

MLK celebration offers variety of events

Eastern Michigan University will honor the memory of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with all-day special events Monday, Jan. 15.

While the highlight of the annual event is the keynote speaker which, this year, is noted author, professor and minister Michael Dyson, there are plenty of other activities scheduled Jan. 15, as well as a few events in the days leading up to the celebration.

Eastern Michigan students will have 30-40 related events to choose from during the week, said Glenna Frank Miller, director of McKenny Union and Campus Life.

Keynote speaker Michael Dyson will give a 15-minute address at the President's Luncheon, scheduled from noon-2 p.m., Ypsilanti Marriott Grand Ballroom, before hosting a one-hour program later that day, at 2:15 p.m., in Pease Auditorium. The Pease Au-

ditorium program was originally slated for 3 p.m.

For those who don't get the opportunity to hear Dyson, there are plenty of other opportunities to celebrate King. The schedule includes:

Friday, Jan. 12

■ **MLK Coffeehouse**, 8 p.m. - midnight, Walton/Putnam Main Lounge.

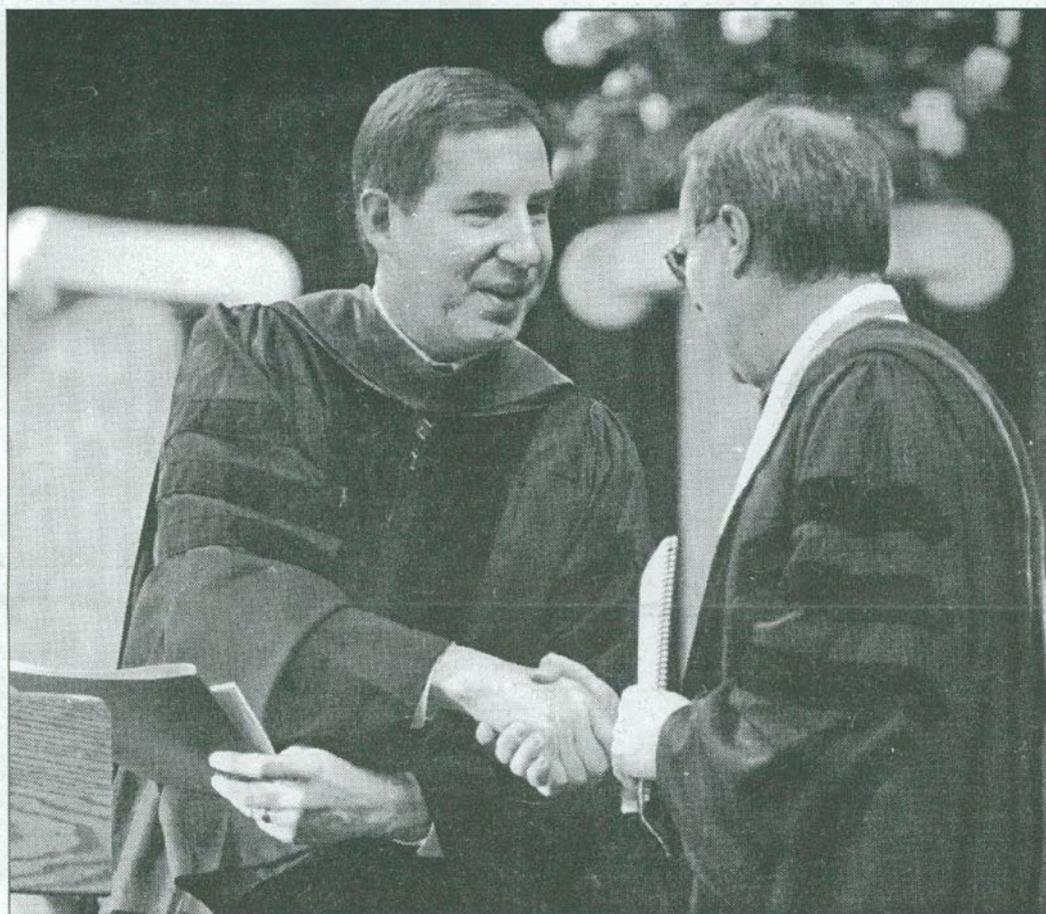
Saturday, Jan. 13

■ **Lock-In**, Rec IM, 2nd and 3rd Floor. Highlights include: Diversion Dance Troupe, Open Mic, Slam Dunk Contest.

