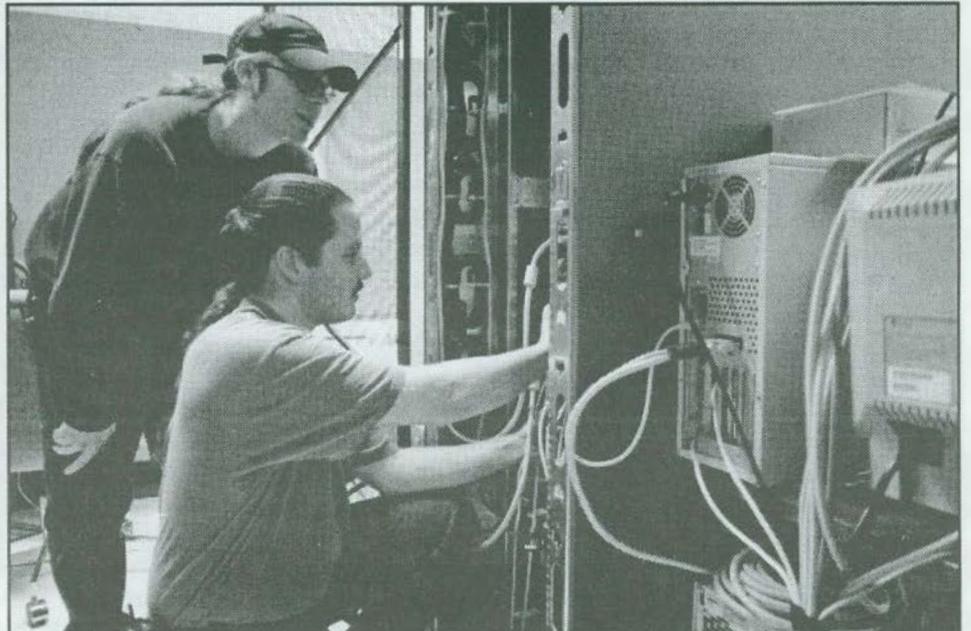


## EMU working toward 24/7 e-campus



**TECHNOLOGY TRAIL:** Margaret Cline (above left), director of the ICT Division, explains some elements of the new Banner System, a package of software tools that will replace all of the major administrative software systems on campus. (right) John French (standing), a senior network engineer, and Ralph Fitzpatrick, assistant director of networking, make adjustments to a server that is needed to handle the new e-mail system, electronic calendar and, eventually, a portal. A portal is a virtual gateway to information, products, services and experiences that are personalized for faculty, staff and students.

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a series about the implementation of key components of the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) initiative.*

By Carol Anderson

Imagine that all campus software systems are integrated and that many EMU services are available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Students can surf the University home page and order a transcript, check out their grades or apply for graduation. Faculty can electronically welcome students to their class, post a syllabus online and report grades.

EMU's Information Communications and Technology Division is work-

ing to make these user functions a reality, and to greatly improve the existing technology scenario on campus that includes too many different systems that are "patched" together, said Margaret Cline, director of the ICT Division. The new look will be a seamless, integrated system, she said.

The new Banner System is a package of software tools purchased from SCT Corp. that will replace all of the major administrative or core software systems at EMU. The baseline Banner product, combined with Banner Web solutions, the Campus Pipeline Web Platform and WebCt course managements system, will offer access to data for students, faculty, staff and alumni.

"Service to students is the ultimate goal," said Cline.

Whether the service is direct — such as the ability to submit an application for admission online — or indirect — providing faculty and staff with improved equipment and services — the campus will reap the benefits, Cline said.

ICT will target an implementation date for each core system and new Web service, reaching completion within two years, Cline said.

The Banner System, which commenced August 2001, will improve existing core software systems for handling finances, payroll, personnel records,

SEE E-CAMPUS, page 4

## Searches for CAS dean, librarian progressing

By Ron Podell

Eastern Michigan University is close to wrapping up recent searches for a dean for the College of Arts and Sciences and a University librarian.

Since March 12, five candidates for the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences have been interviewed on campus by a search committee headed by Jerry Robbins, dean of the College of Education.

