

April 24, 1998

Submit to the
present evil
lest a greater one
befall you.

—Phaedrus
Fables, 8 A.D.

Vol. XXX, No.31

New Air Force ROTC chair: Taylor-made for Michigan Tech

Lt. Col. **Anna Taylor** is what she is in part because of Czechoslovakia.

In the mid-1970s, Taylor, MTU's Air Force ROTC commander, got her first look at the Soviet satellite state from a vantage point in West Germany. "What I saw on the other side of the fence was so bleak, gray, and oppressive," she said. "I almost felt a call to service."

At the time she was a teacher, generally considered a more inspirational calling than a military career. She was called to pedagogy not by a grim vision but by her high-school math teacher and mentor, who taught Taylor that she could indeed succeed if only she would work at it. So she worked, majored in math at Northern Michigan University, and became a junior high teacher. For in those days, a big-time paradigm led women such as Taylor to become teachers instead of mathematicians.

Nevertheless, she loved teaching and might still be working in a middle school if she didn't tend to get tired of staying in one place all the time. "As much as I liked teaching, I needed more and I wanted more," Taylor said. "I had wanderlust, but if you are a teacher, every time you move you start at the bottom of the pay scale."

Encouraged by her army-officer brother, **Stuart Williams '58**, an MTU ROTC grad, she took a European trip to visit his family. And she discovered that the US Department of Defense could provide a solution to her teaching vs. travel dilemma, since it operates a de facto worldwide school district. She began teaching at DOD schools and, after she saw Czechoslovakia, met an Air Force recruiter.

"When I told him I majored in math, his eyes lit up," she recalls. The Air Force packed her off to officer training school in San Antonio, Texas, where in three months she emerged as a ninety-day-wonder second lieutenant.

"Within six months I was responsible for maintaining all the data-transmission, ground radio, and radar equipment at Beale Air Force Base in California," Taylor said. "At the age of 28, I was supervising 50 people. They expect young second lieutenants to hit the ground running."

Run she did, gaining rank and responsibility until, before coming to Michigan Tech, she was executive officer to the Navy admiral who supervised

communications and computer support for the US Strategic Command. Her next career move, she thought, would probably be to command a squadron, preferably K. I. Sawyer, which would bring her back to the Upper Peninsula. Then Sawyer closed and another opportunity opened.

"I was surprised to find Tech had an Air Force ROTC program and that the commander was set to rotate out," she said. "So I volunteered for ROTC; Tech was the only choice, and I got it."

This, by the way, is the example she gives on how everybody should have a career plan, but not be so rigid as to overlook the occasional lucky break.

To an observer, it might seem a perfect fit to have a math teacher with a background in applied science (Taylor also has an MS in Systems Management) as Michigan Tech's AFROTC commander. That's no accident.

"I spent sixteen years becoming ready to be the best candidate for this job," Taylor said. "And I love it. I love the young people. I've always had a special affinity for brand-new second lieutenants, and I want to teach them so they can be better than I was."

"Also, I love the University environment," she said. "It's so intellectually stimulating—I find myself in awe of some of these people. And I like being back in the U.P." Her connections to the Upper Peninsula and to Michigan Tech go back to her big brother's ROTC days. A family photo shows her as a preschooler clutching a Michigan Tech stuffed toy skunk.

Taylor is prepared for the inevitable queries about her gender and her job as one of about ten female Air Force ROTC commanders in the nation.

"I don't think about it," she asserts. "I can't say I have thought about it at any time in my career in the Air Force. My focus is on performance and potential more than anything else. I have never tried to be one of the boys because I'm not one of the boys, but I have always competed based on my ability. . . . There are times when I have to consciously remember that I am the only female in the room."

Not that she hasn't had to cope with sexism. "You go over, around, through those obstacles," she said. "Success doesn't come easy to anybody because they are the right color or gender or whatever."

(Continued on page 6)

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NCA Site Team Report on the Web

The Site Team Report compiled by the NCA Evaluation Team is now posted on the Web.

The report will be used by the North Central Association Commission on Institutions of Higher Education to determine if the University will be reaccredited. Based on the team's three-day visit to MTU in January and the University's Self-Study, the report also includes factual corrections supplied by Michigan Tech. It recommends continuing accreditation through 2007-08, when the next site visit would be scheduled. The team also recommends that MTU submit four reports: on distance education and academic program review, both due in 2001; and on general education and assessment, and the library, due in 2003.

Next, a Readers Panel will review both the team's report and the self-study. The panel can then forward the team's recommendations to the NCA as-is, forward them to NCA with suggested minor changes, or refer the recommendations to a review committee for further consideration.