Thursday, Jan. 11

■ **Student Athlete Advisor Council (SAAC)** and the **America Reads** program do a **Read-In** for Ypsilanti area children.

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TREASURED SPEAKER

THE TAX MAN COMETH: Michigan State Treasurer Mark Murray (left), the keynote speaker for Eastern Michigan University's final graduation of 2000, receives an offer of congratulations from EMU President Samuel A. Kirkpatrick (right).

During the ceremony, Murray was conferred with an honorary doctorate degree of public service from EMU.

More than 1,300 students were eligible to participate in the pomp and circumstance, including 989 undergraduates, 381 graduate students and four doctoral candidates during the Dec. 17 event in the Convocation Center.

Harris named associate VP of academic affairs

By Ron Podell

Michael Harris has been named associate vice president of academic affairs at Eastern Michigan University, effective Jan. 1, 2001. Harris had been serving as interim associate vice president since May 1, 2000. Prior to this appointment, he served as the undergraduate studies coordinator for the Division of Academic Affairs.

"From the first day we named him as the interim associate vice president, he really did perform the full range of responsibilities of the job," said Provost Ron Collins, who made the appointment. "In that sense, we had the ability to evaluate him for the better part of a year."

While Collins said Harris performed well in all of his duties, he did make special mention of Harris' efforts to develop an academic program review

process, which will be implemented this year, Collins said.

Of his appointment, Harris said, "My goal was to do a good job and work as hard as I could for the University, the Division of Academic Affairs, the provost and the president."

"Everything we do should have an impact on the classroom," Harris said. "I am committed to facilitating the processes that will provide outstanding programs."

Harris will continue with the responsibilities he had when he was interim associate vice president. These include the coordination of the academic review process and the review and approval

system of academic courses and program development.

Harris also will continue to supervise many areas, including the North Central Association (NCA) reaccreditation process, the director of the Faculty Center for Instructional Excellence, the director of the University Honors Program, the Undergraduate Studies Coordinator, the faculty course evaluation process, and the preparation of materials for the Faculty Affairs and the Educational Policies committees of the Board of Regents.

Harris received his undergraduate degree in economics and business administration from Bar-Ilan University. He received his master's degree from Tel Aviv University and his Ph.D. in public policy from Indiana University.



Harris

SEE HARRIS, PAGE 4

Foreign language professor, chemistry teacher die

By Tricia Couture

Sharon Robertson, 54, a former Eastern Michigan University professor of foreign languages and bilingual studies, died from liver failure Dec. 10, 2000.

Robertson started at EMU in 1980 and taught in the German department until April 2000.

"It's a terrible blow to the department," said John Hubbard, head of the foreign languages and bilingual studies department. "She was a wonderful colleague; students loved her. Her illness was tragic."

Hubbard said that he will miss her sense of humor and he suspects her students will miss her as well.

"She was an excellent professor," Hubbard said. "She received excellent student and peer evaluations. She was an active professor in many organizations."

Robertson pursued her doctoral studies in German at the University of Michigan and obtained her Ph.D. from there in 1987.

Robertson was past vice president of the EMU chapter of the American Association of University Professors and, for several years, directed the department's summer

programs in Austria. She loved art and music and was a member of EMU's Collegium Musicum and the Reader's Theater Group.



Robertson

"I will miss her creativity, warmth and sense of humor," said Cathy Day, a long-time friend and colleague in the foreign languages department.

She is survived by her mother, Anne Short, of Texas; her sister, Susy McCarty; and her brother, Charles Short.

A memorial service is scheduled Saturday, Jan. 13, 3 p.m., at the Michigan Friends Center in Chelsea. Contributions in Robertson's name can be made to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 and Mosaic Feline Refuge, P.O. Box 7801, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

The university lost another friend Dec. 18, 2000, when John Sullivan, 68, a professor of chemistry, died when he had a heart attack shortly after a game of handball at the Rec/IM on campus.