Candidates include: Diane Michelfelder, head of the Department of Language and Philosophy at Utah State University; Donald Christian, associate dean for biological sciences, University of Montana; Benjamin C. Christy,

dean and professor of music, School of Visual and Performing Arts, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne; and Linda Pritchard, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Arkansas State University.

"The committee's evaluations of all of the candidates have been forwarded to me and I am currently considering those evaluations," said Provost Paul Schollaert.

Ellene Tratras Contis has served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences since July 1, 2001. She was appointed after former dean Barry Fish returned to the faculty.

Candidates for the head librarian position started com-

ing to campus for interviews in mid-February.

Librarian candidates include: James Marcum, professor and chief librarian, College of Staten Island, City University of New York; Rachel Cheng, associate university librarian, Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut; Elaine Didier, dean and professor, Kresge Library, Oakland University; Delmus Williams, dean of university libraries, University of Akron; and Laverna Saunders, acting vice president for academic affairs, Salem State College.

Fraya Wagner-Marsh, department head for the management department in the College of Business and chair

of the search committee, said the committee was expected to make a recommendation April 4 to assistant provost Michael Harris.

"I expect he will be moving quickly on this," Wagner-Marsh said.

Rhonda Fowler has served as the interim head librarian since May 1, 2001. Fowler took over for Sandra Yee, former department head of the library and associate dean of learning resources and technology.

Yee is now dean of Wayne State University's library system.

Under a restructuring, the position is now referred to as University librarian, Wagner-Marsh said.

## Bunsis doesn't teach accounting by the numbers

By Carol Anderson

Howard Bunsis doesn't teach accounting by the numbers. Rather, Bunsis relates accounting through relevant current events as a way to engage his students in what he termed the "dreaded" introduction to accounting class.

As one of four EMU professors to be honored with a 2001 Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Award, Bunsis was granted the Teaching I Award for his teaching philosophy of totally committing to his students' education. The Teaching I Award is granted to faculty with less than five years seniority.

"The traditional way of teaching accounting is unnatural. I don't refer to debits and credits, but to transactional analysis," said Bunsis, an associate professor of accounting.

Bunsis said he "hooks" students on the first day of class. He introduces a series

of current event articles and then refers to them continually during the class. Recently, he had his class compare the financial situations of Kmart, Wal-Mart and Target. The Enron case will be the topic of class discussion for a couple of weeks.

"The stock market really cares about accounting. Stock prices rise or fall with a company's earnings," said Bunsis. "Accounting is the language of business."

Except for addition and subtraction, there's little math involved in accounting, according to Bunsis. But accounting does have its own language. He used "charge" and "reserves" as words that mean one thing in English and another in accounting.

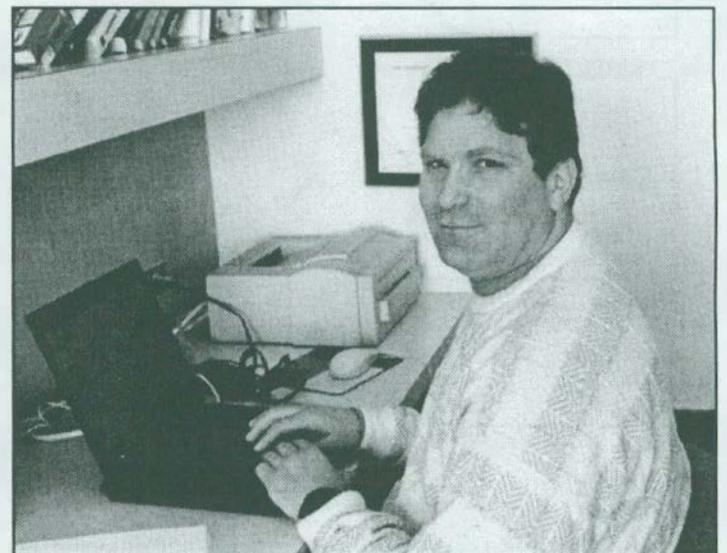
"The EMU campus community, from the president on down, values and respects professors and the relationships they have with students. I think an integral part of my job is to advise students about careers," Bunsis said.

Bunsis is involved with the Beta Alpha Psi Club that brings in professional business people to speak to students. Several of his former students have been speakers.