If the Readers Panel OKs the team's recommendations, the NCA could act as early as August on continuing MTU's accreditation.

To access the Site Team Report, go to <http://www.admin.mtu.edu/admin/nca/visit/teamrpt.htm> or go to the MTU Home Page and click on the following series: Self Study, Evaluation Team Visit, and Site Study Report.

Ski trail meeting April 29

A meeting on the management of the property containing the MTU Ski Trails will be held Wednesday, April 29, at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Union Alumni Lounge B.

The meeting is open to the public and will be held by the MTU Forestry Management Advisory Committee, which advises Facilities Management on the logging practices used to maintain the ski-trail area. The committee will present a draft of its recommendations and is inviting comment. For more information, contact Mike Axford at mhaxford@mtu.edu, 487-2991.

911 meeting April 30

A forum on the proposed Houghton County Enhanced 911 System will be held Thursday, April 30, at 3:00 p.m. in EERC 103.

Participants will include Houghton County Sheriff Brian McLean, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Ann Gasperich, Jerry Primeau of the Mercy Ambulance Service, Vice Provost for Information Technology **James Cross**, and Public Safety Director **Jon Ahola**.

Topics will include possible benefits to the University community as well as the costs of implementing a 911 system on campus.

The event is sponsored by the MTU Presidential Committee on University Safety and Environmental Health, and everyone is invited.

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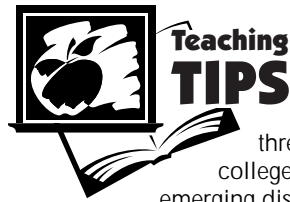
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Our URL is <http://www.sas.it.mtu.edu/urel/ttpics/index.html>

Center for Teaching, Learning,
and Faculty Development



For the last few weeks, we've speculated on potential competitive threats to the traditional college experience posed by emerging distance-education entities such as the Western Governor's University, General Motors University, the University of Phoenix, the University of Wisconsin system, and the international "mega-universities," as well as recent forays into technology-based education by such staid institutions as Cornell, Duke, Rice, and Stanford. These initiatives are being fueled by unprecedented levels of governmental support, an increasingly "consumerist" public attitude towards higher education, and the increasing demand for greater affordability and flexibility in higher education to meet the changing needs and growing numbers of nontraditional students.

Clearly, computer-based instructional technologies are not the cause of these challenges to higher education, but they provide an alternative delivery system that is causing many people to scrutinize some of the assumptions of traditional programs. No doubt many of us have tended to look down our noses at one or another of these "distance-ed diploma mills," likening them to matchbook-cover correspondence programs. Note, however, that the established distance-ed programs make no apologies about what is lacking in their approach. Rather, they represent themselves as offering a superior vehicle to encourage meaningful and lasting adult learning.

The general trend in higher education, clearly evidenced by the standards of regional and professional accrediting agencies, is to move away from a focus on teacher-centered instruction and the adequacy of institutional resources toward measurement of programmatic student learning outcomes. While some members of the academy resent the notion of programmatic assessment, the distance-ed folks have embraced it by adopting competency-based degree programs that require students to demonstrate their academic proficiency by passing comprehensive exams in order to graduate. While some murmur that much of what happens in college can't really be defined, much less measured, consumers respond, "If you're charging an arm and a leg for it, you'd better be able to figure out what it is and how to measure it!"

Another feature of distance-ed programs is that they emphasize individual responsibility. To complete their courses, proponents argue, students must take the initiative to "pull" the required material into their homes or learning centers. They must set the time aside to study the material, complete their lessons, pass their tests, initiate synchronous or asynchronous contact with content experts, and submit completed assignments. They argue that distance-ed programs encourage students to engage in learning outside of the traditional boundaries of the 9-to-5 classroom model common to most colleges. These programs

Benefitting from educational technology

by William Kennedy, director

encourage students to seek out educational opportunities and resources from a wide variety of sources while they put what they are learning to work. Rather than decrying that these distance-ed students wandering around the World Wide Web will be unable to sort out the garbage from the good stuff, a recent *Chronicle of Higher Education* article suggests that the need to learn and apply the necessary critical skills to survive such an undertaking might actually be a desirable by-product of Web-based educational programs.

Proponents of the emerging distance-ed programs suggest that they will purchase and deliver courseware designed and delivered by top researchers and teachers in their academic fields, produced by technologists and media consultants using the latest tools and techniques, and delivered into the homes or workplaces of distance learners at one-tenth to one-half the cost of traditional residential programs. What, then, are the inherent advantages of the residential college experience?