Sullivan was a professor of organic chemistry at EMU for 42 years.

His death was very unfortunate and unexpected, said Wade J. Tornquist, head of the chemistry department at Eastern Michigan.

"He was very kind and good-natured," Tornquist said. "He was very likable and cared a lot about students, and about how much they learn. He was generally in very good spirits and a very happy person."

Sullivan will be missed by his colleagues in the chemistry department as well, Tornquist said.

"His best friends were colleagues in the department," Tornquist said. "He was the kind

of person that held the group together. He made the group a family and reached out to the new faculty. That bond is important in a department."

Arthur Howard, an organic chemistry professor, said that Sullivan was one of the reasons he decided to work at EMU.



Sullivan

"When I came to interview, I met him," Howard said. "He was one of the people that made the department a congenial place. He made me feel welcome. That reaction has been reinforced over the years."

Tornquist said that Sullivan loved to play sports, especially tennis and handball, and enjoyed being with his friends.

"It's important to be a person who likes people when you're in education," Tornquist said. "He was like that. We'll miss him."

Sullivan was a member of the American Chemical Society and Sigma Xi. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Dartmouth University in 1954, and both his master's and Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Michigan, in 1956 and 1960, respectively.

He is survived by his wife Bernice, of Ypsilanti; two brothers, the Reverends Robert E. Sullivan and Elmer L. Sullivan; nine children, Patrick Sullivan, Mary Anne King, Margaret Hartman, Catherine Sullivan, Jean Lam, Elisabeth Sullivan, Robert Sullivan, Karen Ingersoll (Chase), and Eileen Sullivan; and six grandchildren.

KING, continued from page 1

Sunday, Jan. 14

■ **"Reflecting Martin,"** 7:30 p.m., Walton-Putnam Main Lounge. Performances, speeches and folk singers Matt Watroba and Robert Jones.

Monday, Jan. 15

■ **Opening Kick-Off "Step, Song & Speech & Breakfast,"** 9-10:15 a.m., McKenny Union Ballroom & Atrium. The event includes the EMU Gospel Choir, student orators, Molcha! Theatrical Performance, Renaissance Elementary School student orators.

■ **Morning Sessions/Panels/Presentations, 10:30-11:45 a.m., McKenny Union**

■ **The EMU Interactor Performance Group,** Alumni Room. Using theatre as a force for social change, the interactors will explore topics such as social justice, non-violent resolutions, civil rights.

■ **Towards Truth & Reconciliation: Hearing Their Voices-Giving Them Credit,** Faculty Room. Lesbian, gay male and heterosexual women's contributions to the civil rights movement will be discussed.

■ **Following the Dream: The Advent of Gang Culture,** Guild Hall. Since the time of Dr. Martin Luther King, conditions such as suppression and lack of understanding have given rise to severe gang problems. How do we identify and include them?

■ **Is the King Holiday Specifically for African-Americans or is it a Celebration for All People?,** Tower Room. The panel will discuss ways of broadening the appeal of the messages from the civil rights movement.

■ **MLK Programming for Young People,** Sponberg Theatre. Drama/Theatre for the Young presents: *Get on Board*. The event includes CTA storytelling students, master storyteller LaRon Wil-

liams and Ardis Renaissance Academy presents *Children of the 21st Century*.

■ **Morning Mini-Sessions: "The Civil Rights Movement and Its Impact on American Race Relations;" "Culturally Managing Conflict,"** and **"Has the Representation of MLK Changed in Picture Books since the late 1960s?"** 11-11:45 a.m., various locations, McKenny Union

■ The College of Business will sponsor a **continental breakfast, 9:30-10 a.m.,** and the presentation, **"Diversity in the Workplace,"** 10:30-11:45 a.m., 114 Owen Building.

■ The Department of Physics hosts, **"Black Holes: In String Theory,"** 11 a.m.-noon; a luncheon with a speaker at noon; and host **"The Interest of African-Americans and Physics,"** a panel discussion, 1-2 p.m. These events will be in 339 Strong Hall.

