



News for
Eastern Michigan
Faculty and Staff

October 28, 2003
Vol. 51, No. 11

Epstein stresses equity as key to education

Johns Hopkins University educator is this year's John W. Porter Distinguished Chair

By Ron Podell

For years, educators have known that the more parents are involved with their child's education, the better the student performs in school. But it is incumbent on public schools to find better ways to involve all parents who want to contribute to their child's education, but aren't sure the best way to do that.

Getting that block of 70-75 percent of parents involved so that education is more equitable for all students is the message Joyce Epstein, this year's John W. Porter Chair in Urban Education, has been spreading for years.

"When the focus is on all of the students and the "No Child Left Behind Act," it becomes really important for students to be supported by teachers, parents, employers and other community members," said Epstein, a professor of sociology at Johns Hopkins University and director of that institution's Center on School, Family and Community Partnerships. "The more sources of support students receive to do their best, celebrate progress and recognize good work, the more students will graduate on time and reach their proficiency targets."

Epstein is considered a leading author-

ity on the effects of school, classroom, family and peer environments on student learning and development, with a special focus on school and family connections. Her latest



TAKE YOUR CHAIR: Joyce Epstein, professor of sociology at Johns Hopkins University and director of the Center on School, Family and Community Partnerships, is the John W. Porter Chair in Urban Education for 2003-04.

book, "School, Family and Community Partnerships: Your Handbook for Action," guides school districts and states to develop and maintain programs of partnership.

At Johns Hopkins, Epstein also is director of the National Network of Partnership Schools. The network includes approximately 1,000 schools nationwide, 100 school districts and 17 state departments of educa-

tion, Epstein said. The Center helps create partnerships between schools, families and communities. In some school districts, such as in California and St. Paul, Minn. where there are large, diverse populations, important messages and fliers are sent home to parents in three languages in an effort to inform families about what's happening at their schools, Epstein said.

In addition, schools need to be flexible, she said. For example, schools can improve reading skills of students by including parents in reading-related activities. But because so many parents work, that often means that such activities have to take place other than during school hours.

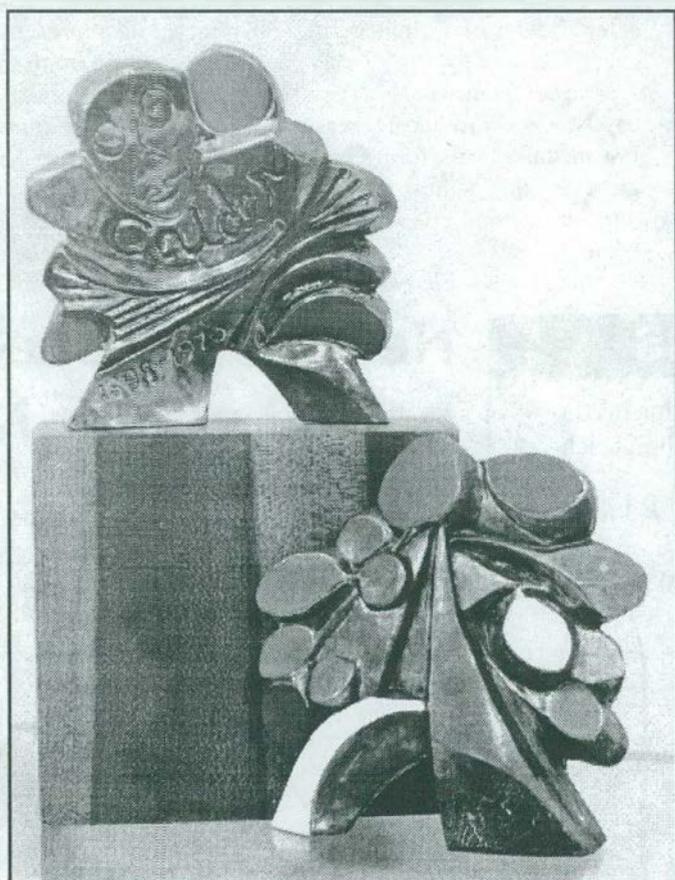
"Schools have to find a way to alter the schedule to have parents be included," she said.

Epstein said that Jaclynn Tracy, interim department head of leadership and counseling, and Jim Berry, professor of leadership and counseling, invited her to be the Porter Chair. The chair is named in honor of Porter, a former EMU president. It is the first endowed chair in the College of Education.

"EMU is known as one of the largest teacher training and education programming institutions in the nation. A lot of our work (at the center) is to help administrators and teachers think in new ways to help students succeed in school," Epstein said. "What an

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KUDOS TO CALDER



BRONZE BEAUTY: "Hommage to Calder," a bronze medallion by Michigan artist Sylvia Perle, is one of 65 pieces now on display at EMU's Ford Gallery through Friday, Oct. 31. The small scale sculptures range from 2-7 inches high and are made of bronze, copper or silver. Twenty-four artists from the United States and Australia are represented.

Graduate programs benefit from strategic planning

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series about the implementation and funding of strategic plan initiatives for 2003-04.

By Ron Podell

Eastern Michigan University's graduate programs will receive a boost in marketing exposure and increased research opportunities for graduate assistants.

These are just two of the initiatives that will be funded in the next year under Direction 2 of the University's strategic plan. Direction 2 states that EMU will be recognized for the synergy of theory and practice in its graduate programs.

"Our biggest venture will be to begin substantial enhancements to our research infrastructure, including a bold new initiative to stimulate large-scale, collaborative, interdisciplinary federal grant activity, coupled by the introduction of college research facilitators, to help build our extramural research and our technology transfer activities," said EMU President Samuel A.

Kirkpatrick. "This will further heighten our extramural profile and contribution to the state's economic development objectives."

To that end, approximately \$132,000 will be earmarked for 10 research assistantships to support efforts to attract external funding, including large collaborative projects of strategic importance to the University where federal funds are available. The intent is to improve the quality of graduate education and research, Kirkpatrick said.

In addition, approximately \$130,000 will be allocated toward marketing of graduate programs. The Graduate School will receive \$65,000 and University Marketing another \$65,000 to "macro-market" (radio spots, graduate view-books, etc.) the advantages of graduate study at EMU, and "micro-market" specific programs, including upgrading and improving departmental Web sites.

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Professor encourages Latina girls to improve math skills

By Summer Wilhelm

Each Monday and Thursday afternoon, Cristina Jose-Kampfner can be found in Detroit, turning a story into a math problem.

For the past two years, Jose-Kampfner has been heavily involved in her program, "Si, Se Puede (Yes, It Can Be Done)," an after-school project designed to encourage Latina girls to reach for careers in math and science.

"Latinas are an important group that have been neglected," said Jose-Kampfner, EMU professor of teacher education. "It's really sad to see that Latina girls don't get a lot of good careers. They are scared of math and they aren't encouraged to feel differently."

Jose-Kampfner spends 2 1/2 hours a week with youths at the Academy of the Americas Junior High School and two hours at Cesar Chavez High School. Any female student who wishes to participate is invited. On average, 30-35 attend the program at each school.

"Storytelling is a major part of our

time together," she said. "I tell them about all different kinds of Latinas; mathematicians, scientists, activists. I tell them about any Latina that has made a difference. I

women. I'm trying to make them see that it really does relate to them," she said. "For example, I tell them Latinas that cross the border illegally are exception-

tor in almost any situation."

Jose-Kampfner makes sure to save time for conversations on current events, such as gender issues or stereotypes.

The girls spend the last part of the day writing in their journals. They are encouraged to write about things that have happened in their lives. Jose-Kampfner even usually hopes to develop to compile all of the journal stories into a book and have the girls develop math problems from their own writings.

While she spends a majority of her time with the girls, Jose-Kampfner spends at least one night a month with their parents, talking to them about their own expectations for the children.

"Mothers make up most of the crowd on parent night," she said. "They want the best for their daughters, but they really don't know what's out there. They don't know what their girls are capable of."

Jose-Kampfner, who received a \$100,000 grant for the program from the Michigan Department of Education in February, recently applied for a grant from the National Science Foundation. She hopes to expand the program in the future.

"With that money, we could add two more schools to our schedule," she said. "We've been very successful the past two years and I think we can really make a difference."



YES, I CAN DO THIS: Katalina Gallardo (left) shows her excitement at solving a math problem using beads. Gallardo, a student from the Academy of the Americas Junior High School in Detroit, is one of several Latina girls from Detroit who are being encouraged to succeed in math by Cristina Jose-Kampfner, EMU professor of teacher education. Kampfner created a program called "Si, Se Puede (Yes, It Can Be Done)."

Photo by Myah Benjamin

want the girls to see themselves reflected in them."

From the day's story, Jose-Kampfner then develops a math problem for the girls to think about and solve.

"Math is so impersonal for young

ally good at math. They don't believe me at first.

"But, then I explain how much calculation and timing are involved in order to get across the border without being spotted. They can then see that math is a fac-

EMU hosts national politicians for Congress to Campus seminar

Students from Eastern Michigan University and 20 area high schools will gather to spend time with two former congressmen during EMU's "Campus to Congress" conference Nov. 4-6.

Former U.S. Reps. Owen Pickett, D-Va., and Peter Torkildsen, R-Mass., will

spend three days meeting with various students and offering insights into the complex world of congressional politics.

"This is a unique opportunity for area high schools and our students to learn from speakers who have been in Congress and are still active in public service," said Jeffrey Bernstein, an EMU

associate professor of political science who coordinated the event.

The conference begins Tuesday, Nov. 4, with a student breakfast and talks by the former congressmen that address community service and civic engagement.

"Most college and high

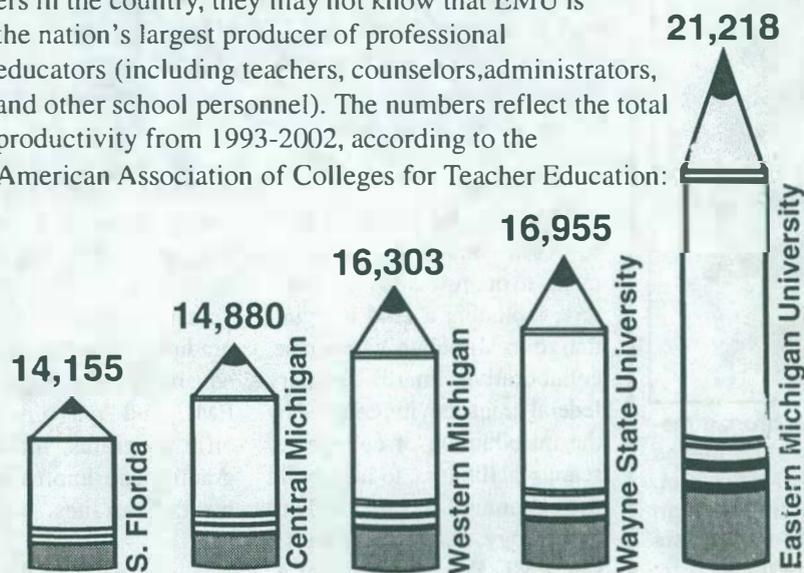
school students have not personally met with representatives who have served in the United States Congress," said Barbara Jones, corporate relations manager in EMU's Career Services Center. "Our young people are the future leaders of this country and we are pleased to be able to provide them with this learning

experience."

Other activities include sessions with members of Elderwise (a learning in retirement group) and a congressional simulation for political science students. There also will be a public forum on political issues Wednesday, Nov. 5, 11 a.m.-noon, Guild Hall, McKenny Union.

EMU BY THE NUMBERS

Eastern Michigan University has a strong national reputation in education. While most know that EMU produces some of the best teachers in the country, they may not know that EMU is the nation's largest producer of professional educators (including teachers, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel). The numbers reflect the total productivity from 1993-2002, according to the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education:



Healthcare open enrollment period set for Nov. 3-14

Eastern Michigan University's open enrollment period for healthcare is scheduled Nov. 3-14, 2003.

"Any additions, changes to health plans and decisions to waive or keep health care must be done during this period," said Jeanette Hassan, director of benefits.

"Your Healthcare Options" booklets were recently mailed to EMU employees' homes. Faculty and police sergeants have the opportunity to evaluate their current coverage and decide whether to select a different plan.

Athletic coaches, administrative professionals, confidential clerical, campus police, clerical/secretarial, faculty, food service and maintenance, 100 percent lecturers and professional/technical employ-

ees have the right to waive their EMU medical coverage, provided medical coverage is verified through their spouse's employer or through another non-EMU healthcare plan. During open enrollment, employees who previously waived coverage may elect to return to the health plan. Changes relating to dependents may be made during this period as well, Hassan said.

Healthcare representatives will be available on campus to answer questions Thursday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-noon, and Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1-4 p.m., lobby, McKenny Union.

All enrollment forms must be turned in to the Benefits Office, 204 Bowen Field House, by Nov. 14, 2003. Coverage changes begin Jan. 1, 2004.

Gates contributes time to bring hope to Ypsilanti community

By Kathleen Shields

Eight years ago, EMU Dining Services Director Larry Gates was a member of the Ypsilanti Leadership class offered by the Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce. At the end of the year-long program, one of Gates' classmates persuaded him to join her on the board of Ypsilanti's Hope Clinic.

While Gates' current official duty is as chairman of the Hope Clinic's Ways and Means Committee, he thinks of his involvement as "just one of the people doing the grunt work of trying to keep the programs the clinic offers alive."

Located on Harriet Street in Ypsilanti, the Hope Center, as the overall program is now called, is one of the local social service agencies that depends on the success of the current Washtenaw County United Way campaign.

"The funding we receive from the United Way is spread all around the clinic," Gates said. "It might be used to purchase medicine, food for the food bank or dental supplies. It helps in all areas."

Hope Clinic was established in 1982 by Dr. Dan Heffernan to provide walk-in general medical and pediatric care to those without insurance or medical benefits.

In response to the needs of the community, the center's services have expanded and now include the medical clinic, a dental clinic, and a meal program and food bank. The center even has a laundry facility and

service called "Wash with Care." It was Wash with Care that initially most impressed Gates.

"I remember that visual, seeing all those washers and dryers," Gates said.

Gates likes that the laundry service is available for only a short time for each family or individual, and only as long as they are enrolled in some of the other clinic's services.

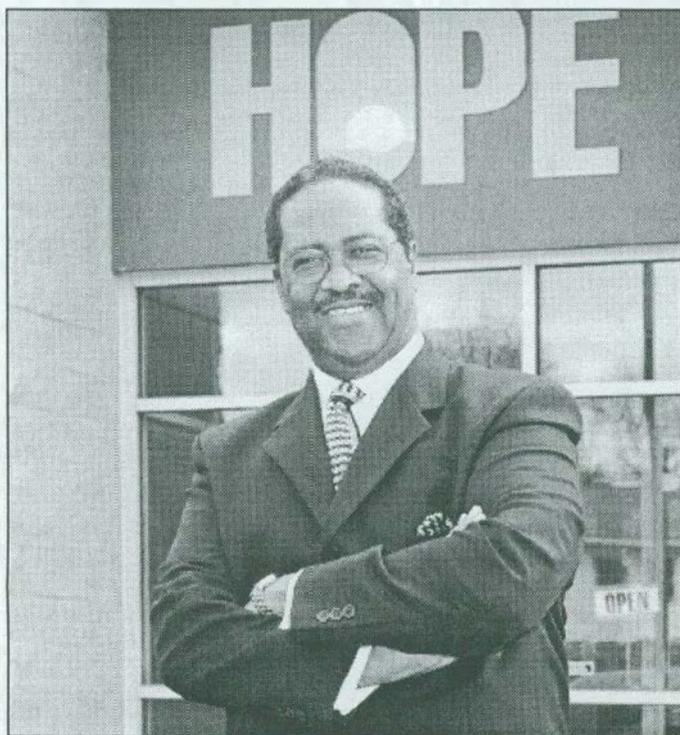
"We are ministering to more than just an immediate need," he said. "We are helping people get to the next level."

Gates said that volunteering at the Hope Center is a good fit for him because it is a spiritually based program.

"Hope Center is more than just an agency providing services," he said. "Sometimes the people washing their clothes or receiving medical care really need someone to talk to, or simply listen to them. I like that I can be in a position to do both."

Each time that he considers that it might be time to step back from his duties on the board, Gates said that he thinks of all the people that the clinic helps.

"Last year, we filled around 10,000 prescriptions for persons," he said. "Plus, I get so much support from my boss and the University administration to be a part of the community. If our leaders are willing to support the community, then so am I."



A LITTLE HOPE: Larry Gates, EMU's director of dining services, serves as chairman of the Hope Clinic's Ways and Means Committee. The social service agency depends on United Way campaign funds

Machine flushes out big savings for EMU



SUCK IT UP: Physical plant plumbers Stephen Klein (left) and Terry Schaefer operate the Shamrock Sewer Jetter that is used to clean sanitation and storm water drains on campus. The high-powered machine has saved time and money compared to formerly paying contractors to do the work.

By Carol Anderson

It's the luck of the Irish, or saving of the green, as EMU operates its newly purchased, \$23,000 Shamrock Sewer Jetter. This high-pressure water system used to clean sanitation and storm water drains will pay for itself in six to eight months, said Dennis Paul, plumbing foreman, EMU's Physical Plant Department.

Before buying their reconditioned machine in July, which was half the cost of a new one, the department hired contract labor to flush and maintain the storm drains on campus. The cost was \$1.74 for every foot of pipe cleaned by contractors compared to the 55 cents it now costs the University to do the same thing, said Paul.

"We maintain approximately 10 miles (58,280 feet) of underground pipes on campus," he said, "and since July we've cleaned 4,200 feet of pipe (with the Jetter)."

Paul explained that the pipes get clogged frequently and that regular maintenance prevents floods and saves potential clean-up costs. Sometimes, the crew goes back to troubled sites more often than others, he said. These sites include apartment-area drains that routinely get clogged with gobs of brown paper towels, disposable diapers or 40 pounds of rice that turns into a pancake-like batter.

The Jetter also can accommodate a small video scope to evaluate possible cracks in pipes and eliminate costly digging to diagnose sewer problems.

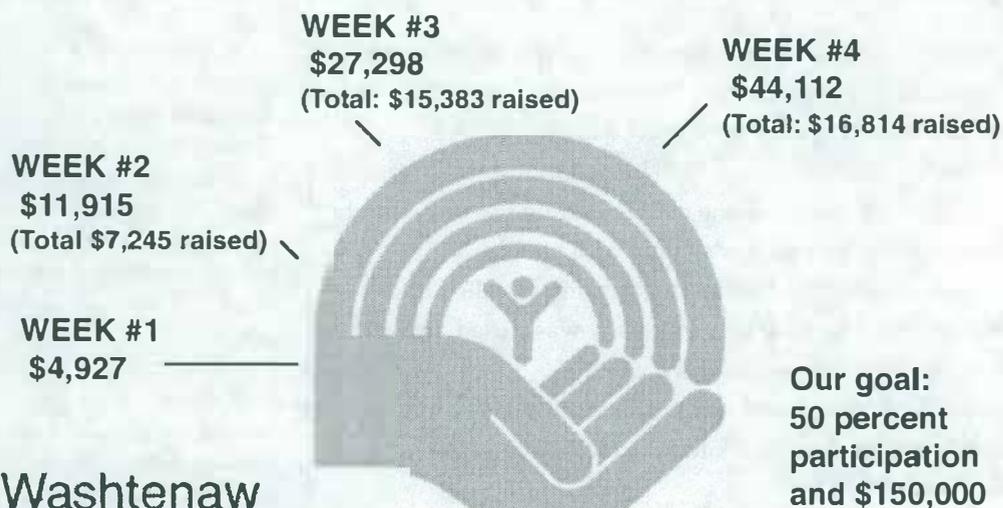
"Before we were always reactive. Now we can be proactive," Paul said.

To comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) storm water program, the city of Ypsilanti and EMU jointly applied and received a permit to identify and maintain all catch basins in the area.

The Jetter should last 10 years and save money since it runs on less expensive diesel fuel, said Larry Ward, director, EMU's facility maintenance. He also pointed out that less employee time is needed to refill the water tank since the Jetter has a 600-gallon tank that is twice as big as a tank on a contractor's machine. If a flood does occur, the plant's response time is down to zero, Paul said.

"We can respond instantly whereas a contractor could take an hour or so," Paul said.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY



Washtenaw
United Way

CAMPAIGN RUNS THROUGH OCT. 31

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, November 3. 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.-5 p.m.

CLERICAL/SECRETARIAL

CSEN0405 CS05 \$26,118 Graduation Auditor/Evaluator, Records and Registration

PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL

(Hiring Range)

PTBF0402 PT08 \$35,516 \$42,638 Assistant Coordinator, Construction Projects, Physical Plant.

An Affirmative Action/
Equal Opportunity Employer

ADMIN./PROFESSIONAL

(Hiring Range)

APEN0405 AP09 \$39,601-\$48,325 Assistant Director, Operations, Financial Aid. Experience with SCT Banner System.

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opportunity to link the two.”

While on campus three days last week, Epstein spoke to a class of students majoring in special education; hosted a public lecture and book signing; and gave the keynote address at the College of Education's Best Practices Conference Oct. 24. Prior to the conference, Epstein said she planned to discuss the possibility of whether EMU education courses could include more topics on school, family and community partnerships

and/or how EMU can increase its connections with local school districts.

Epstein earned her Ph.D. in sociology from Johns Hopkins and her master's in human development from Harvard University. At Johns Hopkins, Epstein also is program director of the Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk (CRESPAR) and principal research scientist for the Center for Social Organization of Schools. Epstein has generated more than \$14 million in grants.

Epstein will be in residence at EMU Dec. 2-4; Feb. 4-7, 2004; and March 24-26, 2004.

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The College of Business will focus on direct mail and print ads targeted at prospective students and their employers. The marketing is intended to inform prospective students of new programs and tracks in supply chain management, E-commerce, strategic IT management skills and revisions to the MBA and MSIS curricula.

“There will be special funding provided on a competitive basis to market our graduate programs that are in high demand or relatively new, and to more effectively recruit students at the department level,” Kirkpatrick said.

Other initiatives under Direction 2 include:

- Creation of two full-time college research administrators to provide services to the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education, with matching support from the colleges and/or the provost's office. The college research administrators will give priority support for developing and servicing research grant activities on behalf of faculty and principal investigators.

- Providing \$265,500 in 2004-05 base funding for four additional tenure-track faculty. The provost has been authorized to conduct the searches and will assign the positions to strategic program areas, to respond to significant enrollment growth and/or for the Ph.D. in Technology program.

“This year we should be able to make major progress on enhancing the graduate experience, building support for research and creative activities, and targeting faculty searches to important strategic development areas,” Kirkpatrick.



“My specialty is marketing strategy and I work with small businesses in Ypsilanti. We offer programs, such as how to get the biggest bang for your marketing buck and how to successfully hire and train your staff.”

Tammy McCullough
Professor
Department of Marketing

Why I teach at Eastern Michigan University

I'm starting my 10th year at Eastern and credit my desire to relocate from Seattle and EMU's basketball team with bringing me to campus. I'm a big sports fan and particularly liked the basketball team that year.

Once here, I found my colleagues very helpful. The senior members, who genuinely wanted to see me succeed, gave me advice that helped me earn tenure and become a full professor.

My specialty is marketing strategy and I work with small businesses in Ypsilanti. We offer programs, such as how to get the biggest bang for your marketing buck and how to successfully hire and train your staff.

My students also work with small businesses and

nonprofits in Ypsilanti, ranging from the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra to a credit union. They love the real-world challenge of working with an actual business.

During my first year at EMU, I had a couple surprises. I thought I'd be the only one in the building teaching a night class, but discovered it was alive with people.

Also, during my first Michigan winter I called after a 3-inch snowfall to ask if the University was closed. In Seattle, three inches of snow closes the city.

I'm very happy with my job. I see myself as a long-time faculty member and look forward to helping new hires on the road to tenure.