

News for  
Eastern Michigan  
Faculty and Staff

Feb. 12, 2002  
Vol. 48, No. 22

## O'Connor named 2001 Professor of Year

Dr. Bernard O'Connor, assistant dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at Eastern Michigan University, has been named 2001 Michigan Professor of the Year.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) recently announced O'Connor as the winner of their award.

This is only the second time in the competition's 20-year history that a nominee has been honored twice. O'Connor, a professor in political science, also was the 1999 Michigan Professor of the Year.

"We're excited and proud that he has won this prestigious award," said Michael Harris, associate provost of Eastern Michigan. "He deserves this honor because he is very well-known for his innovative teaching style."

O'Connor, who joined EMU in 1994, teaches diplomacy, mediation, international relations and law. He also has a national reputation in the areas of mediation and dispute resolution, and serves on the State of Michigan's Board of Ethics.

"Dr. O'Connor has an outstanding



**HONORED EDUCATOR:** Bernie O'Connor (right), assistant dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, was recently named 2001 Michigan Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

approach to teaching," said Rhonda Kinney, interim department head of political science at EMU, who helped nominate O'Connor. "His classes are very exciting because he helps students to take what they learn in class and then apply it to all aspects of their lives."

State winners were judged on their involvement with undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to undergraduate education in the institution, community and

**SEE O'CONNOR, page 4**

### THE BREADTH OF BRAHMS



**CHANNELING BRAHMS:** Kevin Miller, director of orchestral activities and music education professor, plays the role of Johannes Brahms during a recent rehearsal. Miller will lead an orchestra concert that will include Brahms' Symphony No. 4 Friday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m. in Pease Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

## NCAA compliance self-study under way

**By Ron Podell**

Eastern Michigan University will spend the next 15 months making sure it is compliant with the NCAA's governing rules for athletics.

In preparation for a scheduled May 2003 site visit from the NCAA, the University recently commenced a self-study of its athletics program. The self-study will focus on the following NCAA operating principles: adherence to governance and commitment to NCAA rules compliance, academic integrity, fiscal integrity and attention to equity, welfare and sportsmanship.

The University's second cycle self-study looks at both how its athletics department and programs have done since its first cycle review (1997) as well as whether Cycle I recommendations are being met, said Jim Vick, vice president for student affairs and chair of the University's NCAA Athletics Certification Steering Committee.

"The greatest benefit of the self-study is for the University community to gain a bet-

ter understanding of our athletics program," Vick said. "It's important that we have an athletics program that meets the requirements of the NCAA. This process will publicly confirm that we do."



**Reifel**

ly confirmed that we do." The NCAA adopted its operating principles in 1993, and then revised

them in 1998 based on information obtained by institutions during their first-cycle self studies, which was for a five-year period. As a result, EMU, along with the NCAA's other institutions, are starting their Cycle II studies, which will cover 10 years, Vick said.

"This is very similar to the NCA (North Central Association) visit," said Melody Reifel, EMU's assistant athletics director for compliance and a member of the Steering

**SEE NCAA, page 4**

# Professor houses museum/research center in home

Many professors teach and inform their students through discussion in the classroom. Charles Simmons, associate professor of English, has taken this concept in an innovative direction. He has brought some of his class lessons to life in his home.

Last year, Simmons opened a community gallery, known as the Simmons Gallery and Research Center — in his Detroit home.

## *Black History* February 2002 *Month*

"I transformed my private home into a gallery and research center for community and college youth throughout Southeastern Michigan," said Simmons.

This endeavor, which integrates the academy with community in a way that includes the social, political and cultural mood of the city of Detroit, includes a collection of memorabilia of African-American culture, cards, posters, paintings, abolitionist papers and other things that may portray African-Americans in a negative image.

"Students will be able to observe first-hand the social and cultural conditions of communities at various stages of development and underdevelopment," Simmons said.

The emphasis of the gallery exhibits takes an interdisciplinary and multicultural approach to historic



**A LIVING HISTORY:** Charles Simmons, associate professor of English, poses with some artifacts in his home museum that chronicles African-American culture in Detroit. The museum also acts as a research center for college students at EMU and throughout southeastern Michigan.

preservation of the Goldberg community, located in northwest Detroit.

This community is symbolic of many blue-collar and minority and/or senior citizen communities throughout urban America, which are disproportionately impacted by environmental forces, such as the presence of incinerators and illegal dumping, Simmons said.

The museum's exhibits portray local and global social justice, peace and sustainable development issues, and the role of media in covering

those issues.

