

News for
Eastern Michigan
Faculty and Staff

April 18, 2000
Vol. 47, No. 29

University receives largest single gift

Coatings patents from ExxonMobil appraised at \$16 million

Eastern Michigan University has received its largest single gift ever – coatings patents from the ExxonMobil Chemical Company appraised at \$16 million. The patents involve materials used to create industrial paints.

“There are only a few undergraduate coatings programs in the country and we are proud and excited that ExxonMobil chose to donate these patents to our Coatings Research Institute,” said EMU President William E. Shelton at a press conference April 17.

The gift includes 20 issued U.S. patents and five pending U.S. patent applications. It also includes more than 50 worldwide patent and patent application counterparts. EMU’s Dr. Frank Jones and students of Eastern Michigan assisted ExxonMobil in the development of five of the U.S. patents.

“We are in the best position to do something with the patents because we know the technology,” said Jones. “This will give EMU faculty and students an

opportunity to be involved with exciting new areas of coatings technology and to potentially produce income that will help the coatings program and EMU.”

“We’re delighted to donate these patents to the University,” said Nick Smith, an executive with ExxonMobil Chemical Company’s Intermediates business. “Eastern Michigan University is well known for its Coatings Research Institute and we believe will provide a perfect environment to develop and capitalize on this kind of technology.”

Jones said that the patents deal with materials that can be used to make a wide variety of industrial paints, primarily direct to metal applications. Potential end-use applications include paint for cars, trucks, appliances, metal, furniture, and steel and aluminum siding.

The patents cover compositions, synthesis, and applications of three different classes of materials: polyester diols with exceptionally low viscosity; a phenolic ester alcohol (PHEA) reactive

diluent; and phenolterminated polyester (PTE) resins.

As technology is developed, use of the low viscosity polyester diols in coatings can sharply reduce, and sometimes eliminate, the need for organic solvent in industrial coatings, reducing volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from factories where paint is applied. PHEA can improve a coating’s toughness and hardness while also reducing its VOC. Use of PTEs, according to Jones, can improve a coating’s weatherability.

Jones said that new technology based on some of the patents will be developed in the CRI lab and the University is looking into licensing.

The Coatings Research Institute was established at Eastern Michigan University in 1985. It includes the National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center in Coatings, started in 1990.

ExxonMobil Chemical Company is a division of Exxon Mobil Corp.

CLASS ACTS

Distinguished faculty represent EMU tradition

Beauvais, three other award winners find rewards in teaching others

■ Profiles, page 2-3
By Ron Podell

Kathleen Beauvais wasn’t always a teacher, but approached every job she had as if she were.

When Patricia Pokay, professor of teacher education at Eastern Michigan University, urged her to apply for a teaching position at the university, she did – even though it amounted to taking a pay cut.

But her rewards in teaching have gone well beyond the monetary. After nine years at EMU, Beauvais is not only a teacher, but has been acknowledged as one of its best. Beauvais was one of four recent winners of the university’s annual Distinguished Faculty Awards.

“There is nothing in this world that means more to me than my teaching,” said Beauvais, associate professor of teacher education. “To receive the highest (teaching) award at EMU for what I love most, the joy is indescribable.”

Beauvais received the

Teaching II Award at the annual Distinguished Faculty Awards held March 29 in the Ballroom, McKenny Union. The Teaching II Award is presented to a faculty member who has been at EMU for more than five years.

To sum up the magnitude of the award’s personal importance, Beauvais said it means more to her “than defending my dissertation” on multicultural education.

Before coming to EMU, Beauvais was already dealing with issues relevant to multicultural education. Beauvais was an equity consultant with the Michigan Department of Education, where she worked for five years. While there, she addressed gender, race and participation problems in the classroom.

“Even then, I appreciated it as teaching,” she said.

Despite the recent honor, Beauvais isn’t resting on her laurels; the nine-year EMU professor looks at the honor as a personal challenge to live up to the award’s lofty status.

“If you ever become satis-



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Kathleen Beauvais is one of four Distinguished Faculty Award recipients for 1999-2000. She is the recipient of the Teaching II award.

fied as a teacher, it’s time to turn in your chalk,” Beauvais said.

Beauvais tries to instill that same teaching philosophy in her students.