First, we need to separate potential advantages of the academy from presently realized advantages. The residential college experience can allow students to personally interact long-term with a group of talented professors, staff, and students. These valuable interactions shape the hearts of our students as well as their minds. The residential college experience potentially offers students, during a critical developmental period in their lives, the opportunity to temporarily disconnect from the rat race, to explore new ideas (some just for the sake of knowing), follow hunches and develop instincts, learn about and interact with people who view the world differently, develop habits of personal responsibility, and discover what it might be in their individual lives that will likely give them joy, as well as gain marketable skills and knowledge.

In short, if we conclude that the true purpose of the academy is only to impart to our students the skills and knowledge to be gainfully employed, we just may have more and more to fear from the emerging distance-ed programs that will offer some measure of vocational competence at a fraction of the cost. If, however, we re-embrace and rededicate ourselves to the notion of the academy as a vital learning community, a fertile environment for the enlivening of the hearts and minds of the students and all that this entails, we have much less to fear.

What lies before us as we rethink our academic programs should be less a matter of shuffling the boxes around to come up with new curricula to better meet the needs of our students' employers. Rather, we should take this opportunity to explore how, working together, we might more creatively engage the hearts and as well as the minds of our students in the broad, diverse, on-going work of the academy in its mission to further human understanding.

As always, we are interested in your comments and suggestions. Give us a call at 487-2046.

Leaving big footprints: ecology seminar May 4

Mathis Wackernagel, professor and director of the Center for Sustainability Studies, Anahuac University, Xalapa, Mexico, will give a talk, "How BIG is our Ecological Footprint? Measuring People's Share of the Natural Productivity of the Earth," on Monday, May 4, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in M&M U113.

Wackernagel is a leading expert on the innovative new method of ecological footprint analysis of the human use of natural systems. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Blair Orr at 487-2291 or Josiah Heyman at 487-2116.

Sons and Daughters scholarship available

Twenty \$100 MTU Employee Sons and Daughters Scholarships are available for the 1998-99 academic year. Applicants must be full-time MTU undergraduates in their first four years of study or high school students planning to enroll in fall 1998, and the sons or daughters of Michigan Tech employees.

Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office, Administration/Student Services 160. Deadline for application submission is May 1.

Yoder seminar postponed till May 8

The seminar "Nanoindentation: Exploring Mechanical Properties of the Very Small," by Karl Yoder, has been postponed from Friday, April 24, until Friday, May 8. It will still be held at 3:00 p.m. in M&M 610. For further information, please contact Doug Swenson, 487-3352, dswenson@mtu.edu

"Clowns of Horror" at Tech Arts Festival

Submitted by University Cultural Enrichment

Take a break from reality and journey to the twilight zone of clowning with Mump and Smoot, a.k.a. Michael Kennard and John Turner, two extraordinary theater clowns of horror, on Saturday, April 25, at 8:00 p.m. in Fisher 135. In the words of one reviewer, they're "terribly weird, terribly funny, and a terrible thing to miss."

And if you missed them when they were here two years ago, don't miss these outrageous aliens this time as they blast down from their planet, Ummo, to land at Michigan Tech for Tech Arts Festival. They know the way now and won't have to spend a night at Houghton Lake, as they did on their last visit. A workshop will be held Sunday, April 26, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union Alumni Lounge. Performance tickets (\$5 for the general public and \$3 for students) are on sale at the Memorial Union Box Office (487-3200, Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.) and at the SDC Central Ticket Office (487-2073, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.). Call 487-2844 to register for the workshop.

Mump is the straight man, known in the European tradition as the "joey" or manipulator, to the two-horned Smoot, the "auguste" or victim. Together they come up with an infernal brand of comedy that aims for the jugular. From runs in Toronto, at Yale Repertory Theatre, and off-Broadway in New York to fringe festivals all over North America, Mump and Smoot have audiences rolling in the aisles. They're at their best when ad-libbing with the audience, as they make them take sides and do silly things. They warn, "Just don't bring a cellular phone or your beeper to the show. If it goes off, you're toast." They describe their shows as being open to the audience, allowing them to be involved. John Turner (Smoot) describes the relationship as a "conversation." Ironically that conversation is conducted in Ummonian, fluent gibberish peppered with a few English and French words that actually make it quite understandable.

In "Something," Mump and Smoot take us on a mysterious treasure hunt through a stomach-turning spaghetti dinner at a snooty restaurant, a funeral, and a hospital where Smoot is operated on with hilarious consequences. Pizza cutters serve as scalpels, and Mump uses a staple gun to repair the damage. They play some gruesome but awfully funny games. They run around, they throw things, they torture each other, and they torture the audience. They "goose low humor to new heights" and send you smiling out of the theater and all the way home.