"The exhibits were translated into multiple languages spoken in metropolitan Detroit," said Simmons, who mentioned the exhibits were translated into French, Spanish and Swahili by EMU students. "This will contribute to the exposure of neighborhood youth and adults to a better understanding of the various ethnic groups within the city and county, and the building of bridges across cultural borders."

Journalism students will benefit

greatly because they have the opportunity to observe history in the making and then conduct oral history and interviews with residents who have been a part of that historical process, Simmons said.

Simmons also pointed out that there are strong scholarly underpinnings to such a project.

The historic sites in the community, which the gallery and research center study and display, include: the popular music recording company, Motown; Whites Records, a pioneer record store; and King Solomon Baptist Church, which hosted major speakers, including the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.

Marshall, while an attorney for the NAACP, addressed the Detroit audience shortly after the famous Brown versus Board of Education case.

A second exhibit currently housed at the gallery is *A Woman's Place: Images of Women in the Media*, which Simmons produced in Los Angeles in 1993.

Simmons prepared an exhibit, *Kids and The Environment*, for last summer's Detroit 300, a celebration of the greening of Detroit in which 1,701 trees were planted in 2001 in existing parks, school areas, streets and community gateway locations.

The exhibit was a collection of drawings, paintings, and poetry by youth in grades K-12 that expressed their perceptions of their community today and their vision for their community in the future. — *Contributed by Rashid Umar*

## EMU education certificate aids demand for more certified teachers in Detroit, Flint classrooms

By Ron Podell

Kevin Beazley graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1993 with a degree in sociology. After graduation, he worked as a deliveryman for Coca-Cola. The pay was good but the hours were long and he was away from his family a lot.

Looking for a change, Beazley was intrigued when his brother, David, a teacher in the Flint Public Schools System, wanted Kevin to substitute teach and help coach the wrestling team. Beazley took the leap and quit his job.

To receive his teaching certificate, Beazley is currently enrolled in EMU's Urban Teacher Certification

Program, and is taking a math course for his major as well as a core class.

The program provides non-certified teachers with the opportunity to complete a set of required courses and field experiences leading to certification while remaining employed in Detroit and Flint area public schools. At the same time, the program addresses teacher shortages.

Upon successful completion of all program requirements and state tests, participants will become eligible for Michigan certification.

Courses are conveniently offered year-round in Detroit and Flint (first offered at this site in September 2001) and all of the fieldwork can be

completed in the Detroit and Flint Public School Systems.

"My schedule is very busy, but the goal to be a teacher is what I am shooting for," said Beazley, who currently is a

job and go back to school is very scary, but it will all be worth it."

"We started two cohorts of 20 students each in Detroit and Flint in September," said

*"The choice to quit work and go back to school is very scary, but it will all be worth it." (discussing his enrollment in EMU's Urban Teacher Certification Program)*

**Kevin Beazley,**  
1993 EMU Graduate

full-time emergency certified math teacher at Flint Central High School. "This is the first year of the program in Flint, so it is very trying at times. The choice to quit a full-time

Regina George, director of the Urban Education Program. "They will progress along for about two years and then student-teach on the job in those districts."

Approximately five percent of the 120 students currently working toward certification are EMU graduates, George said.

Minimum admission requirements include a bachelor's degree with a 2.5 GPA from an accredited institution, including completion of majors/minors and the attainment of at least a 2.5 GPA in the major or minor fields of study.

Requirements also include successful completion of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Basic Skills; a personal statement; recommendation letters and official transcripts.

For more information, call 487-7120, ext. 2566.

# Strategic plan focuses on campus improvement

*Editor's Note: This is the eighth in a series about the implementation and funding of the University's strategic plan initiatives over the next six months.*

By Ron Podell

Improving physical resources, upgrading the level and quality of technology on campus, and fine-tuning processes and practices to ensure quality represents a three-pronged approach to continuous improvement under Eastern Michigan University's strategic plan.

Examples for each area include: expanding McKenny Union to accommodate the growing student traffic; hiring a Web Services coordinator to lead a team to refine and improve the University Web site; and providing a leadership training program for administrators and staff.

Direction 6 of the University's strategic plan states that EMU will improve institutional effectiveness.

"Direction 6 is really a quality-assurance direction where we, as an institution, make it clear that we are committed to quality and want to ensure quality," said EMU President Samuel A. Kirkpatrick. "We want to have practices and policies that always enable us to change and improve, and to find better ways of doing things."