■ The College of Education hosts, **"What Does it**

Mean to be African-American?," 10:30-11:45 a.m., 301 a/b Porter. There will be a civil rights picture display case located across from 206 Porter.



Dyson

■ **President's Luncheon: noon - 2 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Marriott with keynote speaker Michael Dyson.** WEMU broadcast of keynote begins at 1 p.m.

■ **Ethnic Food Potluck** with musical guest Teri Varner, noon-2 p.m., Marshall Building, Commons Area.

■ **Michael Dyson is the keynote speaker in an event that includes the EMU Jazz Trio, 2:15-4 p.m.,** Pease Auditorium.

■ **CloseUp Theatre Troupe performs 3 p.m.,** Guild Hall, McKenny Union.

■ **Town Hall Meeting,**

4:40-5:30 p.m., Ballroom, McKenny Union. Moderators will explore the relationship between the resource-rich EMU and the underserved, struggling population and its doorstep, applying Dr. King's ideology.

■ **Getting There: Candlelight Walk and Presentation,** presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, 5:30 p.m. Walkers will depart from McKenny Union to the MLK Memorial Gardens to Multicultural Lounge. Refreshments served.

■ **Hip Hop Explosion,** featuring Regie Gibson, Love Jones Poet and 1998 National Poetry Slam Champion, and Kent Foremen, beat poet, 7 p.m., Pease Auditorium.

■ Displays and other events include a Martin Luther King Jr. display in Halle Library; a solicited MLK 2001 Celebration Sculpture; a student art gallery; a Lincoln Elementary School student art display in McKenny Union; and "I Have a Dream" video showings of Martin Luther King's speech, Halle Library.

Reviewing EMU weather policy can save time, trouble for faculty, students

Now that winter has officially arrived, please review the following official closing policy for Eastern Michigan University:

When bad weather occurs, the president will make the decision on whether Eastern Michigan University remains open. This decision is based on campus and regional conditions. During an alert, the physical plant staff monitors conditions on campus including roads, sidewalks and parking lots. The public safety department monitors county and state roads with the help of other police agencies and through the computerized Law Enforcement Network (LEIN).

When severe weather interferes with the University's ability to keep the campus clear and the roads are bad, the president will be informed.

He will then make a decision after consulting with designated staff. If the decision is to close Eastern Michigan or cancel classes, the public information and the public safety departments are notified. Public information will then disseminate the information to the EMU Newsline, the EMU switchboard, the EMU Website, WEMU radio station and other media. Public Safety will disseminate the information through the LEIN network.

If the university closes, the news will be carried on the EMU Newsline at 487-2460; the switchboard (487-1849); WEMU (89.1 FM); WJR (760 AM); WAAM (1600 AM) and other radio and television stations. This weather information will also be available on the EMU home page at www.emich.edu

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



SEASON'S GREETINGS: EMU Board of Regents Secretary Dana Aymond (middle) shares a light moment with Lee Reed (right), associate athletics director/internal affairs, at the recent campus-wide holiday reception in Welch Hall.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY™

Eastern Michigan University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit March 19-21, 2001, by a team representing the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Eastern Michigan University has been accredited by the Commission since 1915. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation and General Institutional Requirements

The public is invited to submit comments about the college to:

**Public Comment on Eastern Michigan University
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602**

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential.

**All comments must be received
by Jan. 22, 2001**

W5

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

EMU Board of Regents to meet Jan. 16

The next Board of Regents meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The committee schedule is: Student Affairs, 8 a.m., 205 Welch; Faculty Affairs, 8 a.m., 201 Welch; Educational Policies, 9 a.m., 205 Welch; and Finance, 10:30 a.m., 201 Welch.

The regular Board of Regents meeting begins at noon, 201 Welch Hall. The meeting will recess at 12:30 p.m. for lunch and reconvene at 1:30 p.m. For information, call 487-4400.

Mileage reimbursement increases

As of Jan. 1, 2001, the mileage reimbursement rate is 34.5 cents per mile, an increase from 32.5 cents per mile. The rate increase is effective for all travel for University business after Dec. 31, 2000. For more information, call 487-0022.