The visit of Mump and Smoot is sponsored by the MTU Memorial Union Board and coordinated with the assistance of University Cultural Enrichment. Call 487-2844 for further information.



Special effects/computer graphics guru here April 27

Submitted by University Cultural Enrichment

It's almost impossible to watch television or go to the movies these days without seeing numerous extraordinary visual effects. If you've ever asked yourself "How did they do that?" you'll be interested in hearing John R. A. Benson, the head of Computer Graphics Commercials at Industrial Light and Magic (ILM) in San Rafael, California, who will be visiting Michigan Tech on Monday, April 27. His 8:00 p.m. lecture in Fisher 135, Industrial Light and Magic: Dynamic Computer Graphics, will be illustrated with work done in his studios and some clips that feature the movies that Industrial Light and Magic has worked on over the last twenty years, demonstrating the development of the technology of visual effects. The lecture is free and is open to the public.

Industrial Light and Magic has created visual effects for more than 100 movies, including Academy Award winners for visual effects such as *Titanic*, *Jurassic Park*, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*, the *Star Wars* trilogy, and a host of others. Building on their success in feature films, ILM entered the world of advertising in 1989. ILM Commercial Productions specializes in the production of live-action commercials and commercials with visual effects.

Benson's Computer Graphics Commercials studio produced the *Men in Black* music video, which won the MTV award for best video from a movie, and two commercials seen at the Academy Awards. It's also produced movie trailers and hundreds of commercials, many for foreign companies such as British Petroleum, Canada Dry, and Pepsi Japan.

Industrial Light and Magic was founded by George Lucas in 1975. The company is now the leading effects facility in the world, serving the motion picture, commercial production and attraction industries. ILM has pioneered many advances in effects technology and they have been in the forefront in the use of computer graphics and digital imaging. They have developed breakthrough software techniques such as morphing, enveloping, and film input scanning. "They bring to life," says Stephen Spielberg, "such things as only the imagination can wonder about."

Benson's visit to Michigan Tech is sponsored by the Mark Eugene Howard Endowment, funding special projects and residencies that demonstrate and explore the interaction of art and technology. The visit is coordinated by the University Cultural Enrichment Department. Call 487-2844 for further information.

Free movie: *Secrets and Lies*

Secrets and Lies, the last movie in the 1997-98 Human Relations Series, was a 1996 winner of five Academy Award nominations and the Cannes International Film Festival's top award, the prestigious Palme d'Or. Scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, and shown in Fisher 135, the movie is free and open to MTU students, faculty, staff, and guests only.

Directed by British director Mike Leigh, *Secrets and Lies* deals with the painful yet often funny complexities of the human experience. The movie, about a successful adopted black woman who seeks out her white birth mother, is about the need for understanding, connection and love, on understanding who we are and what we are.

Desrosiers dance!

"...the most exciting, powerful and compelling theatre you will see in one lifetime!" wrote a reviewer of a Desrosiers Dance Theatre performance in the *West Australian Sunday News*, and they've had similar rave reviews on every continent except Africa and Antarctica! This Toronto-based, globetrotting company comes to the Calumet Theatre on Saturday, May 2, for one performance only at 8:00 p.m. Don't miss this fast-paced, fun-filled program of one major piece and unique entertaining highlights from the Desrosiers repertoire. Tickets are available at the SDC Central Ticket Office (487-2073), the Memorial Union Box Office (487-3200), and the Calumet Theatre (337-2610).

Displays mark Library Week, April 19–25

In honor of National Library Week (theme: Global Reach. Local Touch), which this is, the J. R. Van Pelt Library has cultural items from around the world on display.

The items, including molas from Panama, matrioshka dolls from Zagorsk, marionettes from Mexico, and a mining hat from the Quincy Mine, are on loan from local members of the international community and are in the display case inside the main doors.

In Government Documents, personal reflections written by users of libraries in Russia, Thailand, Ireland, and Liberia are on display. Written by members of the MTU community, they provide rich, insider perspectives of libraries and library use in these countries.

And, in the first-floor gallery area, are covers from some of the new books the Library has purchased during the past year

Sigma Xi banquet May 13: free food for new PhDs

Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society's annual spring banquet will be held Wednesday, May 13, at 6:00 p.m. in Memorial Union Ballroom A. All PhD graduates will be invited to attend at no charge, and Professor Emeritus **Arthur Weaver** (ME-EM) will provide the after dinner talk. For more information, contact Patrick Joyce, pjoyce@mtu, 487-2677.