“More than anything, I want them to leave with a fire in their belly for good teaching,” she said. “It is that power and passion that will carry them through their good and difficult times in the classroom.”

She described EMU students as “exceptionally giving, respectful and talented

learners.”

Not surprising, Beauvais received a ringing endorsement on her teaching abilities from department colleagues and former students.

“Kathleen serves as a model for the best in teaching,” said Pokay, who encouraged Beauvais to become a teacher nearly a decade ago.

After being nominated

**SEE BEAUVAIS,
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Xie finds success by providing resources, technology to others

By Elizabeth A. Dahl

There is no map on how to find success.

Not even for Dr. Yichun Xie, professor of geography and geology.

He found it anyway, winning this year's Distinguished Faculty Award for Scholarly/Creative Activity.

"I was surprised (to get the award)," Xie said. "I was nominated once before. I know I've done my best for the University."

And while Xie was honored to win the award, it wasn't the ultimate destination.

Xie wanted to end up at EMU's Center for Environmental Information Technology and Applications (CEITA). CEITA has several different missions, but all of them have to do with helping others and providing resources for teachers.

The problem was CEITA didn't exist in 1994 when Xie came to EMU, so he created it.

"It's research oriented, but some of the projects are also business oriented so they weren't convenient for the classroom," said Xie. "So, I thought it would be a good idea to have a separate institute. I talked to Dean Barry Fish and he was very supportive."

CEITA was established in 1997 and has four areas of concentration. The first involves working with the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the transfer of technology. Through grants from the NSF, CEITA sponsors several programs, including Virtual Immersion in Science Inquiry for Teachers (VISIT) and Work/Site Alliance.

VISIT is funded by NSF's Teacher Enhancement Program and was designed by CEITA. The on-line program uses distributed geographic information systems (DGIS) to help teachers conduct science investigations.

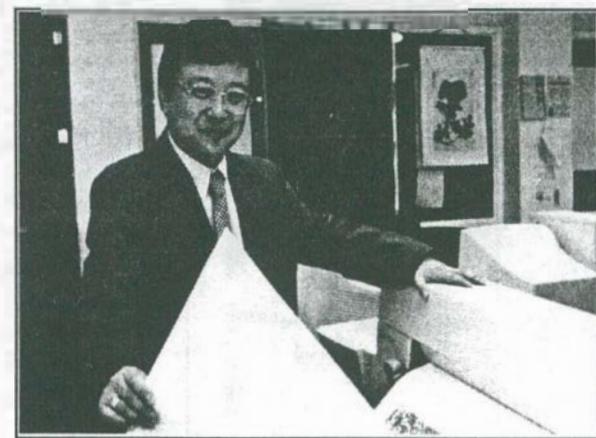
"Teachers, especially high school teachers, are lacking technology," Xie said. "So we need to give them access to resources."

The second area of concentration is aimed at working with federal agencies, such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). One such project has developed an international bridge between the U.S. EPA and its Chinese counterpart. Members of CEITA have made two trips to China over the past two years and are planning to make another trip in May.

"The idea is to transfer technology between the U.S. and China," Xie said. "They just started in environmental protection in China and this year's visit will help build a pilot program in Shanghai."

The project will find 'hot spots'— areas with high concentrations of pollution — measure the volume of pollution in those areas, design an engineering program and estimate the cost of cleaning up that area.

The third area works with local governments and non-profit organizations. CEITA has contracts with Wayne, Washtenaw and Macomb counties to do Internet-based and hands-on work for them. One project involves cleaning up of brownfields in Wayne County. Brownfields are polluted areas, usually in urban settings, that have been deserted. They are difficult to develop because of the cost of cleaning them up.



ON THE MAP: Dr. Yichun Xie is the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award for Scholarly/Creative Activity.

CEITA's other concentration is in the area of training and education. Trainers are certified by the Environmental Systems Research Institute, and they provide training to local users of geographic information systems (GIS).

While Xie has accomplished a lot, he credits others with helping him find and stay the course.

"For my colleagues and the people working for me, it's a great compliment," Xie said of his department. "They've worked really hard since we've started this. It took a lot of effort and in the beginning it wasn't easy. EMU is known as a teaching college, so we had to demonstrate our capacity. More and more people in the area are accepting the idea of us and it's becoming increasingly easy to work with them."