Currently, his graduating students are involved with Academic Service-Learning, a concept where students go into the community and work with a business while earning college credits. The students are currently helping a restaurant set up and maintain bookkeeping records. They also are advising the *Eastern Echo* on how to grow their business.

Bunsis is a certified public accountant in New York, an attorney, an author and a researcher.

He earned a bachelor's degree in economics and accounting from the University of Pennsylvania, a master's degree and doctorate in accounting from The University of Chicago, and a juris doctorate from Fordham University School of Law.



**ACCOUNTABLE TEACHER:** Howard Bunsis, an associate professor of accounting, recently received the Distinguished Faculty Teaching I Award.

Since he joined EMU in 1998, Bunsis has received the 2001 College of Business Teaching Excellence Award; 2000 College of Business Research Excellence Award; and the 2000 and 1999 University Gold Medallion Service Awards.

Prior to coming to EMU, Bunsis taught at Southern

Methodist University's Edwin L. Cox School of Business and The University of Chicago's Graduate School of Public Policy. He has four previous teaching awards from SMU.

A native New Yorker, Bunsis lives in Ann Arbor with his wife, Barbara Byers, and two sons, Sam and Josh.

## Woods helps develop African-American Studies

By Kathleen Shields

Ronald C. Woods' devotion to developing Eastern Michigan University's African American Studies program has led to the creation of the first department of African American Studies in higher education in the state of Michigan and the state's first bachelor's degree in the field.

Woods' chairmanships of the Academic Affairs Committee on Curriculum Diversity (AACCD) and the Diversity, Inclusion and Affirmative Action Cross-Cutting Strategic Planning Committee have been other major contributions he's made that have contributed to altering institutional culture and practices.

For these contributions and more, Woods, professor of African American Studies, is the recipient of the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Award for Service to the University.

Woods' University service includes the development and design of both graduate and undergraduate academic programs; active membership on University task forces, committees and initiatives pertaining to the improvement of University op-



**SPECIAL SERVICE:** Ron Woods, professor of African-American Studies, is the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award for Service to the University.

erations; the presentation of scholarly papers, lectures and interviews; and involvement with numerous community and professional service.

Woodssaid that winning the award "personally validates the importance

of the efforts we've made to transform an institution of higher learning."

Woods said his work is far from done, as he reflected on the early days of African American Studies at EMU.

"Before we were able to enter African American Studies into the basic studies program in the mid-1980s, there was no recognition of the importance of race or diversity in a student's background," said Woods.

All university students must now complete at least one multicultural course as part of a basic studies curriculum.

Woods holds a juris doctorate and a master's degree in history from the University of Michigan, and a bachelor's degree in history from Wittenberg University. After spending some time as a legal services attorney, he joined the (then) Afro-American Studies program as a lecturer in 1976.

"When I joined the Afro-American Studies Program, I hoped to make a significant contribution in my specialty — civil rights law, and policy and history," said Woods. "I wanted to be part of a strong interdisciplinary curriculum in African American Stud-

ies and develop strength as a teacher in the field."

Woods was promoted to assistant professor and director of the program in 1978. He became a full professor and head of the department of African American Studies in 1990.

Woods cites the quality of students in the program who have graduated as one of the high points of his educational career.

"Our students enter into a variety of professions and undertakings," Woods said. "Some are teaching, some are in business. Others have careers in law, or have gone on to become creative artists in some area."

Woods' service often ends up well beyond the borders of campus. The work and expertise of the AACCD in curriculum development has been shared with such groups as the Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor chapters of the NAACP, the David Byrd Center in Ann Arbor and the African American Historical and Cultural Museum of Washtenaw County.

"We link the University to the greater southeast Michigan community," said Woods. "We do a lot of workshops, speeches and community development undertakings."

# Duncan uses outside pursuits to augment teaching

By Hollie A. Bayer

As a college freshman, Jeffrey Duncan decided that he wanted to pursue teaching. He quickly ruled out teaching at the high school level because he didn't want to deal with kids like himself—troublemakers.

While at college, Duncan was called into a counselor's office after answering a questionnaire about his future plans. He was told that his goal of wanting to teach at a college was too high and that he should stick to teaching at the secondary level.