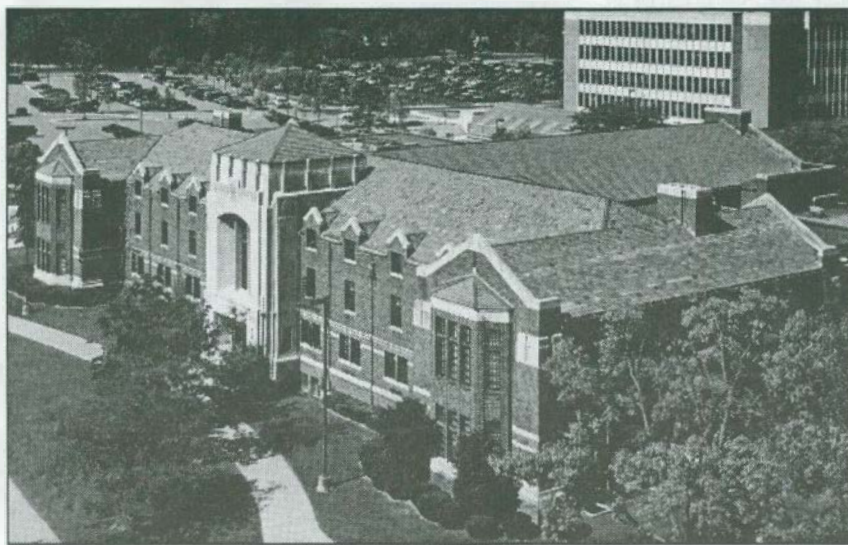
Five initiatives under Direction 6 are directly related to improving facilities and classrooms on campus. This article will focus on those initiatives.

Capital construction/renovation initiatives include:

- Study the modernization of Pray-Harrold, including renovating and upgrading of classrooms and faculty office space. This study was funded last fall in the existing budget after the Board of Regents approved the project as its No. 1 capital project for state renovation funding last summer.

"Our first priority is to improve the learning environment of Pray-Harrold classrooms as part of the modernization study," Kirkpatrick said. "It is our largest classroom building and handles a high proportion of our student volume. It is our work-horse building."

- Expansion of McKenny Union. A study for the expansion and renovation of the existing 119,000-square-foot student union is expected to be completed by May 30.



**EXPANSION PLAN:** A study for the the expansion and renovation of McKenny Union (left) is expected to be completed by May 30.

The expansion is one of a number of capital projects designated for continuous improvement under Direction 6 of the University's strategic plan. Other projects include: renovation of Pray-Harrold, construction of new parking facilities, and upgrading of building classrooms campus-wide.

The search for an architectural firm to develop a program statement for the project has been narrowed to two firms, with a choice expected shortly, said Jim Vick, vice president for student affairs.

"We've asked for a project in the \$20 million range that will probably be funded with student fees," Vick said. "We're looking at doing an expansion of the existing facility that would include more retail, dining, meeting and storage space. Hopefully, we would have some auditorium and theatre space."

Construction will likely start within two years, with expansion possibly moving northward toward Briggs Hall and the Mark Jefferson Mall area, said Glenna Frank Miller, director of McKenny Union and Campus Life.

- Construction of a new parking structure and surface lots. This study has been completed and the Board of Regents, in November 2001, approved a plan to build a new 260-space parking structure on the south side of Pease Auditorium, the current site of the business and finance building. In addition, a 1,031-space surface lot will be constructed on the site of the existing intramural softball fields north of Phelps Hall. A second, smaller, 72-space lot also will be built east of the Alexander Music Building.

The surface parking lots are scheduled to be completed for this coming fall and the parking structure is expected to be ready for fall 2003. The 1,363 new parking spaces will increase central

campus parking capacity by 25 percent.

- Upgrade classrooms throughout buildings on campus. Approximately \$40,000 has been earmarked to fund a needs analysis and feasibility study, which is expected to be completed by April 30, with a plan of action ready by May 31, Kirkpatrick said.

"In addition to Pray Harrold, we also want to conduct a study of classroom conditions across campus in all of our buildings," said Kirkpatrick, who added any classroom upgrades should be modeled after those in the Marshall and Porter buildings.

- Expansion of regional sites for Continuing Education. A feasibility study is under way to determine if and where the best location would be for another regional instructional site for Continuing Education. Currently, EMU has regional sites located in the cities of Detroit, Livonia and Traverse City, the Flint area, and Jackson and Monroe counties.

The study will include an analysis of regional, demographic and economic indicators, with a plan expected to be completed by June, said Donald Loppnow, assistant to the president for strategic planning and associate vice president for extended programs.

"We're looking at Livingston County. It's a fast-growing area," Loppnow said. "We're also exploring areas in Wayne and Monroe counties."