Members are also invited to nominate new members to Sigma Xi. Full membership requires demonstrated research ability, usually meaning "noteworthy achievement as an original investigator," aka primary authorship of two papers (thesis counts as one). Associate membership requires "initial achievement showing aptitude for research," aka deserving graduate and undergraduate students with real promise. Please survey your students and colleagues for potential nominations and forward them to pjoyce@mtu.edu with a brief bio (students) or vitae (colleagues) and nominating letter by Friday, May 1.

Echoes from Heaven

Concert May 3

Submitted by the Department of Fine Arts

MTU's Echoes From Heaven Gospel Choir promises to raise the roof of Walker Theatre on Sunday, May 3, at 4:00 p.m. with its gala spring concert.

"Be prepared for something special," says Choirmaster **Inetta Harris**. "We'll use lights, sound, and drama, along with the things we're known for—gospel singing and precision moves."

Echoes spent spring break on a concert tour to New York City, Washington, DC, and downstate Michigan. Although the choir performs throughout the year for local organizations and as part of MTU events, the annual Spring Concert, held on the first Sunday in May, is the highlight of the year. Members of the choir include MTU and Suomi College students, plus community members. Now in its eighth year, the choir has become one of the most widely recognized and appreciated performing ensembles from Michigan Tech. The choir is accompanied by Harris on keyboards, with a combo of student musicians.

This year's program includes both classic songs and gospel favorites, from "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Ezekiel Saw the Wheel" to "Peace in the Valley" and a special tribute to the late Kali Hancock, daughter of choir member Imani Hancock and **Ed Hancock** (civil and environmental engineering). Soloists include **Chemeka Torrence**, **Kathryn Childress**, **Kevin Walker**, **Travon Brooks**, **Dan Becia**, and **Vicki Crenshaw**.

Tickets are available at the Memorial Union Box Office (487-3200), SDC Central Ticket Office (487-2073), Calumet Theatre (337-2610) for \$7 adults, \$5 senior citizens, and \$3 students (\$1 more at the door).

Jazz Showcase May 1-2

Submitted by the fine arts department

MTU's jazz bands, fresh from winning top honors at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire JazzFest, present a Spring Jazz Showcase on Friday and Saturday, May 1–2, at 8:00 p.m. in Walker Theatre. The concerts feature lively renditions of favorite tunes from TV and films, from the "Theme from Star Trek" to hits from *The Mambo Kings*. Director of Jazz Studies **Mike Irish** promises "memorable music that appeals to everyone from 8 to 80."

This is the final, best concert of the year for MTU's Jazz Lab Band, R&D Big Band, Jaztec, and Salsa Norté. Jazz Lab Band performs the *Star Trek* theme, "Also Sprach Zarathustra" from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and themes from childrens' shows and cartoons. The Research and Development Big Band pays tribute to street heroes, legends, and super-heroes with "Shaft," "Soul Man" (from *Blues Brothers*), and a *Batman* medley. Salsa Norté specializes in Latin themes with the music from *I Love Lucy* and *The Mambo Kings*. Jaztec presents Henry Mancini's "Peter Gunn," the haunting Thelonious Monk ballad "Round Midnight" (sung by Matt Wright), and Chick Corea's "Spain" as performed by graduating senior pianist **Greg Huntley**.

Tickets are available at the Memorial Union and SDC box offices (487-3200 or 487-2073) and Calumet Theatre (337-2610) for \$7 general, \$5 seniors, and \$3 students (\$1 more at the door). More information is available from the fine arts office, 487-2067.

Tech Tea April 29

Submitted by University Cultural Enrichment

Some very lively sounds will be blowing away the cobwebs in the Memorial Union Alumni Lounge at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29, as Echoes from Heaven Gospel Choir gives a sneak preview of their end-of-year concert. They'll be joined by some special guests from Tanzania, a four-man musical ensemble called The New Life Band. This one-hour program provides an up-close opportunity to experience the jubilant art of gospel singing.

"If you've ever wondered how the choir learns their signature 'precision moves' or their close harmonies, you'll want to come to this Tech Tea Time," says Choirmaster **Inetta Harris**, who hopes folks will come and enjoy her group as they demonstrate how much fun it is to sing these joyful sounds.

The members of the New Life Band are the guests of Joel Berthelson, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in South Range. "Their tight harmonies and African rhythms are really wonderful," says Berthelsen, who first heard them perform in Iowa and invited them to come to the Upper Peninsula. They're in the area for a month or so during their national tour, performing in area churches. They share their cultural heritage, singing some songs in the Tanzanian style and others in the western hymn style.

