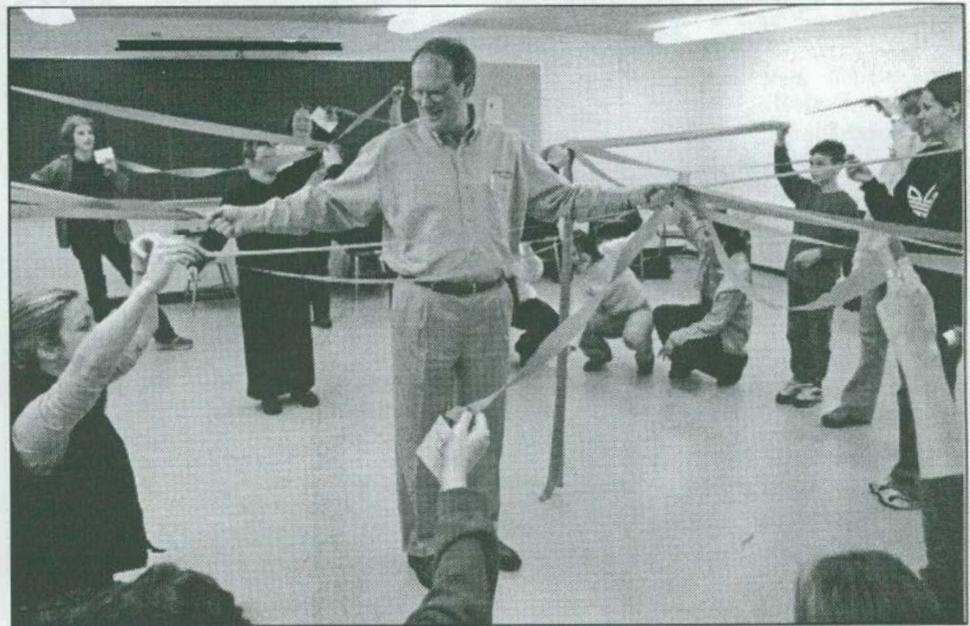


News for
Eastern Michigan
Faculty and Staff

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President, student trade places for a day



TRADING PLACES: (above left) Eastern Michigan University junior Sarah Caine kicks back and feels right at home in the president's office while Samuel A. Kirkpatrick (right) does his best imitation of a tree in Caine's "Drama and Play in the Human Experience" class. The activities were part of EMU's first-ever "President for a Day" event in which Caine had the opportunity to play president for a day while Kirkpatrick, the real president, experienced life as an EMU student.

By Ron Podell

Samuel A. Kirkpatrick carried a backpack and attended calculus, curriculum and drama classes. Sarah Caine, 20, was Eastern Michigan University's wunderkind president, easing comfortably into the big chair in Welch Hall, handling multiple media interviews and attending several important meetings.

These surreal scenes were all part of the University's first-ever "President for a Day" exchange program.

Caine, dressed in a blue business suit, took over the reins April 11 in 202 Welch Hall around 8:30 a.m. She dove into her role as president, making her inaugural action a comfortable one: she kicked back in the president's chair and propped her feet on the large desk.

"I think most students have never been in this office," Caine said, peering around, somewhat awestruck, at her surroundings.

She then snapped back to business, requesting lunch reservations be made for her and Kirkpatrick at the Washtenaw

Country Club.

Caine said she wanted to be president for a day for a number of reasons.

"First, I'm going into secondary education and intend to be in administration somewhere down the line," she said. "I wanted to test my professionalism, having been an intern at General Motors the last two summers. And my sorority sisters at Sigma Tau Delta recently voted me 'most likely to rule the world.'"

Caine did what presidents do — she attended several meetings. At an Academic Affairs meeting, Interim Provost Michael Harris discussed plans for a comprehensive review of all academic programs.

"This sounds like a great evaluation of current programs, and it needs to be done," Caine said. "Good job."

She also sat in on meetings of strategic planning cross-cutting teams for information technology and athletics.

After the technology meeting, Caine agreed with a suggestion that there should be student input and representation on the

committee. Athletic attendance could be strengthened if the athletic department did things to rejuvenate rivalries with such schools as Central Michigan and Western Michigan, she said.

She also had a heart-to-heart with Dr. William Miller, director of EMU's honors program; met with Jim Vick, interim vice president for student affairs, and Vickie Bagherzadeh, director, housing operations, to learn how the dining and housing budget is put together; gave a welcome speech at the Faculty/Tutor Appreciation Day reception and said a few words at a faculty retirement reception.