Grady uses communication to provide different perspectives

By Linda Rider

As a kid, Dennis Grady envisioned himself as an ambulance driver, screeching down the road with sirens wailing. During his first four years of college, he changed his major three times as an undergraduate at Miami University. And, as he approached the completion of his bachelor's degree in 1986, he admits he still couldn't decide what he wanted to be when he grew up.

However, one of his professors made a suggestion that would not only steer his career to teaching, but would lead him down an award-winning, scholarly path.

"A professor in communications called me into his office and asked if I had thought about grad school," he said. "That conversation led me to a graduate program and that led me to teaching."

Today, as assistant professor in EMU's Communication and Theatre Arts Department, Grady's reputation as a must-have teacher packs his classrooms.

"His classes are always full although he's known for being a rigorous, academically challenging teacher," said Patti Thomas



GOOD COMMUNICATOR: Assistant Professor Dennis Grady is recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching I.

Hanks, a graduate student in organizational communications who has taken undergraduate and graduate level courses with Grady. "If you get an 'A' on your paper, you know you deserved an 'A.'"

As a result of her experiences, Hanks was compelled to nominate Grady for the Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award I. She cited many

qualities that send students scrambling for his classes, including: his knack for facilitating energetic, interesting classroom discussions, providing students with research opportunities, and befriending and mentoring students.

"Dr. Grady is one of those rare professors who embodies the characteristics of all good professors," said Hanks.

But Grady is quick to turn the spotlight on students.

"I'm inspired by the students at EMU," he said. "I don't like the idea that I'm the source of all knowledge in the classroom. I believe that students can learn from each other and I can learn from students. So, I try to do a lot of question-asking and create an environment where students feel comfortable with participation."

Grady earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in speech communication at Miami University in 1986 and 1987, and his doctorate in interpersonal and family communication at the University of Texas at Austin in 1997. He joined EMU's Department of Communication and Theatre Arts in 1996.

Today, Grady teaches interpersonal communications, communica-

tion theory, non-verbal communication and a special topics class, deceptive communication.

"My colleagues informally teach me and because of that, I'm a much better teacher here now than I was four years ago," he said. "There are so many great teachers in CTA and they have been very generous sharing their ideas."

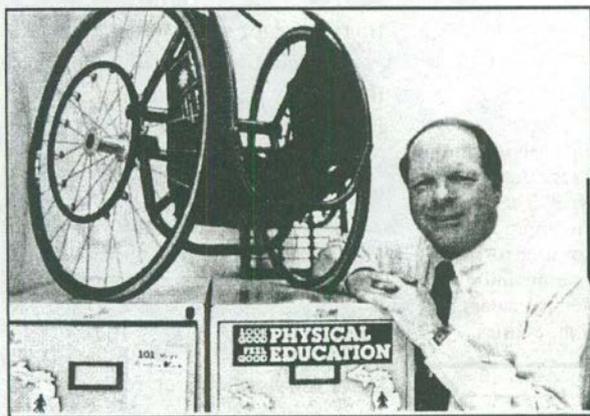
Grady's out-of-class activities focus on students. He is on the planning committee for EMU's Undergraduate Research Symposium, is faculty adviser to Future Professional Communicators and to QUEST, among many others.

What is Grady's opinion of what makes a good student?

"There are so many good students who have different personalities and communication styles," he said. "If a student comes to my class with an open mind and a willingness to learn and to be changed, they will do well."

"I like students to leave my class and see the world in a different way," Grady said. "They don't have to agree with me, but they can see that people communicate in different ways. I believe that if students have changed in some way when they finish their education, the experience was a success."

Paciorek breaks down physical barriers through education



ON THE MOVE: Professor Michael Paciorek is the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award for Service to the University.

By Pam Young

Michael Paciorek's expertise in adaptive physical education has made an important impact on the way sports can help the disabled.

As a professor of health, physical education, recreation and dance, Paciorek has pushed for the disabled to become more physically active through recreational and competitive sports, and has spent his professional career working to show how sports can improve lives.

His efforts on behalf of the disabled and his expertise in adaptive physical education—both in the classroom and as an author—has garnered Paciorek Eastern Michigan University's prestigious Distinguished Faculty Award in the category of Service to the University.