Tech Tea Time is coordinated by the University Cultural Enrichment Department. For further information, call 487-2844.

Open house May 1: free cookies!

The Center for Professional Development and Quality Improvement (formerly known as TQE and QSE) has moved from Human Resources to 224 Blanche Steet (last house on the right at the top of the hill). To introduce the University community to their new digs, center manager **Becky Christianson** invites everyone to their open house, complete with goodies, set for Friday, May 1, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. "We'll be showcasing our new home and also meeting rooms that will be available for general campus use," she said.

How to supervise students: workshops May 8&11

Two free, day-long workshops will be held Friday and Monday, May 8 and 11, for any MTU employees who supervise students.

The Center for Professional Development and Quality Improvement (formerly Quality Services Education) is sponsoring the workshops, and participants may attend any or all of the sessions.

The registration deadline is Friday, May 1. To register, contact Becky Christianson at rwchrist@mtu.edu, 487-2416. Call early, since seating is limited.

Session topics include

- Safety, Safety, Safety, **Al Niemi and Rod Guibault**, 8:15–9:00 a.m.
- Workstudy Students, **Marie Ryding**, 8:15–9:00 a.m.
- Cross-Cultural Communication, **Suzanne VanDam**, 9:05–10:05 a.m.
- Legal Aspects of Hiring, **Marilyn Haapapuro**, 10:10–11:10 a.m.
- Payroll Information for International Students, **Maryann Wilcox and Brenda Sutherland**, 10:10–11:10 a.m.
- Student Employee Paperwork, **Joan Pastore**, 11:15 a.m.–noon
- Hot Issues for Managers: From Harassment to Affirmative Action, **Sherry Kauppi**, 11:15 a.m.–noon
- Brown Bag Lunch Panel Discussions, 12:30–1:30 p.m.: Hiring Students, Friday, and Employment Types and Compensation, Monday
- Student Employment as a Learning Opportunity, **Steven Tyrell**, 1:30–2:30 p.m.
- First Week Investment: Payoffs in the Productivity of a New Employee, **Shalini Rudak**, 1:30–2:30 p.m.
- Delegating to Student Employees, **Rebecca Christianson**, 3:05–4:00 p.m.
- Student Employee Discipline, **Steve Tyrell**, 3:05–4:00 p.m.

Fear, loathing, and thin film epitaxy May 1

The University community is invited to a seminar by Assistant Professor Jeff Drucker, "Huts, Domes and Pits: Fear and Loathing on the Epitaxial Landscape," on Friday, May 1, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in M&M 610. Refreshments will be served prior to the seminar.

Drucker is an assistant professor of physics at the University of Texas–El Paso and was previously a research scientist in the Center for High Resolution Electron Microscopy at Arizona State University. He received his PhD in Physics in 1986 from the University of California at Santa Barbara, doing his thesis on formation of thin films and superlattices of Ising antiferromagnetic fluoride insulators (MnF_2 , FeF_2 , etc.) for characterization of their magnetic properties. From this work, he developed an interest in thin film epitaxy which continues to this day.

To arrange to meet with Drucker during his visit or for an abstract for his seminar, please contact Doug Swenson (487-3352, dswenson@mtu.edu) or Mohan Krishnamurthy (487-3351, mohan@mtu.edu).

"Sunrise" at Club Indigo

Thursday, April 30, is the next-to-final Club Indigo for the 1997–98 season. Mu Beta Psi music fraternity assists in bringing this charitable event in a food-and-film evening of pleasing entertainment.

The movie, *Sunrise*, a 1927 transitional classic between silent and sound movies, starred Janet Gaynor in her Academy Award-winning role. But *Sunrise* is a classic for many reasons beyond a fine cast. Its director, famed German genius F. W. Murnau, came to Hollywood to create it in his German style, complete with vastly expensive studio sets of farmlands, cityscape, rain and dust storms, etc. It's the archetypal love triangle between a farmer and a city flapper who plot the demise of the farmer's wife (Gaynor) so they can run off to the city together. Do they succeed? Not likely. Smashing ending.

Preceding the movie is a German buffet of gourmet food from the chefs at the Keweenaw Co-op. Meal is at 6:00 p.m. for \$7.50. Movie's at 7:00 p.m., \$3 or two for \$5. Children go half price.

Jaszczak seminar April 24

Assistant Professor **John Jaszczak** (physics) will give a seminar, "Dynamics and Roughening of Silicon {111} Surfaces," on Friday, April 24, at 3:10 p.m. in M&M 610.