Caine said one of her biggest thrills was driving a golf cart to and from events on campus and being one of the first persons — even before Kirkpatrick — to see the progress on the new residence halls.

Kirkpatrick slipped into Caine's shoes. Dressed in a blue shirt and khakis, Kirkpatrick, like any other student, expe-

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2,300 eligible to graduate at April commencement

More than 2,000 students are eligible to graduate at Eastern Michigan University's winter commencement ceremonies, scheduled Sunday, April 29, at the Convocation Center.

Olympian and Eastern Michigan University graduate Hayes W. Jones will deliver the keynote speech. Jones, 62, will speak at both the 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. ceremonies.

EMU President Samuel A. Kirkpatrick will preside over the ceremonies.

There will be 1,600 undergraduates and 700 graduate

candidates. Two candidates are eligible to receive a doctor of education degree in educational leadership: Ellen Hoffman and Barbara Scheffer.

Commencement ceremonies for the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Technology begin at 10:30 a.m. Doors open at 9 a.m.

Commencement ceremonies for graduates of the Colleges of Business, Education, and Health and Human Services begin at 2 p.m. Doors open at 12:30 p.m.

Jones, a 1961 EMU graduate and winner of the Olym-

pic gold medal in the 100-meter hurdles during the 1964 Tokyo Games, will be given an honorary doctorate of public service during the morning ceremony.

Tickets are available through the Convocation Center box office (487-2282). All guests must have a ticket to be admitted.

Handicapped seating is available and there will be a signer to aid those with a hearing impairment.

Serving as grand marshal for the 10:30 a.m. ceremony will be Dick Goff, professor emeritus of history and phi-

losophy. Norm Jean Bennett, professor emeritus of allied health professions, will be the grand marshal of the 2 p.m. commencement ceremony.

Faculty marshalls are Daryl Hafter, history and philosophy; David Leopard, business and technology education; Gary Evans, communications and theatre arts; and Dennis Grady, communications and theatre arts.

Music for both ceremonies will be provided by the EMU Wind Symphony, conducted by Max Plank. The Army ROTC will provide the Color Guard.

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD WINNERS

Fleischer uses research applications as teaching tool

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By Ron Podell

Cathy Fleischer teaches through the eyes of a researcher. The eyes of her colleagues noticed enough to honor her with the Distinguished Faculty Award for scholarly/creative activity.

"I do feel incredibly honored, especially to be regarded for this kind of work," said Fleischer, an English language and literature professor at Eastern Michigan University since 1990. "It says a lot about Eastern Michigan and what they chose to honor."

In addition to her work at EMU, Fleischer is a widely regarded author. In the last five years, she has published three books, five articles, made 13 national conference presentations, and was responsible for 21 state/local workshops and scholarly presentations at prestigious professional meetings.

Fleischer's most recent book, *Teachers Organizing for Change: Making Literacy Learning Everybody's Business*, has been described by Deborah Appleman, chair of the educational studies department at Carleton College, as "a groundbreaking and courageous foray into the intersection between teaching and social action."

"Cathy is recognized nationally as an expert and as a leader and innovative thinker," said Ann Blakeslee, an EMU professor of English language and literature. "In a recent article of *Educational Researcher*, Professor Fleischer's work is cited



Photo by Joe Dewey

SIMPLY THE BEST: Cathy Fleischer, professor of English language and literature, was the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award for scholarly/creative activity. Fleischer was recognized for her teaching and research activity.

for "defining and determining the directions of her field."

"I think, for me, the kind of research that I do is research that really connects teaching and scholarship," she said. "I view the classroom through the eyes of a researcher."

Fleischer earned her doctorate in English and education from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in English education from the University of Virginia, and a bachelor's degree in English from Connecticut College.

Fleischer has gained national recognition and awards, most notably as co-editor, *English Education*, 2000-2005; director of the Eastern Michigan

Writing Project, 1992-2000; co-director for Teacher Research, 2000-present; and demonstration site coordinator, Michigan English/Language Arts Frameworks Project, 1994-95. Fleischer has been awarded a sabbatical leave, the Josephine Nevins Keal Fellowship Award and the James Britton Award.

Fleischer said she has always wanted to be a teacher since she was a little kid and remembers quizzing fellow children about various subjects.

"I always thought that teaching was a creative and fascinating line of work," she said.

Gerda Taranow, a professor of English and literature at Connecticut College, nurtured that goal by taking a strong interest in Fleischer.

"She really turned me on to studying literature, that it just wasn't about reading books and understanding them at the surface level," Fleischer said. "She helped me look at deeper themes. She was very inspiring as a teacher."

Fleischer said she takes the same approach with her students by treating their ideas with respect.