Alumni reception set for Jan. 20

The Office of Alumni Relations has scheduled an alumni reception, Saturday, Jan. 20, 5-7 p.m., Stadium Club, second level of the Convocation Center. The reception is scheduled between games of a basketball doubleheader featuring EMU's women's and men's teams.

Tickets for the reception are \$4 for alumni and \$6 for non-members, and can be purchased by calling 487-0250, by fax, 487-7009, or by e-mail at alumni.relations@emich.edu

When's the next FOCUS?

It's a very common question as FOCUS resumes its weekly publication schedule after the holidays with this issue. The schedule is as follows for the 2001 Winter Term:

Jan. 16, 23, 30;
Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27
March 6, 13, 20, 27
April 3, 10, 17, 24.

Correction

A story in the Dec. 12, 2000 issue of FOCUS announcing the schedule for the Jiffy Mixes Series should have stated that Eastern Michigan University President Samuel A. Kirkpatrick's presentation, "Leadership for the New Millennium," is scheduled Jan. 29, not Jan. 22 as provided to this publication.

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 5 p.m., Monday, Jan. 15. 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 Rate)

CSEN0106 CS05 \$24,147
Account Specialist, Financial Aid (REPOST).

CSAA0132 CS05 \$24,147
Senior Secretary, Nursing.

CSBF0105 CS05 \$24,147
Customer Service Representative II
Student Accounting.

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL

(Hiring Range)

PTAA0130 PT06 \$13,150-\$15,358
Administrative Assistant II, ISCFC (50% appointment) experience with accounting and/or database management desired.

FOOD SERVICE/MAINT.

(Hourly Rate)

FMSA0113 FM10 \$8.57
Custodian/Housekeeping, Group Lead McKenny Union/Campus Life (7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mon-Fri).

FMBF0136 FM06 \$8.08
Custodian, COB/Physical Plant (11 p.m.-7:30 a.m., Sun-Thurs).

ATHLETIC COACHING

(Hiring Range)

ACPR0105 AC11
\$21,682-\$26,452 Assistant Coach, Strength & Conditioning Athletics.

FACULTY

FO155 Assistant Professor, Biology, Academic Year Appointment.

FO154 Tenure Track Faculty, Interdisciplinary Technology, Academic Yr. 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.

HARRIS, from page 1

Harris first came to Eastern Michigan University in 1993 and specializes in public policy and administration. His work has been published in a variety of journals, including *The International Journal of Public Administration*, *Government and Policy*, and *Utopian Studies*, a non-profit quarterly. In addition, Harris has co-authored two books.

Harris has received several awards, including The Michigan Association of Governing Boards' Distinguished Faculty Award, EMU's Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award, and the 1999 EMU Alumni Teaching Excellence Award.

He also was recognized for his teaching excellence in 1998 and 1999 by the American Political Science Association. Harris is a regular contributor to the local Detroit and international media.

Why I teach at Eastern Michigan University

This is the beginning of my third year as an assistant professor in chemistry at Eastern Michigan University.

One of the things that initially attracted me to EMU was the diversity of the student body. It's very important to me to interact with people with a variety of backgrounds and life experiences.

This challenges me as an instructor, keeping the interest of all my students and helping them excel. I try to help the students understand that it's not just separate courses they are taking (biology, chemistry, physics), but that all of science is intertwined.

I think that Eastern Michigan has an extremely vital role in undergraduate science education in the state of Michigan. We are not only training students in their chosen careers, but helping them to become productive and conscientious citizens. We need to get the point across to the students that it is their generation that is going to need to make important decisions about the future of science and society as a whole.

I feel my job is to expand their knowledge of science, but also to help them develop their critical thinking and communication skills. That way, no matter where they go after EMU, they can take what they've learned and go out into the community to be informed consumers and communicate their knowledge of science to the general public.



Elizabeth Butch,
Assistant Professor,
Chemistry Department

Provost's Research Support Award for New Faculty 1999
Spring-Summer Research Award, 1999
Josephine Nevins Keal Development Fund Fellowship, 1999
Graduate School Research Fund, 1999

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY™

When you need to know if bad weather threatens cancellation of classes or University events!

EMU
Newline
487-2460

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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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