Crystal surfaces can exhibit a variety of interesting equilibrium and dynamical phenomena, depending on their structure and on the thermodynamic conditions. Although silicon and diamond surfaces are very well studied, fundamental behavior and modeling of even their lowest energy surfaces remain active areas of study. In this talk, Jaszczak will present a new Monte Carlo simulation method for simulating {111} surfaces of silicon or diamond; detailed results for equilibrium roughening phase transitions; and preliminary results for a variety of interesting dynamical studies.

His presentation is part of the Materials Engineering Seminar Series. Everyone is invited, and refreshments will be served at 3:00 p.m.

Wanted: Research Award nominations

Nominations are being sought for the 1998 Research Award. The award, which includes a \$2,500 prize, recognizes outstanding research or scholarly endeavor by a faculty member.

The nomination should be based on the impact the researcher has made toward the advancement of knowledge or state of scholarship, either by a single, noteworthy breakthrough or sustained, productive scholarly endeavor.

The nomination deadline is May 11. If you'd like to nominate a researcher, contact the Graduate School at 487-2327 for more information on nomination requirements.

On the road

Assistant Professor **David Rudd** (SBE) gave a presentation, "The Devil Is in the Details," to the Department of Energy's energy efficiency strategy conference, Rebuild America, held March 12 in San Antonio, Texas, via videoconferencing from EERC B11.

Professor **Anant Godbole** and graduate students **Spencer Slade** and **Papa Sissokho** (mathematical sciences) attended the 29th Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory and Computing, held March 9–13 in Boca Raton, Florida. Godbole presented a paper, coauthored by Jessica Maia (MIT), "Threshold Functions for the Sperner Property." Slade presented a paper, coauthored by Godbole, "Random Sphere of Influence Graphs." Sissokho presented a paper, coauthored by Godbole, entitled "Successions and Near-Matches in Random Permutations."

Computer classes

The following classes will be offered through dL Computer Consultants. Cost of the workshops is \$60 for half-day, \$115 for full-day sessions. Custom classes can be scheduled for at least three participants. For more information or to register, contact Becky Christianson at 487-2416 or rwchrist@mtu.edu

- Access, Level 1, Tuesday, May 12, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Access, Level 2, Tuesday, May 12, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- Excel, Level 1, Thursday, May 28, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Excel, Level 2, Thursday, May 28, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- New User, Tuesday, May 5, 1:00–4:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 9, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Windows 95/NT, Level 1, Thursday, May 7, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Windows 95/NT, Level 2, Thursday, May 7, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- Windows 95, Level 1, Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Word, Level 1, Tuesday, May 19, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- Word, Level 2, Tuesday, May 19, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
- WordPerfect, Level 1, Thursday, May 14, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- WordPerfect, Level 2, Thursday, May 14, 1:00–4:00 p.m.

MTU notables

Professor **Kurt Pregitzer** (SFWP) has been named to a three-year term on the Board of Editors for *Ecology* and *Ecological Monographs*, published by the Ecological Society of America.

MTU lecturer wins award

Submitted by the News Bureau

Howard Zollinger, president of Zollinger Associates and an adjunct professor in the ME-EM department, has received the Reed-Apple Award from the Material Handling Education Foundation.

The award is presented to professional engineers for outstanding contributions to the material handling industry and to material handling education. It was established in 1981 as a tribute to the memory of Ruddell Reed Jr. and James Apple, renowned material handling educators and innovators.

Zollinger has demonstrated his commitment and support of education in the material handling field for more than forty years. He holds thirteen patents and was employed in the industry from 1951 until 1989, when he launched a successful material handling engineering consulting company. His accomplishments include several years of heading the integrated systems material handling activities of Mannesmann Demag, one of the world's largest suppliers of material handling systems and equipment; heading the controls activities of Rapistan, the nation's largest conveyor systems company; and directing the material handling systems and control sub-systems at Westinghouse Electric Corporation. As president of Zollinger Associates, he uses his personal experience to consult and to plan systems for North American, European, and Japanese clients.

He has been a leader in developing automatic storage and retrieval system technology and has also developed many practical methods for evaluating horizontal movement systems, such as conveyors and automatic guided vehicles.

Zollinger received a BS in Electrical Engineering from Michigan Tech in 1951 and an MS in EE from the University of Pittsburgh in 1958.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT MTU

Job descriptions are available from Human Resources starting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. You can e-mail us at JOBS@MTU.EDU and we will e-mail you the job description you request.

The following positions will be posted Friday, April 24, 1998, at 1:00 p.m. through noon, Friday, May 1, 1998, in the Human Resources Office.