Fleischer became interested in teaching at the university level while attending graduate school. She intended to teach high school, but the research component at the graduate level became important to her.

"From there, my life of being a teacher/scholar was perfect for me," she said. "It allowed me to teach and let me do research. Eastern Michigan's been the perfect place to do that."

Folk finds teaching success, happiness working with others

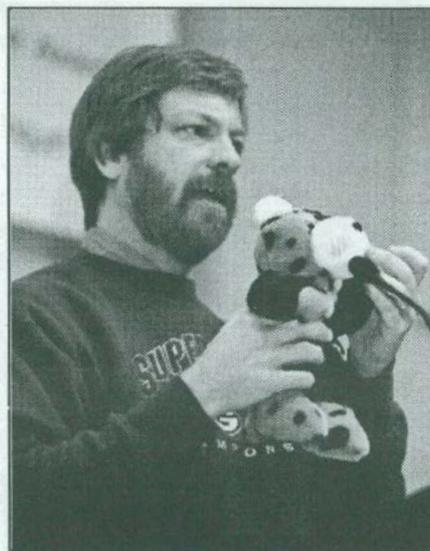
By Shaun Horrigan

For David Folk, having a sense of community is very important to him. That sense of community is defined by working with other people who also enjoy their jobs and helping his students understand mathematics more easily.

"I enjoy the community aspect of it (teaching)," said Folk, who received the Teaching II Distinguished Faculty Award, which is granted to EMU faculty with more than five years of teaching at the University. "I like working with the students and watching the students work with each other."

Folk also said working in his department is rewarding because of the bonds he has formed with fellow professors, whom he called "hard-working people with enormous talent."

Folk received his doctorate in mathematics from the University of Michigan and earned his bachelor's in mathematics from St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin. Folk came to EMU in 1987 as an assistant professor in mathematics and earned tenure and full professorship in 1991. Folk received a \$1,200 grant for innovative teaching from EMU's Faculty Center for Instructional Excellence in 1990.



AND THE WINNER IS: David Folk, associate professor, mathematics, is the recipient of the Teaching II Distinguished Faculty Award.

Among his many accomplishments at EMU, Folk co-created the "Math Den," a professional, social atmosphere which allows students to work by themselves or in groups, and gives them access to graduate assistance. The Math Den atmosphere is a relaxing one, complete with a soda machine and microwave ovens. It is heavily used by students and encourages students to work together.

"There isn't a faculty math lounge anymore," Folk said. "The faculty gave up its lounge for the Math Den.

It was a big deal for the faculty to give up the lounge, the math education people in particular. They have streams of students walking through their offices every day."

Members of the faculty also contributed their personal books to put in the Math Den to help the students.

Folk also is credited with bringing the Emerging Students Program to EMU. He has served as director of that program since 1999. This is a national, widely-used program that focuses on student collaboration in mathematics.

"You really have to have a point where they (students) feel like they're working in a little community and can bond in different parts of the community, and that shows when they're doing well," Folk said. "In calculus, you either do really well or really poorly. There's no in-between."

Folk said he knew he wanted to be a professor while in graduate school, where he discovered he liked teaching.

"I like to do math. If I research too much, I pop," he said. "I like teaching because it's a good balance."

Folk's recommendation for the Distinguished Faculty Teacher II Award came from members of the math department personnel committee. When he received the congratu-

latory phone call, Folk was told that it was unusual for a math teacher to win the award.

Because he is considered a fairly demanding teacher, Folk said he was in shock when he was told he would receive the prestigious award. He also said he takes it as a compliment that he is known as a teacher who will make students learn as much as they can, even if it's more than they bargained for.

One student excerpt included in the Distinguished Faculty Award program read, "I had him in Calculus I and I could see that I learned more (than other students) when I got to Calculus II. He's hard, but you really learn!" Another student wrote, "His enthusiasm and teaching techniques are wonderful, the best teacher I ever had. He actually taught me something."

Folk makes his students turn in all of their assignments. In the last three years, there have only been about four that he hasn't collected. Because of his expectations, this also means Folk spends a large amount of his time grading assignments, which is usually at least 25 hours per week.

"If my whole life was teaching, I wouldn't be happy" Folk said. "If my whole life was research, I wouldn't be happy. Here, I can have both."

Neff developed her love for teaching while overseas

By Rashid S. Umar

Heather Neff is known as an extraordinary teacher by her students. So, it's no wonder student after student documents how Neff has remained a part of their lives, transforming their attitudes and fostering their intellectual growth.