"It's a great honor," said Paciorek. "I looked at other past winners and to be in their company is quite an honor. There are so many others across the University who are deserving, so I was fortunate to be nominated and selected."

Paciorek has been very involved over the years with such organizations as the Special Olympics, Paralympics, Cerebral Palsy Sports, the Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and the National Consortium on Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities. He also co-authored the book, *Sports and Recreation for the Disabled*.

"Being in physical education, people have a misconception of what we are all about," said Paciorek. "There isn't a greater discipline that can have a greater contribution to our quality of life."

Paciorek says he continues to try to increase such access to those with disabilities.

"I'm very involved with disability sports and, through sports, we can change the perception of disabilities," he said.

He cites the Special Olympics, which started in 1968, as one event that has changed the general public's

perception of disabilities, especially toward those with mental retardation.

"Once people saw that those with mental retardation could be capable in sports, it transcends to other areas," said Paciorek. Providing access to sports for the disabled will allow them to be more successful in everyday life, he said.

In addition to teaching, Paciorek has been active in professional groups on the state level. He is the immediate past president of the Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and is currently organizing the group's state conference.

"We rely totally on volunteers—mainly public school people—and that has made my job easier," he said. "I promote Eastern Michigan wherever I go, and we are the most visible university because we are involving our students on a statewide basis."

A graduate of St. Bonaventure University, Paciorek earned a master's degree in adapted physical education from George Washington University, and a doctorate in adapted physical education from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. He joined Eastern Michigan in 1981.

He recently was presented with the Professional Recognition Award from the Adapted Physical Activity Council of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. He also is the recipient of the William A. Hillman Distinguished Service Award from the National Consortium on Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities.

"He is an individual that embodies what education, teaching, research, leadership, professional commitment and, most importantly, service is all about," said Michael Bretting, associate dean of the College of Education.

WEMU exceeds spring on-air fund-raising goal

By Ron Podell

WEMU (89.1 FM) exceeded its spring on-air, fund-raising goal by nearly \$5,000.

During the nine-day pledge drive in March, 1,462 listeners pledged \$89,508 to Eastern Michigan's public radio station.

WEMU can usually rely on lingering winter weather to keep listeners indoors and thus, be more apt to pledge. But not this year. Unusually balmy weather, the NCAA basketball tournament and the Oscars were all vying for attention during the same period.

"Each one of these on-air fundraisers takes on a personality of its own," said WEMU director Art Timko, who said the station has exceeded its spring fund-raising goals in all but one of the last 10 years. "This may have been one of the more stranger (pledge drives). Listener response in terms of the number of pledges was down, but there was a

higher amount per pledge."

Timko was expecting roughly 1,800 listeners to pledge an average of \$46. Instead, the pledge average was about \$61. The increase may have been related to the station raising premiums from \$30 to \$40 in order for listeners to receive a gift mug, Timko said. In addition, classic jazz CD reissues were available for higher pledges. For example, a 1937 Carnegie Hall performance by Benny Goodman was given to those making a \$100 pledge.

The perennially popular Bone Conduction Music Show led all programs, raising \$12,089 from 226 listeners.

"When you look at the 300-plus pledges we thought we'd get and didn't, wow," Timko said. "That would have made life a lot easier."

Between the fall and spring fundraisers, WEMU raises roughly 40 percent of its annual operating budget, Timko said.



For a more extensive listing of University events, go to the Office of Public Information home page at www.emich.edu/public/public_information/

"Take Our Daughters to Work" Day April 27

All faculty and staff are encouraged to bring their daughters to work as part of Eastern Michigan University's "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day, April 27. Help celebrate this special day by inviting your daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends, ages 9-18.

The schedule for the day is: registration, 8-8:45 a.m., McKenny Union Ballroom; concurrent workshops, 9-11:15 a.m., various campus locations; luncheon, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., McKenny Union Ballroom; "On the Job" with parent or sponsor, 12:30-5 p.m.

Faculty and staff must pre-register by April 19. If you have more than one guest, you will need to register each guest separately. Call 487-0020, Ext. 2115.

Ypsilanti Rotary seeking applicants for scholarship

The Ypsilanti Rotary Foundation is seeking qualified applicants for the Gene Butman International Scholarship. The foundation will be awarding \$1,000—up from \$500 in previous years—to a qualified Eastern Michigan University student.