- Assistant Research Scientist—Forestry and Wood Products (Regular, part-time, thirty hours per week)
- Assistant Research Scientist—Forestry and Wood Products (Regular, part-time, twenty hours per week)
- Program Coordinator/Director—Institute of Wood Research (Ten-month position)
- Departmental Coordinator—Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Administrative Aide—Civil and Environmental Engineering (Regular, full-time, UAW internal posting)
- Secretary (N3)—J. R. Van Pelt Library (Regular, Part-time, UAW internal and external posting)
- Senior Clerk (N2)—Retail Operations/Central Ticket Office (Regular, part-time, UAW internal and external posting)
- Collection Coordinator—Accounting

University employees are reminded to apply in writing prior to noon, Friday, May 1, 1998, to be considered as internal candidates for bargaining unit positions only. Applicants from the recall pool will be given first consideration for non-bargaining-unit positions only. Vacancy announcements are normally posted every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the Human Resources Office. Complete job descriptions are available in the Human Resources Office or by calling 487-2280. More information regarding employment opportunities is available by calling the Job Line at 487-2895. Michigan Technological University is an equal opportunity educational institution/equal opportunity employer.

Taylor (Continued from page 1)

Success comes because of perseverance and innate ability. Any of us who have been out in life have figured that out."

Her faith in the preeminence of individual drive and ability may have ignited her military career, particularly as she encountered a culture where individual accomplishment went unrewarded.

"The difference between East and West Berlin was like night and day," Taylor remembers. "West Berlin was so optimistic, bright and prosperous, and then you'd go through Checkpoint Charlie.

"No one greeted you. There was nothing. There were no dogs, and the Germans love dogs."

"I know it sounds hokey, but unless you've experienced it . . ." she says, her voice trailing.

The Cold War is over now, the Soviet tanks have left Prague, and from the ROTC Taylor has a brighter view of the future.

"When you see all these wonderful young men and women," she says, "it's hard to be pessimistic."

Apple people:

Steve Jobs talks May 11

A videocast featuring Steve Jobs, head of Apple, will be held Monday, May 11, at noon in EERC B18.

"If you've never seen Steve Jobs give a presentation, you couldn't pick a better time to start," said **Ken Irwin** (IT). He is expected to outline Apple's software strategy for the future. Jobs will be delivering the keynote address at the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference, where Apple unveils its new technologies and strategies to software development companies.

For more information contact Irwin at 487-3500 or applerep@mtu.edu

April

Fair Housing Month

- 23 **Thursday**
all day—Take Our Daughters to Work Day
8:00 p.m.—University Theatre: *Crimes of the Heart*—Walker Theatre
8:30 p.m.—Film: *Soylent Green*—Fisher 135
- 24 **Friday**
3:00 p.m.—John Jaszczak, "Dynamics and Roughening of Silicon {111} Surfaces"—M&M 610
8:00 p.m.—University Theatre: *Crimes of the Heart*—Walker Theatre
- 25 **Saturday**
8:00 p.m.—University Theatre: *Crimes of the Heart*—Walker Theatre
8:00 p.m.—Mump and Smoot: Clowns of Horror—Fisher 135
- 27 **Monday**
8:00 p.m.—John R. A. Benson, "Dynamic Computer Graphics"—Fisher 135
- 29 **Wednesday**
4:00 p.m.—Tech Tea: Echoes from Heaven Gospel Choir, New Life Band—Memorial Union Alumni Lounge
7:00 p.m.—Forestry Management Advisory Committee meeting on ski trails—Memorial Union Alumni Lounge B
- 30 **Thursday**
3:00 p.m.—Forum on proposed 911 system—EERC 103
6:00/7:00 p.m.—German buffet/*Sunrise*—Calumet Theatre

May

- 1 **Friday**
3:00 p.m.—Jeff Drucker, "Huts, Domes, and Pits: Fear and Loathing on the Epitaxial Landscape"—M&M 610
8:00 p.m.—Spring Jazz Showcase—Walker Theatre
- 2 **Saturday**
8:00 p.m.—Spring Jazz Showcase—Walker Theatre
- 3 **Sunday**
4:00 p.m.—Echoes from Heaven Gospel Choir Spring Concert—Walker Theatre
- 4 **Monday**
4:00 p.m.—Mathis Wackennagel, "How Big Is Our Ecological Footprint?"—M&M U113
- 8 **Friday**
3:00 p.m.—Karl Yoder, "Nanoindentation: Exploring Mechanical Properties of the Very Small"—M&M 610
- 11 **Monday**
noon—Apple's Steve Jobs keynote address—EERC B18