Fro example, former student Tanisha Bailey quoted Neff as saying, "I don't teach students. I teach a community. I teach people so they can go out and teach others."

However, it took Neff trying a number of other professions before she found her true calling.

Neff is a recent winner of Eastern Michigan University's Annual Distinguished Faculty Award. She was one of two Teaching II Award winners, given to a faculty member who has taught at EMU for at least five years.

"I'm really deeply honored to win,"

Neff said, mentioning others who had previously won the award. "The previous winners constitute a core group of faculty members who are deeply involved in many of the programs that make EMU such a special place. To join the ranks is a true honor, because they constitute a uniquely dedicated group of individuals."

Neff holds a doctorate in English literature and a master's in English language and linguistics from Universtat Zurich (Switzerland), and a bachelor's degree in English language and literature from the University of Michigan.

It was overseas where Neff developed her love for teaching — after working in a number of other professions first.

"I became a teacher after working in publishing, investment counseling and even waiting tables," Neff said. "While living in Paris, I began tutor-



STUDENT FAVORITE: Heather Neff, associate professor of English language and literature is a recipient of the Teaching II Distinguished Faculty Award. Photo by Stefanie Anderson

ing university students who were preparing for final exams, and I realized that I loved it," Neff said. After that, I went into corporate training and finally started teaching in the univer-

sity classroom."

Neff, who joined EMU's department of English language and literature in 1993, is no stranger to being recognized as an outstanding teacher. In the past, she has won the 2000 Faculty Appreciation Award from Founder's Day; the 1999 Faculty of the Year Award from EMU's African Future Teachers Association; was recognized as the 1997 Faculty of the Year Award winner by the EMU Panhellenic Students Organization.

"It (winning the award) makes you more confident in your abilities and you find more responsibility along the way," Neff said. "It is not an end. It is a beginning, like a milestone, and makes you ask 'how can I get better?' It's a bittersweet thing because you're happy for yourself, but you know that there are others who deserve it."

Sipe believes student relationships are key to good teaching

By Tricia Couture

If location, location, location is the mantra in real estate, relationships, relationships, relationships are the most important things in teaching.

"Good relationships will follow you anywhere. We learn together from each other," said Rebecca Sipe, a professor of English language and literature. "There are reciprocal relationships in the classroom."

Sipe is the winner of this year's Distinguished Faculty Teaching I Award.

"I was overwhelmed and humbled," she said. "There are so many good teachers at Eastern Michigan. I can't imagine anything would be a greater honor than winning at a place like Eastern Michigan."

Sipe was nominated by Robert Kraft, a professor in the English language and literature department. Kraft garnered support from fellow department colleagues and solicited letters of support from students and co-workers.



FOSTERING RELATIONSHIPS: Rebecca Bowers Sipes, assistant professor of English language and literature is the recipient of the Teaching I Award. Photo by Stefanie Anderson

"She is the exemplar and source of knowledge for hundreds of EMU students who become English teachers," said Russell Larson, head of the department of English language and literature.

"It's a big deal to have something like this happen," she said, noting that professors can only win the Distinguished Faculty Award once in their career.

Sipe previously was the recipient of the 2000 Spring-Summer Research Award, the 2000-2001 National Council of Teachers of English Research

Award and the 1999-2000 Conference on English Leadership: Best Article for 1999 as well as a fellowship and grants.

She said that her grandmother inspired her to teach. Her grandmother never went to college, but at 87, still reads newspapers and books every day.

"She always said, 'Ask questions and read books, and there's nothing you can't know,'" Sipe said.

Sipe received her doctorate in education from Boston University, a certification in secondary education and a master's in teaching English from the University of Alaska at Anchorage, and a bachelor's in English from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Before coming to EMU in 1997, Sipe taught English in K-12 in public schools. She said she likes that the University encourages professors to spend quality time with students through office hours and meetings outside of

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

Health Care Task Force meetings set for campus groups

During the last several months, the University Health Care Task Force has been studying the complex issues of health care which face Eastern Michigan University.

A series of informational meetings are scheduled for various groups on campus. During these meetings, surveys will be distributed to obtain employee input. Surveys will be mailed to athletic coaches, administrative professionals, confidential clericals and faculty.