# W5

## Women of Excellence nominations due

Nomination forms for the Third Annual Women of Excellence Awards are available at various campus offices, including The Women's Center and at [www.emich.edu/wcen](http://www.emich.edu/wcen).

The Women of Excellence Awards recognize the unique contributions that women make to the EMU campus community.

Nominations are due Feb. 22. For more information, call 487-4282.

## Explore Eastern event scheduled Feb. 16

Explore Eastern, an event for prospective students, is scheduled Saturday, Feb. 16, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The day, which begins at McKenny Union, includes a walking tour of campus, instant admissions decisions, an opportunity to talk to faculty and staff, and presentations about the five colleges.

To register, call 800.GO-TO-EMU.

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/)

## EMU SPOTTED: U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus covets EMU silver pen

*EMU Spotted is an occasional feature that will appear in FOCUS EMU, noting EMU identity items showing up in unusual or out-of-the-way places. If you have an EMU Spotted item, please submit it to Ron Podell at [ron.podell@emich.edu](mailto:ron.podell@emich.edu).*

During a recent black-tie affair in early January, Donald Bandler, U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus, was having a conver-



WEMU silver pen

sation with National Public Radio (NPR) Vice President Murray Horwitz. Ambassador Bandler expressed admiration for the WEMU silver pen Horwitz had in his pocket. Horwitz relayed his story to WEMU's Molly Motherwell, who sent a pen to the ambassador.

The ambassador, quite pleased and now an avid WEMU listener, said in an e-mail sent to WEMU, "It makes me confident that, whatever the momentum of the e-age, that special feel of a good ink pen on paper will endure."

# JOBSLINE

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, Feb. 18. 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)

CSBF0214 CS03 \$20,016  
Postal Clerk, Administrative Support Services-Mailroom (Valid Driver's License).

CSAA0226 CS04 \$22,224  
Secretary II, Nursing (REPOST).

CSEN0217 CS05 \$25,113  
Customer Service Representative II, Records and Registration.

CSUR0204 CS05 \$25,113  
Senior Secretary, ICARD.

## FOOD SERVICE/MAINT

(Hourly Rate)

FMBF0280 FM06 \$8.36-\$13.73  
Custodian, Physical Plant - Location: Bowen/Warner, Sunday thru Thursday (11 p.m.-7:30 a.m.).

## ATHLETICS/COACHING

(Hiring Range)

ACPR0205 AC12 \$32,756-\$39,963  
Assistant Coach, Men's Football, Athletics.

## ACADEMIC ADMIN. AND FACULTY

APAA0214 Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs.

For additional information about Faculty and academic positions, visit the Human Resources webpage. Click on: "employment opportunities," go to "academic," then to "academic administrative vacancies." You may contact the Academic Human Resources office in 202 Boone Hall at 487-0076.

## O'CONNOR, from page 1

profession; and support from colleagues and students. State award winners are considered for the National Professor of the Year award.

This is the second major award that O'Connor, 50, has won in 2001. He also was one of only three professors nationwide to be honored by the Academy of Educational Leadership. The award, which honors innovative teachers and educational programs, was presented for O'Connor's teaching model, "Conflict Response Alliance." The model is a trilogy of courses dealing with the fundamentals of mediation, international relations and the politics of international diplomacy.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching was founded in 1905 by the industrialist Andrew Carnegie. It is the only advanced study center for teachers in the world and the third oldest foundation in the nation.

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education is the largest international association of educational institutions in 44 countries.

## NCAA, from page 1

Committee.

The NCA granted EMU a full, 10-year reaccreditation for its academic programs last August. To be reaccredited means continuation of federal funding and financial aid for students, a significant portion of the University's operating budget.

Athletic certification from the NCAA for a university or college is meant to ensure the NCAA's fundamental commitment to integrity in intercollegiate athletics is being met. The University is seeking a full, 10-year certification from the NCAA, Vick said. A self-study written plan will be submitted to the NCAA Feb. 14, 2002, he said.

The University kicked off its NCAA self-study certification period Jan. 30 with a meeting of its 43-member steering committee.

To publicize the work of the steering committee and its subcommittees, a Web site will be developed to ensure that internal and external constituents are kept informed of the University's NCAA certification process, Reifel said.