Eligibility criteria for the scholarship is as follows: the training/study must be credit-generating and international in nature; must be an EMU student; economic need will be considered; a GPA of 2.75 while attending EMU; must be a U.S. citizen.

Applications, which are being accepted until April 28, are available at The World College, EMU 218 Business & Finance Building, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

FOCUS EMU goes to monthly publication in May

The last weekly issue of FOCUS EMU will be published Tuesday, April 25. FOCUS EMU begins its monthly publication in May. FOCUS EMU will be published the second Tuesday of May, June, July and August.

JOBLINE

An Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer

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., Tuesday, April 25. NOTE: LATE OR INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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

(Hiring Rate)

CSBF2023 CS-04 \$20,547
Data Entry Clerk II, Payroll.

CSBF2022 CS-05 \$23,218
Customer Service Rep. II, Student
Business Services-Student Loans.

CSSA2009 CS-05 \$23,218
Senior Secretary, Public Informa-
tion.

CSBF2024 CS-06 \$25,321
Account Specialist: Senior, Payroll.

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL

(Hiring Range)

PTBF2004 PT-06 \$25,534-
\$29,822 Accountant I, Financial
Services - Accounting.

PTBF2005 PT-06 \$25,534-
\$29,822 Accountant I, Payroll.

FACULTY

F2045 Associate/Full Professor:
Clinical Psychology, Psychology
Dept. Academic year appointment.

F2046 Assistant Professor: Clinical
Psychology, Psychology Dept.
Academic year appointment.

The pay rates stated above reflect the hiring rate or range for a newly hired EMU employee. The pay rate or salary for current employees will be established according to the respective employee group union contract, and/or University salary administration policy guidelines.

BEAUVAIS, from page 1

for the Distinguished Faculty Award, Beauvais said she received roughly 50 letters of support and congratulations from former students.

"It's so meaningful to have them say 'she touched my life,' 'she changed my life,' or 'she made my teaching better,'" Beauvais said.

One of those students is Barry Marc Feldman, an English teacher at Huron Valley Schools.

"My positive impact on students is a direct result of Dr. Beauvais' impact on me," he said.

Ingrid Bowers, another former student, had high praise for Beauvais as well.

"More than anything, I will not forget how Dr. Beauvais managed to touch my heart and the hearts of so many in such a large class," Bowers said.

Beauvais holds a doctorate in educational studies and a master's in psychology and education from the University of Michigan, and a bachelor's in speech and English from Western Michigan University. She joined EMU's Department of Teacher Education in 1991. In 1993, Beauvais was the recipient of a Josephine Nevins Keal Faculty Fellowship and the Golden Key National Honor Society's Honorary Faculty Membership Award.

Her area of expertise includes multicultural education, sexual harassment, teen parenting, at-risk students and assessing student outcomes.

In addition to her teaching at EMU, Beauvais has accomplished a number of publications, scholarly presentations, papers and research. She is a nationally recognized expert in teaching diversity and is a sought-after speaker and consultant. Beauvais has also served on various boards, committees and councils.

But even with a full plate, Beauvais always maintains her focus on teaching. "What could be more important than preparing teachers of the 21st century?" she said. "I can't imagine a more honored position than to be part of that."

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

I began working at EMU soon after my husband and I moved into the area. Now, I'm like so many others who come to work here and stay for a long time.

I've been able to work in three departments and have had excellent supervisors and colleagues who have been a joy to work with. I've especially enjoyed being in the University Marketing and Student Affairs Division because they do so much to recognize their people. Last year, I received a Gold Medallion award. To me, it was like getting an Oscar. It's so nice to have that recognition.

I'm lucky to be a part of the Dean of Students office, especially since the student judicial services office was created to take on disciplinary action for students. Today, our office is truly an advocate for students instead of taking them to task.

As a union bargaining committee member, I've met a lot of people on campus. And because of the kind of campus community we have, no matter which side of the table we were on, we worked it out and remained friends.

As I get ready to retire, I can't think of a place I would have rather spent the last 20 years of my life.



Lou Pifer,
Secretary
Dean of Students Office

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The Learning Edge™