"I walked out of there feeling like

s@#\*," said Duncan.

Duncan wouldn't let the discouraging advice stop him from chasing his dreams. He just never knew that his goal would eventually lead to his receiving the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Teaching II Award. The Teaching II Award is given to an EMU faculty member with five or more years at the University.

"The big disappointment is not having gone for something and then looking back and thinking 'I didn't even try,'" said Duncan, reflecting on what may have been had he followed



**REACH FOR A DREAM: Jeffrey Duncan, professor of English language and literature, received the Distinguished Faculty Teaching II Award.**

the counselor's advice.

Duncan received his doctorate and master's degree in English and Ameri-

can literature from the University of Virginia; and his bachelor's degree in English from Long Beach State College. He came to EMU as a professor in the department of English language and literature in 1978.

He has been described by his students as understanding, enthusiastic and passionate. Duncan demands high quality work from his students and stresses they read things closely, examining the meaning of each individual word so that they grasp "the

**SEE DUNCAN, page 4**

# Polakow's research brings EMU international attention

By Paula Miller

Valerie Polakow has received numerous international awards and honors over the years, and now she has another one to add to her list. Polakow was recently selected by her colleagues for the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Award for scholarly/creative activity.

"I'm delighted to be the recipient of this scholarship award," said Polakow, a teacher education professor at Eastern Michigan University for 14 years. "It's been a very gratifying experience."

Judy Williston, a fellow professor of teacher education, nominated Polakow for the award.

"As an international scholar, she has brought accolades and high visibility to the College of Education and to Eastern Michigan University," said Williston. "I know of no other scholar and faculty member on this campus who is more deserving of the Distinguished Faculty Scholarship Award."

Polakow was honored that Williston and other colleagues nominated her for the award.

"She (Williston) did such a great job," Polakow said. "She coordinated letters from people all over the world that wrote in support of me."

In addition to her work at EMU, Polakow is a widely regarded author. She has published six books and has penned numerous book chapters,



**SHOWING CREATIVITY: Valerie Polakow, a teacher education professor, was recently honored with the Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Award for scholarly/creative activity.**

Polakow was awarded a Fulbright Award in 1995 to research family and child-care policies in Denmark.

articles and reports.

Polakow's most recent book, "*Diminished Rights: Danish Lone Mother Families in International Context*," is a qualitative study of low-income, female-headed families in Denmark.

In 1993, she gained national and international visibility following the publication of her second book, "*Lives on the Edge: Single Mothers and their Children in the Other America*." The book won the Kappa Delta Pi "Book of the Year" Award.

Afterwards, she was invited to testify before the U.S. Congress, was a featured keynote speaker in

the U.S. and abroad, and was awarded a Fulbright Award in 1995 to research family and child-care policies in Denmark.

"Her ability to function as a public intellectual has brought great credit to Eastern Michigan University," said Lou Kushnick, a professor of the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Archive in Manchester, U.K.

She is currently working on another book that focuses on post-secondary education access for low-income student mothers. The research is complete and she hopes the book will be out in a year.

Polakow earned her doctorate in educational psychology and master's degrees in psychology and education from the University of Michigan; and a bachelor's degree in English literature and political science from the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa.

Polakow said she came to EMU because of the College of Education's reputation and the University's involvement with the community.

"The position sounded interesting when I applied for it," said Polakow who enjoys the challenge of teaching.

Polakow teaches in two program areas: educational psychology and early childhood. She also is the co-program director at the Institute for the Study of Children, Families, and Communities.



For a more extensive listing of University events, go to the Office of Public Information home page at [www.emich.edu/public/public\\_information/](http://www.emich.edu/public/public_information/)

## Faculty and staff eligible for spring, summer tuition benefits

Employees interested in taking spring or summer classes at Eastern Michigan University are reminded of the following: In order to be eligible for tuition benefits, the employee must be staff, faculty or a 100 percent lecturer with a 50 percent or higher appointment.

For more information, call the Benefits Office at 487-3195.

## Correction

In an article about Week of Excellence award winners in the March 26 issue of FOCUS EMU, Alena Frey should have been included as the winner of the Gold Medallion Award for student volunteer.