# Why I teach at Eastern Michigan University

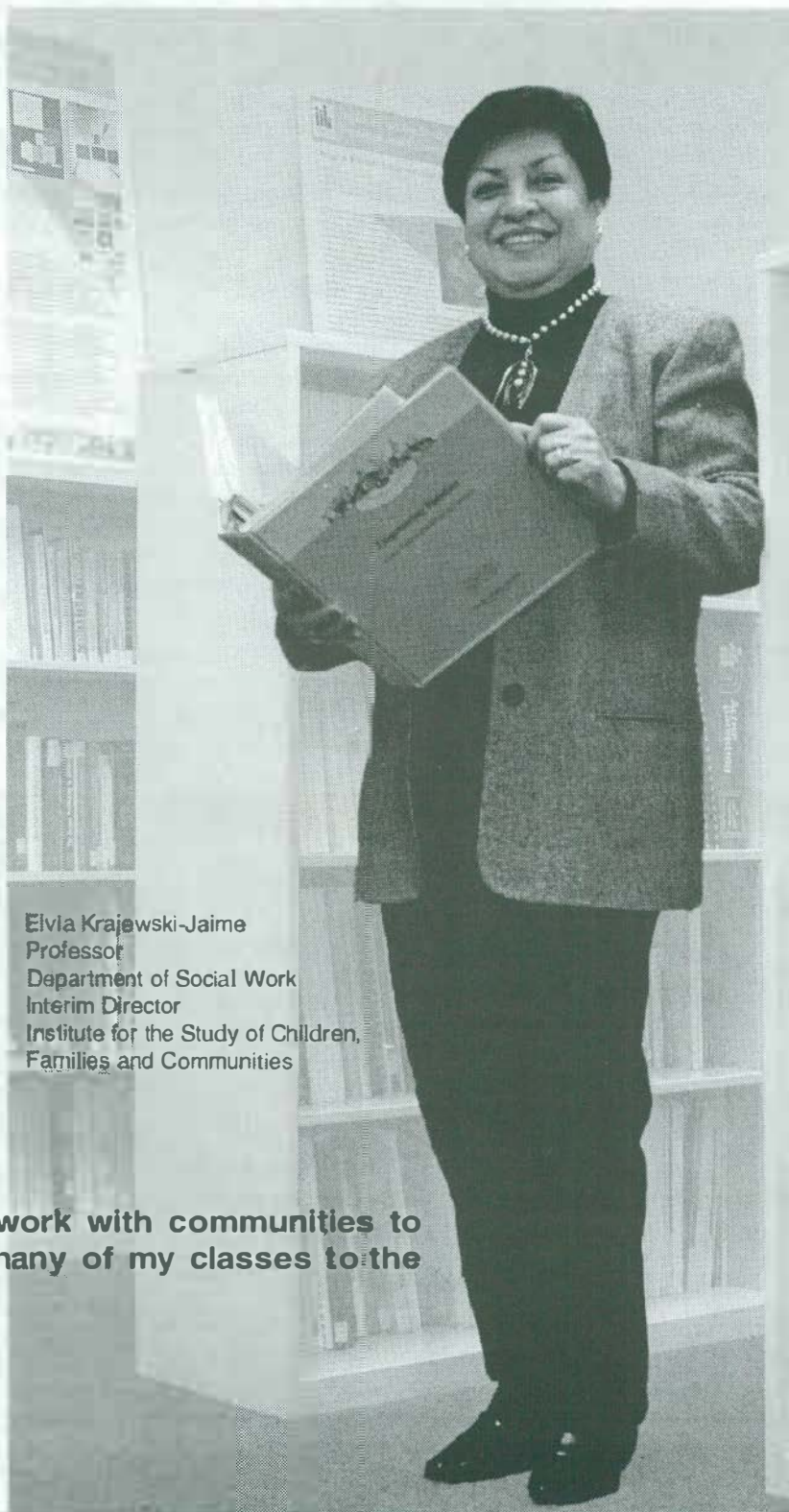
Some 16 years ago, I had the choice of teaching at either Eastern Michigan University or the University of Michigan. I chose EMU and never regretted coming here. My passion is teaching and at EMU I can combine instruction with service to the community and scholarly pursuits. This is a great way to teach and give back to the community at the same time.

To learn first-hand how to work with communities to address their needs, I take many of my classes to the Latino community in Detroit. They research an issue by talking to the people, discovering their strengths and limitations, accessing the situation, and proposing a course of action. It's a great way to teach students to integrate theory with practice.

As a good teacher, I want to produce a better student. After teaching approximately 5,000 students over the years, I always want to know that I made a difference in their lives. That makes teaching so worthwhile.

This semester is the first ever that I am not in the classroom and I look forward to June when I'll go back to teaching 50 percent of the time.

**"To learn first-hand how to work with communities to address their needs, I take many of my classes to the Latino community in Detroit."**



Elvia Krajewski-Jaime  
Professor  
Department of Social Work  
Interim Director  
Institute for the Study of Children,  
Families and Communities