 \$767.23
Data Entry Clerk II, Public Safety.
(REPOST) Hours: Varied.

CSAA9927 CS-05 \$867.00
Senior Secretary, Interdiscipli-

nary Technology.

PROF./TECHNICAL

(Minimum Bi-Weekly Salary)

PTBF9909 PT-07 \$1,096.46
Accountant II, Financial Services.
Some traveling may be required.

ADMIN./PROFESSIONAL

(Minimum Semi-Monthly Salary)

APAA9907 AP-12 \$2,242.13
Assistant Dean: Continuing Education (Credit Programs), Con-

tinuing Education.

APAA9908 AP-12 \$2,242.13
Assistant Dean: Continuing Education (Non-Credit Programs and Operations), Continuing Education.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

I started here in 1980 as a unit manager in Dining Commons One.

I have always enjoyed the division I'm associated with because it's at the heart of the family-oriented atmosphere we have here at Eastern Michigan.

People at Eastern Michigan University work hard but we choose to. Like in Housing and Dining, we strive to provide high-quality food for every one of the 10,000 meals we serve every day.

We do it for the students. So it's no surprise that I enjoy watching them develop and mature as they get ready for graduation.

Most of all, I enjoy the Dining Services staff and the successful team we have put together.

I'd say this atmosphere fits me perfectly.



Larry Gates
Associate Director of Dining Services

Gold Medallion Recipient
Mentoring Award, Summer Incentive Program
Co-chair, Faculty and Staff Campaign

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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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