Denise Beauvais and Amber Herrington, identified as the student volunteer award winners, actually were awarded Gold Medallions in the student leader category.

## McKenny Union expansion focus groups to meet

The campus community is invited to participate in one of two open focus group meetings to gather University and community input into the proposed McKenny Union expansion and renovation project.

The meetings are scheduled Tuesday, April 9, 12:30-2 p.m.; and Thursday, April 11, 3:30-5 p.m., Main Lounge, McKenny Union.

Workshops will be conducted by the architectural firms Burt Hill Kosar Rittelman Associates (Philadelphia, Pa.) and Hobbes and Black (Ann Arbor), the two firms working on this phase of the project.

To R.S.V.P., call Campus Life at 487-3045.

## "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day slated April 25

All faculty and staff are encouraged to bring their daughters to work as part of EMU's "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day, Thursday, April 25. Help celebrate this special day by inviting your daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends, ages 9-15.

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, 1-5 p.m.

Faculty and staff must pre-register by Monday, April 15. Call Joanne Hansen, 487-0020, extension 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 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)

CSSA0207 CS04 \$22,224  
Customer Service Representative,  
Housing.

CSBF0222 CS04 \$22,224  
Sr. Account Clerk, Accounts Payable.

CSAA0236 CS04 \$22,224  
Secretary II, History and Philosophy.

## FOODSERVICE/MAINT. (Hiring Rate)

FMSA0213 FM06 \$8.36  
Custodian, Housing & Dining-Custodial Prorate. Location: Complex I, Monday-Friday, 5 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (REPOST).

FMBF0289 FM06 \$8.36  
Custodian, Physical Plant. Location: College of Business, Sunday-Thursday, 11 p.m.-7:30 a.m.

FMBF0290 FM10 \$8.87  
Custodian/Housekeeper, Group Leader, Physical Plant. Location:

## An Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer

Pray-Harrod, Sunday-Thursday, 11 p.m.-7:30 a.m.

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.

## E-CAMPUS, from page 1

alumni records, financial aid and student records. It also will provide Web interfaces for students, employees, executives, alumni, faculty and advisors.

"This integrated system will manage the progress of an individual from (student) applicant to alumni," said Cline. "People don't see any progress on the President's strategic initiative to improve technology on campus. They think nothing is happening, but that's not true."

One of the first signs of progress will be July 2002 when the Web for finance software "goes live," said Cathy Cart, manager, accounts payable and data control, and leader of EMU's finance process team.

"Finance is easier to implement than other systems, since it doesn't have all the complexities of other systems. It's numbers. It's the best place to start," Cart said.

Starting with a pilot program in July, the finance software for online requisitions will be tested by housing, biology, athletics, Campus Life, University publications, mathematics and small business development.

The new software is expected to cut the requisition process by approximately 80 percent—from 10 to two days.

"We're changing the way we do business. It's a huge undertaking," said Cart.