The first meetings for the professional/technical and clerical/secretarial groups were scheduled April 11. Managers should encourage their employees to attend one of these important upcoming meetings:

Monday, April 23

Campus police/police sergeants: 7-8:30 a.m., Alumni Room, McKenny Union

Professional/technical: 12:30-2 p.m., Alumni Room, McKenny Union

Clerical/secretarial: 2:30-4 p.m., Alumni Room, McKenny Union

Tuesday, April 24

Food service, custodial & maintenance: 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wise Room, DC-1

Campus police/police sergeants: 3-4:30 p.m., Reception Room, McKenny Union

Wednesday, April 25

Food service, custodial & maintenance: 6:30-7:30 a.m.; 12:30-1:30 p.m., fifth floor, Rec/IM

"Take Our Daughters to Work" Day slated April 26

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, Thursday, April 26. Help celebrate this special day by inviting your daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends, ages 9-18.

The schedule for the day is: registration, 8:15-8:45 a.m., McKenny Union Ballroom; concurrent workshops, 9-11:45 a.m., various campus locations; luncheon, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., McKenny Union Ballroom; "On the Job" with parent or sponsor, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Faculty and staff must pre-register by Wednesday, April 18. Call Joanne Hansen, 487-0020, ext. 2115.

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 5 p.m., Monday, April 23. 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 5 p.m.

CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL

(Hiring Range)

CSAA0145 CS03 \$9,623
Secretary, Nursing, 50% appointment.

CSAA0144 CS04 \$21,369
Secretary II, Leadership & Counseling (MacIntosh computers, Microsoft Office, FileMaker Pro).

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL

(Hiring Range)

PTEN0107 PT07 \$30,244-\$35,568
Coordinator, Supplemental Instruction Holman Learning Center (REPOST).

tal Instruction Holman Learning Center (REPOST).

FOOD SERVICE/MAINT.

(Hourly Rate)

FMBF0156 FM06 \$8.08
Custodian, Floater, Physical Plant (11 p.m.-7:30 a.m. Sunday-Thursday).

FMBF0157 FM06 \$8.08
Custodian, Floater, Physical Plant (11 p.m.-7:30 a.m. Sunday-Thursday).

An Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer

ATHLETICS/COACHING

(Hiring Range)

ACPR0108 AC11 \$21,682-\$26,452
Assistant Coach, Swimming.

ACPR0109 AC11 \$21,682-\$26,452
Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball.

CAMPUS POLICE

(Hiring Range)

CPBF0104 CP01 \$30,918
Officer, Public Safety.

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class.

Sipe said that she likes teaching because teachers have the ability to help people get joy out of learning and literacy.

"I have a pretty strong passion for learning and growing and doing new things," she said. "I enjoy helping people. I do that with excitement. I enjoy watching people glimpsing new possibilities for themselves."

But teaching can be a physically draining profession because teachers try to do it all, Sipe said.

"There are so many things to do and some try to do it all," Sipe said. "A lot work until midnight."

Even though she was named the winner of the Distinguished Faculty Award, Sipe pointed out that there are other teachers doing the same thing she does.

"Why me?," she asked. "It's a tremendous honor."

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rienced the long walks to class and the hunt for a parking space.

But he also mirrored Caine's schedule, attending her classes, working out at the REC/IM, having dinner with a few of Caine's friends at McKenny Union, and sitting in on a Student Government House of Representatives meeting.

Kirkpatrick, who participated in a similar event when he was the president of the University of Texas-San Antonio, said his classroom experience was unlike his days as an undergraduate when students sat and listened to "talking heads."

"That was a unique experience for me," Kirkpatrick said during a wrap-up press conference. "It was evident that our faculty wants to do different things in the classroom and engage students in different ways."

He described his "most traumatic experience" as Calculus 3, admitting 30 years away from it had diminished his knowledge of the subject.

After experiencing the life of a president, Caine said of Kirkpatrick, "I have the greatest respect for him. I don't know how he does it every day."

Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

When I interviewed at Eastern Michigan University in 1994, I didn't expect to come here. I had been associate dean of the graduate school at Georgetown University and was on a National Endowment Fellowship, working with national standards while teaching at GU.

After visiting EMU, however, I found that the University fit everything I was interested in. I talked with faculty, administrators and staff and found I really respected the dedication of EMU people.

I currently sit on the strategic planning cross-cutting committee for centers and institutions, integrating the strategic plan into the graduate experience. Strategic planning is a process that ties long-range goals and budgeting together. It's a process that sets the tone and tenure for distribution of institutional resources.

The graduate school is a nexus for many academic activities across the university. You can't find too many areas of teaching, research or service that are without graduate influence.

Additionally, the mentoring relationship between faculty and students, demonstrated by the Undergraduate Symposium and the Graduate Research Fair, is one of our real strengths. You don't find that at many universities. That's the value of our faculty and staff and the educational environment at EMU.



Patrick Melia, Ph.D.
Associate Dean,
Faculty Affairs
Graduate School,
Graduate Studies and Research

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY™