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Karst, teaching, public service--a winning 'package-deal'

By Chris Abell

Dr. Nicholas Crawford, the 1996 winner of Western Kentucky University's Faculty Excellence Award for Public Service, says he came to Western because of his professional interest in the area's geology and its problems.

"I was a professor at Vanderbilt University in 1976," Crawford said. "I came here that spring to what was the first meeting held anywhere in the world on hydrologic problems of karst regions.

"As luck would have it, I was on the faculty of this department by the fall," Crawford said. "We've tried to emphasize karst problems ever since.

Crawford, a geography professor, specializes in karst studies, a field that deals with areas with fast moving underground water flows. The work often takes him into the subterranean landscapes of this region. One of his favorite community projects is Lost River Cave.

'I guess I've enjoyed working with Lost River Cave as much as any public service project.'

-Dr. Nicholas Crawford

"I guess I've enjoyed working with Lost River Cave as much as any public service project," Crawford said. "It was an area in Bowling Green that had fallen apart and was very important in terms of the history of this community.

"I helped when the area was donated to Western and then informed the Friends of Lost River in 1990 to help clean it up and make it accessible to the public once again," Crawford said. "That project has been very important to me and I continue to work with it."

Crawford doesn't spend all of his time underground. He frequently works to solve groundwater contamination problems in Warren County and throughout the state. That work is something he says he has always paid special attention to.

"Public service is something that I have been involved in a lot in my last 20 years at Western," Crawford said. "It is very important to our department and really, I like it."

The enjoyment Crawford derives from Western and his work shows. He doesn't lose touch with the university when he heads into the field. Instead, he uses the experience to benefit WKU by sharing it with his students.

"I've tried to put together research, public service and teaching all into one package," Crawford said. "I get my students involved in the research we do, and often it is an applied public service activity, dealing with some kind of groundwater problem."

Currently Crawford is involved in a project with two WKU students for the Warren County Fire Department's emergency response team that will help to direct action in the event of a hazardous material spill.

"In the event of an accident, a spill is going to go straight into a hole in the ground like everything does in Bowling Green," Crawford said. "We need to know where it is going to go and what route it is going to take. So, we are starting dye traces along the interstate, bypass, and railroad tracks so we know where to evacuate."

Groundwater contamination is a serious threat in areas like Bowling Green, and the community relies on Crawford's knowledge and that of others like him to handle these difficulties.

"Karst areas like we have around here are the most vulnerable in the world for groundwater contamination," Crawford said. "If you have a spill, it just goes down into the ground and can travel along underground streams for several miles in less than 24 hours."

"It may contaminate someone's water well, or the vapors may come back up through the limestone into people's houses miles away," Crawford said. "In other parts of the world it doesn't work that way."

In all of the work Crawford has done, he said that one local project has been his most rewarding.

Crawford doesn't mind that many college students never think about what he does for the community. It is just part of the job.

"Students just don't realize," Crawford said. "They think that college professors are just supposed to be teachers because that is the end of it they receive most often. We are expected to spread our expertise around the community and help others."

There will be a reception for WKU employees who have received degrees over the past year Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 3:30 p.m. at the DUC Mezzanine.
On teaching: would you do it again?

Continued from cover page

Today at many public comprehensive universities only 66 percent of the faculty say they'd become professors once again," Walker said, adding: "It's not the paradise we used to think it was.

"Older faculty are retiring earlier and in greater numbers than expected; new faculty are showing signs of stress not seen in previous studies; burn out, a phenomenon rarely seen with professors, is being seen more and more; restructuring and downsizing have changed definitions of faculty work; the new emphasis on student and learning, while a good change, has also redefined faculty work, yet expectations to do excellent work in teaching, research and service has remained the same at many colleges and universities," Walker said.

Western's guest speaker said a major reason for these "troubles in paradise" is that the well-being of faculty has been benignly overlooked.

"Why they are being overlooked," he said, in addition to the assumption that faculty are rugged and independent, "is because faculty are difficult to take care of.

"There's a reason why the most dilapidated building on campus gets more money for maintenance than the entire faculty," he said. Another reason is that "Most organizations develop habits to remedy problems, not prevent them," he explained, citing the medical profession as an example of one which has moved emphasis from remedy to prevention.

"We need to keep our faculty strong and vital, and a lot of their problems will go away," he said. Some suggestions on how faculty well-being can be maintained, Walker said, can be through offering merit pay, budgeting for research excellence, such as grant programs, and complex award programs.

"Pay excellent teachers as well as excellent researchers," he said. "Faculty have a very high generativity level. They really do want to pass on to others, to be role models. Letters back from students are good, but faculty want to know they are daily giving.

"The changes that are occurring in higher education today are indeed exciting," Walker said, adding:

"Faculty and students from a greater variety of social and cultural backgrounds are enriching our classrooms, and technology is giving us the capacity to teach and to learn in ways that were unimaginable even a decade ago.

"But in all this change, I hope the simple needs of faculty are not overlooked. I hope the well-being of faculty will be brought into harmony with the well-being of the students they serve and the well-being of the colleges in which they work.

"More importantly, I hope I've presented the problems and challenges of faculty well-being in such a way that all of you-students, staff, and administrators particularly, can begin to do things that will renew and revitalize those who teach your students at Western Kentucky University."

Walker also presented a workshop on campus Aug. 16 for faculty through Western's Center for Teaching and Learning, a facility devoted to faculty professional development. The subject of his workshop was Ways of Using Assessment and Research as a Tool in Teaching.

Mrs. Sarah Thompson, wife of Western's third president, Dr. Kelly Thompson, dies

Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Pearce Thompson, wife of WKU's third President, the late Dr. Kelly Thompson, died Aug. 16 at her home in Bowling Green. She was 87.

Mrs. Thompson was a Bowling Green native and was a former educator for the Shelby County School System, teaching English, Latin and French.

Mrs. Thompson was valedictorian of her 1927 class at Bowling Green High School, and she graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1930.

In 1931, she married Kelly Thompson, who was President of Western from 1955 to 1969. She and Dr. Thompson served Western for 64 years.

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Thompson Monday, Aug. 19 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, where she was a member, with burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in Bowling Green.

Survivors include a son, Kelly D. Thompson Jr. of Bowling Green; a daughter, Patty Thompson Gilligan of Ocala, Fla; five grand-children and seven great-grand-children.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the College Heights Foundation, Sarah, Kelly, Hardin Thompson Scholarship Fund at Western Kentucky University.
SUMMER ‘DIGS’ TURNED ARCHAEOLOGICAL GOLD-MINE

By Chris Abrell
Western Kentucky University
Anthropology Assistant Professor Valerie Haskins knew she would be teaching this past summer. She just didn’t know it would be in one of the most archaeologically active sites in South America.

Haskins had been scheduled to teach a summer course on campus, but when she was asked to go to South America, she couldn’t resist taking her students. They have just returned from the 20-day field study in Catacamas, a small town on the fringe of civilization deep in the hills of Honduras.

"It is a frontier town," Haskins said. "Very much like being in the west here in the 1800s. There was a mixture of horses and cars. People carry guns and machetes.

Dr. Valerie Haskins, Assistant Professor, Anthropology

The area has turned out to be an archeological gold mine

The area has turned out to be an archeological gold mine, rich in artifacts, bones and ruins, dating back 3,000 years to the early ancestors of the Mayas. Haskins and her team of 21 students worked on surface mounds and cave sites with a George Washington University team and various specialists from all over the world.

"The part of Honduras we were working in is virtually unexplored archaeologically," Haskins said. "Our students made a great contribution, working on a site that had never been looked at in an area that had never been looked at."

Haskins’ work centered on a burial cave stumbled upon in 1994 by local Peace Corps volunteers. Archeological experts flock there in ever-increasing numbers because of its rarity.

A new cave was discovered shortly before Haskins’ arrival, giving her and her students the opportunity to study in an undisturbed environment.

"The archeology was pristine," Haskins said. "It had never been looted; nothing had ever been touched. The information we retrieved was important because the area would’ve been disturbed if we had waited any longer."

Haskins’ cave teams studied bones, trying to establish the number of people interred in the cave, any diseases they might have had and their general states of health.

The new cave had three levels of bone-filled alcoves to study and was difficult to navigate.

The teams of students and professors sometimes found themselves in knee-deep water only to climb to drier, higher levels lugging lights and equipment.

"In the top two levels the Honduran Institute of Anthropology had built huge ladders to help us," Haskins said. "For prehistoric people to have free-climbed these flowstone-covered slopes with bags of bones is a pretty amazing feat."

The early people of this area prepared the bones by dusting them with red ochre and then left them in piles. Over many years, the fluctuating water levels left crystalline deposits of the mineral calcite on the bones, sealing many of the remains in unmovable heaps.

The first burial cave was named for its crystal-encrusted bones. The locals call it the "Cave of the Glowing Skulls."

"The deposits give everything in the cave a shimmering effect under artificial lights," Haskins said. "It is like looking at piles of diamonds."

Superstitions surround the caves. Many of the townspeople believed the caves held cursed treasure. They thought they would never return if they entered them, so it was natural for rumors to spread about the strangers working in the area.

The problem was that Haskins couldn’t stop the bad publicity.

"The Institute had made a contract with us that kept us from talking to the media," Haskins said. "We were the only gringos in a little town, working in environments the people don’t normally go themselves."

The teams cataloging the bones in the caves would take bundles back to the hotel with them to study. When the locals saw them, rumors started that the archeologists were stealing gold from the caves.

"There was an increasing aura of tension," Haskins said. "We were told to travel in groups of five or more and not to be out after dark. That gave us an uncomfortable feeling. We immediately contacted the institute and asked to be released from that part of the contract."

The institute agreed and informed the local media. The teams were interviewed and shown in an hour-long TV special, transforming them from intruding thieves to famous scientists in a matter of days. The townspeople cooperated from that point on.

Since most of the artifacts had to be left in Honduras, much of the work had to be done on the site. The only thing Haskins’ team brought back were teeth because of the incredible amount of time it takes to analyze them. Once the teeth have been studied, similarities and patterns can help link family members buried in the cave.

But the data they have already collected shows several significant discoveries, the most important the apparent difference in diet of these Maya precursors and their descendants.

"Our biggest surprise was the size of the bones," Haskins said. "Most Mayas and their descendants are small people compared to us. The bones we were finding were as easily as tall as the average American."

The difference in size supports earlier isotope tests on the bones indicating the lack of corn from this people’s diet.

"The archeology was pristine...it had never been looted; nothing had ever been touched."

-Dr. Valerie Haskins

"You can eat all of the corn in the world and starve to death," Haskins said. "There are proteins missing. That is why people eat beans with tortillas. If these people were not eating corn, it would be expected that they would be much more healthy."

Haskins’ trip to Catacamas has lead Western Kentucky University into the spotlight. The department will be issuing a complete report of its findings to the Honduran government once the teeth are analyzed, and interest in the site drew a TV crew to film a documentary for possible release on the Discovery Channel. Haskins said that for her students the field study was an unparalleled opportunity.

"We have an archeological field school at Western and normally work on sites close to home," Haskins said. "They were fortunate to work on a project that had so many different components that we can’t normally offer."

Send items for consideration in On Campus by the 15th of the month.
Nine to be inducted into Alumni Hall of Fame

The 1996 inductees into WKU's Hall of Distinguished Alumni will include Dr. Thomas Cook Jr., Patricia Garrison-Corbin; Clem Haskins; Charles Kleiderer and the Hilltoppers Quartet: Billy Vaughn, Jimmy Sacca, Seymour Spiegelman and Don McGuire.

They will be honored at an induction luncheon at Noon Oct. 25 at the Bowling Green-Warren County Convention Center. The nine will join 25 others in the Hall of Distinguished Alumni, which was established in 1992.

Dr. Thomas Cook Jr. is known as one of America's most decorated nuclear weapons physicists.

The native of Richmond, Ky., earned a bachelor's degree in physics from Western in 1947 and his master's degree and doctorate in 1949. Dr. Cook retired as executive vice president of Sandia Laboratories in 1986. He joined the research organization at Sandia National Laboratories in 1951 and worked most of his career in the physics of nuclear weapons outputs and the effects produced by weapons bursts. He is best known for a classified reference document, "The Cook Book," which for years was the major source on high altitude effects of nuclear weapons.

Patricia Garrison-Corbin, a 1969 WKU graduate, earned a bachelor's degree in sociology. She also holds a master's degree in urban studies from the University of Louisville and a master's degree in finance from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was the first African-American female Sloan Fellow.

Corbin is the founder, chairman and chief executive officer of P.G. Corbin & Co., independent financial advisors. It is the first black female-owned Wall Street financial services corporation. The company ranked number three nationally in 1993.

She has received numerous awards, including the 1995 Revlon Business Woman of the Year. She was the first black female officer in public finance at Drexel Burnham Lambert in 1982. At WKU, she chartered and was president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the first black Greek-letter organization on campus, in 1968.

Corbin, who lives in Philadelphia, was appointed by President Clinton to the Environmental Protection Agency in 1994. President Reagan appointed Corbin to the advisory panel to the secretary of Housing and Urban Development in 1986. She served on Pennsylvania's Tax Reform Commission in 1985.

Corbin is a charter board member of the Pennsylvania Coalition of 100 Black Women and a member of the Philadelphia Chapter of Links Inc.

Clem Haskins, a native of Campbellsville, Ky., was head coach of the WKU men's basketball team from 1980-86. Haskins earned a bachelor's degree from Western in 1967 and a master's degree at WKU in 1971.

Currently, he serves as the head coach of the University of Minnesota and was appointed assistant coach of the 1996 Men's Olympic basketball team. He coached the North Squad to a gold medal in the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival. He was inducted into the WKU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991, the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990 and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 1988.

Haskins' team won the NIT Tournament Championship in 1993. As a player, he holds the WKU and conference records for most points scored in a game (55 pts. vs. Middle Tennessee State University in 1965). Haskins played in the NBA for the Chicago Bulls, Phoenix Suns and Washington Bullets.

Charles W. Kleiderer, a 1937 graduate, is responsible for the development of the Variable (VT) Fuse, a secret weapon of the U.S. which affected the course of WWII. The fuse helped the government to create artillery shells that would explode on target every time. The Henderson, Ky., native graduated in 1937 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. After the war, Kleiderer became the vice president of Brilliant Plastics Corporation and president of Penn Plastics Corporation. Prior to retirement, he was the executive vice president of Shaw Plastics Corporation.

He was inducted in the Plastics Hall of Fame in 1994, one of 87 who have received the honor so far. He has received the U.S. Navy Bureau of Ordnance Naval Ordnance Development Award. He was awarded the U.S. Navy Ordnance Award OSRD Certificate of Merit Award. He also received the War Manpower Commission Committee on Scientific Research Personnel Diploma.

Kleiderer is a member of the Society of Plastic Engineers, the Plastics Pioneers Association.

The Hilltoppers was a 1950's popular musical quartet that achieved status as the number one musical group during 1953-54. The group was the number one vocal combination by Billboard and Cash Box magazines in 1953 and consistently remained one of America's Top Ten through 1960.

The quartet originated when three Western students, Don McGuire ('54), Jimmy Sacca ('53) and Seymour Spiegelman ('53), joined a former Westerner Billy Vaughn. Their first hit was "Trying."

Twenty-one Hilltopper recordings made Billboard magazine's Top 40 Hit List. The group had record sales in excess of 8 million copies. They appeared on Ed Sullivan's "Toast of the Town" and also on American Band Stand.

The Hall of Distinguished Alumni

The Hall of Distinguished Alumni was established by the WKU Alumni Association in 1992 to honor WKU alumni who have made significant contributions to Western, their state and country. A special committee accepts nominations and then makes recommendations to the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Other members of the Hall include: (1995 class) Dr. Alva Matherly Clutts, Dr. C. Ray Franklin, Dr. Harry B. Gray, Dr. Garry Lacerfield and Lt. Col. Terry W. Wilcutt; (1994 class) Donald M. Kendall, Sarah Margaret Claypool Willoughby, Dr. Leon Woosley, Raymond B. Preston and William H. Natcher; (1993 class) Frank T. Etscorn III, Cordell Hull, Dr. Dero Downing, Judge John Palmore and Larmelle Harris; and (1992 inaugural class) Tim Lee Carter, Henry Hardin Cherry, Ed Diddle, Gen. Russell E. Dougherty, Julian Goodman, Dr. Martin A. Massengale, Dr. William Meacham, Frances Richards, Billy Vaughn, and Kelly Thompson.
Remembering Jim Wayne Miller

By Sheila Connolly Eisen

I live in the country, and I have perfected the art of front porch sitting.

The day Jim Wayne Miller died, after a work day of distractions and too many interruptions, I hurried home to my refuge. Iced tea in hand, I sat on my front steps, and I began to remember.

Just because I had told him it was one of my favorites, Dr. Miller (it was a respect thing with me) had given me a copy of his poem, Between times. It was in his own handwriting, and he had signed it.

I'd interviewed him several times and helped publicize his many achievements, and apparently I had let my admiration for his work really show. It was incredible, I thought then, even now, to think that a guy of his literary stature would do that for me.

That was more than twenty years ago. I was to learn that sharing was Jim Wayne Miller's way.

In all, he has eight poetry collections and a novel, His First, Best Country, which he adapted at the request of Horse Cave Theatre into a play that was performed there in 1992.

In 1986, the Kentucky General Assembly named him a Kentucky Poet Laureate.

"Like mist in the river bottoms of their youth," the poem Dr. Miller gave me goes, "a charcoal haze hangs over the subdivision/where men sowed between two times,/yearn beyond the interstate's drone and whine/to farms and open country."

I could identify. I joined countless others internationally who have heard his voice, and who will miss it.

Jim Wayne Miller came from Buncombe County, North Carolina, of what he called "typical Appalachian people," and he made the Southern Appalachian region and the simple precepts of its people his metaphor for a rich storehouse of poems, short stories, a novel and a play.

His wife, Mary Ellen, is a published poet also, and she teaches in the WKU English department.

But far beyond the front porches of Appalachia, his writings represent a tension he told me once that he liked to work with between the traditional values and the way of life that he called middle class urban America.

It was a major theme in Jim Wayne Miller's poetry.

His colleague, Dr. Frank Steele, a noted poet and veteran teacher of creative writing and American Literature at WKU, said Miller was among writers he called "place writers."

"He's a poet who's transplanted," Steele said. He lives in Kentucky, in a suburb on Eastland Drive, and yet what he's writing about is Appalachia.

The fact that most of us can relate to what he is saying is what puts Jim Wayne Miller in the easy company of names like Faulkner, James Still, his old friend, Robert Penn Warren. Beyond subject, however, what I will remember most about Jim Wayne Miller is the way he transferred his love of the language to the page, and his ability to convey its beauty through his writings.

"I've always loved words—to hang around them," he'd say.

"It's very rarely that I'll get a vivid concrete image. Sometimes it'll just lie there like a possum curled on the ground, and I'll start poking it to see if it'll move. If it does, I'll work it over and over again, like butter in my hands, until it becomes something."

He used to tell me he carried ideas for poems scribbled on bits of paper, stuffed in his pockets, and sometimes he'd pull one out, and if it would give him a cold chill or hit the pit of his stomach, he'd be off to work.

And he did hundreds of workshops for young writers across the country.

Western Kentucky University could claim him because he chose to come here and to teach German.

Dr. Jim Wayne Miller, author, poet, and retired Western Kentucky University German professor, died Aug. 18 at his home in Bowling Green, Ky., after a three-month battle with Lung Cancer. He was 59.

Funeral was Aug. 21 at J.C. Kirby Funeral Chapel in Bowling Green, and he was buried in Bowling Green Gardens.

Some of his collections include Copperhead Came; The More Things Change the More They Stay the Same, Dialogue With a Dead Man, The Figure of Fulfillment, The Mountains Have Come Closer, Veils of Words, Nostalgia for 70 and Newfound. He authored a novel, His First, Best Country, and adapted it for a play in 1992. He also has edited numerous works.

He has given numerous readings and workshops on writing all across the country.

He is recipient of numerous honors, including the Thomas Wolfe Literary Award, the Zoe Kinkaid Brockman Memorial Award for Poetry, the Appalachian Writers Association Book of the Year Award and its Award for Outstanding Contributions to Appalachian Literature, and the Appalachian Consortium Laurel Leaves Award. He has been a fellow of the prestigious Yaddo Corporation. He is a native of Leicester, N.C. and graduated from Berea College and Vanderbilt University.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Mary Ellen Miller, his mother, Mrs. Edith Smith Miller of Leicester, N.C.; three children, James Yates and Fred Smith Miller, and a daughter, Ruth Ratcliff Miller, two sisters, two brothers, two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Jim Wayne Miller Scholarship Fund, College Heights Foundation, Western Kentucky University, 1 Big Red Way, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101-3576.
Dr. Rick Aldridge, Accounting, was awarded a Certificate of Merit, and Dr. Jan Colbert, Accounting, was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Institute of Management Accountants for their article, Business Reporting: A Broader Model, appearing in a forthcoming issue of Management Accounting.


Dr. Nick Crawford and Dr. Chris Groves, Geography and Geology, had Sinkhole Collapse and Ground Water Contamination Resulting from Storm Water Drainage Wells on Karst Terrain published in Karst Geohazards: Engineering and Environmental Problems in Karst Terrains, Rotterdam: A.A. Balkema, pgs. 257-264.

Dr. James L. Davis, Geography and Geology, and Dr. Nancy H. Davis, English, presented Geographic Elements in a Regional Novel at the national meeting of the Popular Culture/American Culture Associations, held in Philadelphia, Pa.


Dr. Chris Groves, Geography and Geology, and J. Meiman presented The Hawkins River Groundwater Monitoring Site, Mammoth Cave, Ky. at the South-eastern section meeting of the Geological Society of America in Knoxville, Tenn. Groves presented Hydrology of the Central Kentucky Karst at the Green River Basin Watershed Management Conference in Bowling Green, Ky.

Dr. Michael Kallstrom, Music, had his composition, AROUND THE CLOCK, performed on five separate concerts in Kenya this summer by Dr. Paul Basler of the University of Florida. The concerts took place at Kenyatta University, Alliance High School, Imani School in Thika, Lenana High School, Precious Blood School and Moi Girls High School. An estimated 3,000 people heard these concerts.

Dr. Felicia Laski, Marketing, along with Professor Gred Marshall, University of South Florida, has Integrating Quality Improvement Tenets Into the Marketing Curriculum published in the Summer 1996 issue of the Journal of Marketing Education.

Mathematics faculty gave the following presentations at the Kentucky section of the Mathematical Association of America Meeting at Murray State University:

Normalized Zero/Flex Polynomials, Dr. James B. Barksdale Jr.
An Interactive Approach to College Algebra and Trigonometry, Dr. Barry Brunson and Dr. Claus Ernst.
Global Behavior in Functional Iteration Problems, Dr. Mark Robinson.
Triptychs: Group Activities for the Short on Time, Dr. Lyn Miller. She also led a panel discussion on Project NEP.

On the Order of ab, Dr. Bettina Richmond.

Dr. Elizabeth McClellan presented Folding and Foliation Development in the Stei-Landschaft Bearn Zone, South-Central Norwegian Caledonides at the Southeastern section meeting of the Geological Society of America in Knoxville, Tenn.

Dr. Ruby Meador, Allied Health and Human Services, was honored with a lifetime membership from the Kentucky Dental Hygienists' Association.

Gary Meszaro, Director of Business Services, made two presentations at the CBord (ID Card System) in Ithaca, N.Y. this summer, Online Vending with OmniACCESS, and Establishing a One Card Office.


Dr. David Neal, Mathematics, as received a $6,020 grant from the Kentucky PRISM-Undergraduate Curriculum Development Grant Extension program to expand technology in general statistics classes.

Dr. Wei-Ping Pan, Associate Professor of Chemistry, has been awarded $298,700 in grant funds from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research to conduct a project with Visiting Professor from China, Dr. Charles Lee, Processing Chemistry and Stability of High Temperature Polymides Using Infrared Spectroscopy and Mass Spectroscopy. The study could lead to better polymer designs for aircraft engines and space applications.

Dr. Earl Pearson, Professor of Chemistry, spent the summer at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. in the Summer Faculty Fellowship Program working on non-linear optics with a NASA colleague. Over the summer, each played the role of researcher, teacher and student. The Fellowship program is designed to further participating professors' science and engineering knowledge as well as enrich and refresh their teaching activities.

NASA established the Summer Faculty Fellowship Program in cooperation with the American Society for Engineering Education in 1966. Since its inception, approximately 7,000 faculty members have taken part in the program.

Dr. Albert Petersen, Geography and Geology, presented Mennonite Migration in Allen County, Kentucky at the national meeting of the Popular Culture/American Culture Associations annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. James Ramsey, Economics, was principal investigator for Funding Our Future: A Report on Kentucky City Structure, recently published by the Kentucky League of Cities. The report analyzes and compares the tax structure of Kentucky cities with those in 14 competitor states, and it makes recommendations for changing the financing options of Kentucky's cities.
September

2

3
Phonathon.
Through Nov. 15.
Downing University Center.
Donald Smith.
745-4295.

Volleyball. Tennessee State. 7 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena. Sports Information.
745-4298.

5
Board of Regents meets. 9:30 a.m. Wetherby Administration Building, Elizabeth Esters.
745-4346.

Curriculum Committee.

6
Faculty research grant applications due in Deans' offices.

10
Creative approaches to Working with the Alzheimer’s Disease C.
3:30 p.m. Jones Jaggars Room 151.
Julie Wade. 745-6457.

13
745-4298.

Athletic Hall of Fame. 7 p.m.
Garrett Center Ballroom. Butch Gilbert.
781-2944.

14
Football. Eastern Kentucky. 7 p.m.

16
George Winston-A Solo Piano Concert. 7:30 p.m. Van Meter Auditorium.
For tickets, call 1-800-5-BIGRED.

18
Academic Council agenda items due, Academic Affairs.

19
Hilltopper Days for Science, Technology & Health. Through 3 p.m. tomorrow.
Dr. Frank Conley. 745-3700.

3 p.m.
Graduate Council.

23

26
Serial Killers. 7 p.m. Downing University Center Theatre.

Masters work under the maple leaf

Ten Western Kentucky University graduate students journeyed to Canada during the summer months to observe the structure and strategies of seven prospering Canadian organizations.

Dr. Randy Capps, Professor Emeritus of Communication at WKU, conducted the Seminar in Organizational Communication.

The class was designed to add new dimensions to the students' world views, and to give students also a broader understanding of the similarities and contrasts between the Canadian and the American culture.

The students visited Montreal for three days, then ventured to Quebec for a five-day stay. Louvenia Peavy, a doctoral candidate from Clarksville, Tenn., said the trip gave her an opportunity to better synthesize textbook and classroom instruction by observing and talking with leaders of successful Canadian businesses.

Suzanne Cohron of Bowling Green, said she gathered several new ideas from the visit, and as a result, she is trying to implement those ideas in her workplace.

Top Debator

WKU Debator Doug Mory took outstanding debating and speaking honors at the Cross Examination and Debating Association's National Workshop.

Mory, a junior from Pewee Valley, Ky., won the award in a field of 42 debaters from six states.

Have an idea that can make Western more efficient? Send it to Garth Whicker, Chair, Committee on Ideas for Efficiency, Office of Institutional Research; e-mail to whicker@wk.edu.
On the 'well-being' of faculty

By Sheila Conway Elson

Faculty well-being is a subject too often overlooked, but one that needs top consideration, according to a national expert on the subject who spoke to WKU faculty at their annual meeting on campus Aug. 15.

"We often treat faculty like cacti; We spritz a little water on them occasionally, and we expect them to flower. We tend to believe faculty are independent, rugged types, that don’t need to be taken care of—the attitude that they’ve got it easy; they’ll survive—but it’s just not so anymore," said Dr. Charles J. Walker, a professor of psychology at St. Bonaventure University in New York. His profession is devoted to the subject of faculty well-being.

Also an affiliate scholar of the National Center on Postsecondary Teaching, Learning and Assessment, Walker has conducted extensive research and has published on the subjects of teaching and classroom research, motivation, optimism and teaching vitality.

"Something is changing in the professoriate," he said. "It given the chance, how many of you would become professors again?" he asked WKU's some 600 audience members.

"Before 1970, about 97 percent said they’d do it all over again. By 1986, the typical number was 90 percent.

Story is continued on page two