## DUNCAN, from page 3

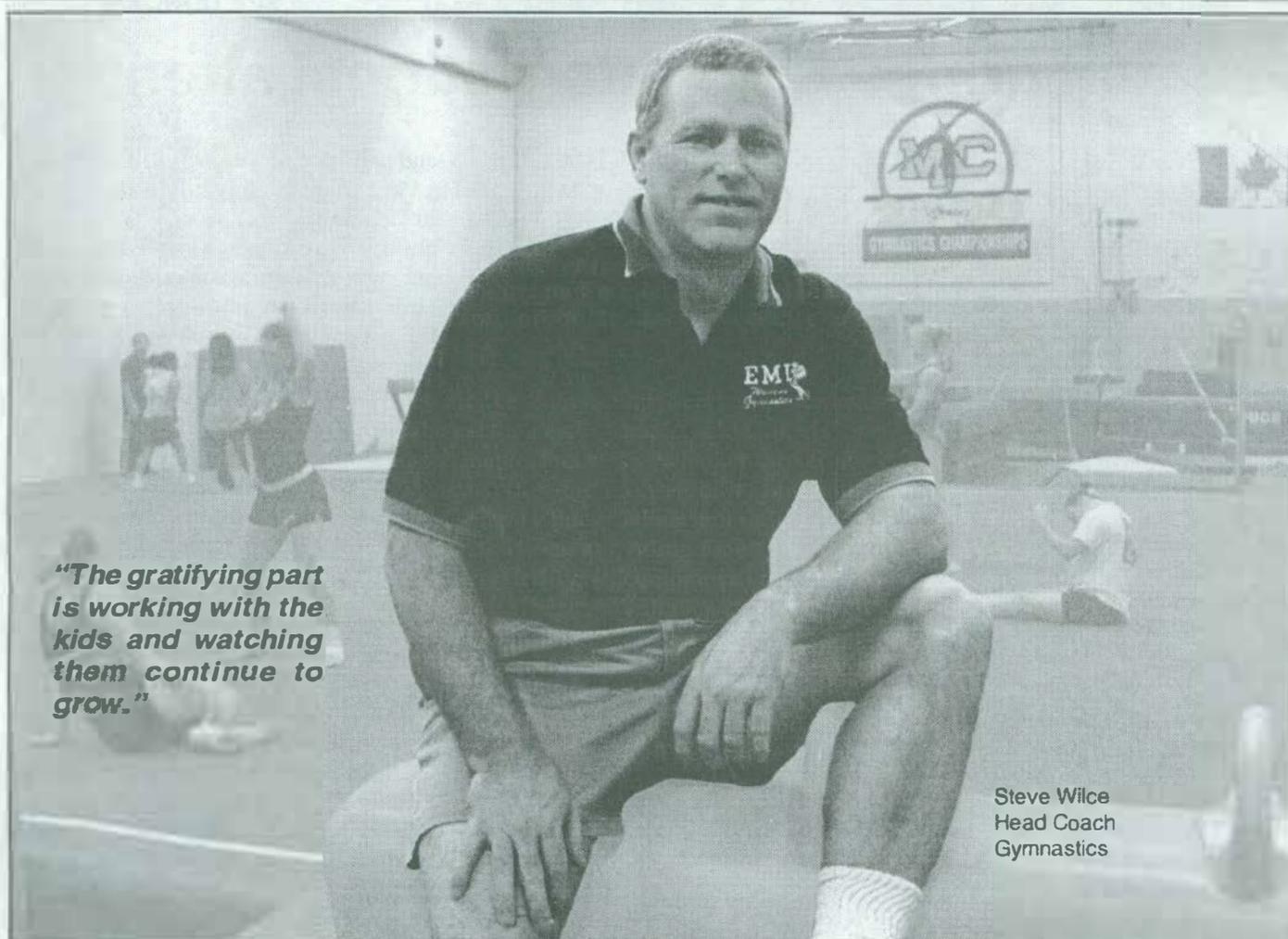
author's vision, not ours."

Duncan credited his energy, enthusiasm and intensity with contributing to his being honored, but admitted he was a little uncomfortable being singled out by his peers.

"I don't feel really comfortable wearing the word 'distinguished,'" Duncan said. "I don't think of myself that way. But it's a great honor."

Duncan continues to strive for personal success through writing and acting, believing that it will reflect in his teaching. Twelve years ago, Duncan joined the Wild Swan Theatre, an organization that performs plays for children.

"It (writing plays) gives me another perspective," said Duncan. "It helps me get inside of the text."



*"The gratifying part is working with the kids and watching them continue to grow."*

Steve Wilce  
Head Coach  
Gymnastics

## Why I work at Eastern Michigan University

**E**astern Michigan University provided me my first opportunity and I've been eternally grateful. I've always wanted to run a gymnastics program and I've been here 20 years.

The gratifying part is working with the kids and watching them continue to grow. I enjoy getting a chance to make an impact in young persons' lives and help them make that transition into becoming an adult.

The job of coaching is not just what you do in the gymnasium or on the field. It's the entire package of taking a student from high school to

the real world — being there when they need support or to help them academically. The athletic part is just the vehicle to accomplishing this.

We haven't won a MAC championship as a team, but we've had numerous individual champions. We've been second as a team three or four times. We haven't gotten over that hump, but we're always competitive.

I anticipate this being my only coaching job. I guess I'm what they call a lifer and will probably be here until I retire.