

Distinguished Teaching Award nominees announced

The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Faculty Development has announced the finalists for the 1999 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Finalists in the Assistant Professor/Lecturer Division are

- Betsy Aller**, lecturer (chemical engineering)
- Anthony Farrell**, assistant professor (technology)
- Kris Mattila**, assistant professor (civil and environmental engineering)
- David Olson**, instructor (mathematical sciences)
- Gordon Parker**, assistant professor (ME-EM)

Finalists in the Associate Professor/Professor Division are

- Ashok Ambardar**, associate professor (electrical engineering)
- Mary Ann Beckwith**, associate professor (fine arts)
- Michael Irish**, associate professor (fine arts)
- Kirk Schulz**, associate professor (chemical engineering)
- Suzanne Stephens**, associate professor (fine arts)

Finalists are selected based upon student evaluation of teaching scores. ODK has been collecting additional comments from students enrolled in the classes of the finalists. Students, staff, faculty, and alumni are also invited to comment on the teaching performance of the finalists. Contact the center at 487-2046 for more information.

The two award winners will be honored at President's Convocation in the fall.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield claims rep here May 6

A claims representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be in Memorial Union B2 on Thursday, May 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to meet with employees who have questions or concerns regarding their health insurance claims. Meetings are by appointment only. Call the Benefits Office at 487-2517 to schedule an appointment.

I take the view, and always have, that if you cannot say what you are going to say in twenty minutes you ought to go away and write a book about it.

—LORD BRABAZON

Former dean of engineering Sikarskie dies

Professor **David Sikarskie**, 61, former dean of engineering and most recently director of special programs in the ME-EM department, died Sunday, April 25, of an apparent heart attack he sustained while bicycling.

Sikarskie came to MTU in 1985 as dean and returned to the faculty in 1990. He was a leader in his field of research, including structural mechanics, composite materials, and engineering mechanics. But he is remembered by his colleagues and friends for other qualities.

"He was a special guy in many ways," said Department Chair **William Predebon** (ME-EM). "Dave had the ability to see the big picture, to see the forest in the trees. He was a very objective and ethical person, and at the same time, he was very concerned about young faculty and students, particularly undergraduates."

Sikarskie viewed engineering as a profession that contributed to society, and he passed that vision on to his students. PhD student **Scott Miers** was inspired by Sikarskie to leave a career in private industry and return to academia. "He changed my entire life," Miers said. He convinced me that I was PhD material. Before that, it was the job in industry after graduation, but then I saw what he had done with his life, saw the joy of teaching and connecting with students.

"The idea came from him, and I've been running with it ever since."

Faculty and students got together April 27 to remember Sikarskie. "Everyone commented on his ability to put the other person first, to help you out no matter what he was doing," Miers said. "You were always number one, always the most important. For me personally, I felt honored and privileged to be his graduate student. I had three years of my life planned with him, and I was never so excited."

"And I can't let him down," Miers said. "He was a wonderful man."

Before coming to MTU, Sikarskie was professor and chairman of the Department of Metallurgy, Mechanics, and Materials Science at Michigan State University. Previously, he was a professor of aerospace engineering at the University of Michigan and on staff at the Ingersoll-Rand Research Center. He earned MS and ScD degrees in Applied Mechanics from Columbia University and a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.

Associate Professor **Madhukar Vable** (ME-EM), a Distinguished Teaching Award winner, came to MTU in large part because of Sikarskie, who was his PhD advisor at the University of Michigan. "He was one of the most optimistic persons I have ever met," Vable said. "He would work within the system all the time, trying to make it better. He embodied the saying, 'If life gives you lemons, make lemonade.'"

Sikarskie was famous for taking care of his students. "When I was in grad school, he asked me, 'Madhu, do you need a car?' and he gave me his old car, a Pinto, for about a dollar. . . . He was very generous, a friend all the way. And at the same time, a tremendously professional person, a man of very high integrity. We are all going to miss him."

An outdoorsman, Sikarskie routinely included his students and colleagues in his activities. "He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting, and canoeing, and he was always trying to get others to go," Vable said. "He enjoyed life, he lived it to the hilt, and he stretched himself all the time."

Thus, Vable takes some small comfort from the fact that Sikarskie died doing something he truly enjoyed. "Some people might ask why a 61-year-old person would want to ride a bicycle twenty miles. . . . But he was just being Dave, enjoying life. Hard as it is, that's the consolation."

"Those of us fortunate enough to be Dave's students became part of the Sikarskie family, spending many hours visiting and working on our research projects at their home and at their cabin and regularly enjoying 'international cuisine' dinners with other graduate students at the Sikarskie home," remembers another former PhD student, Nick Altiero, now professor and the chairperson of the Department of Materials Science and Mechanics in the College of Engineering at Michigan State. "Dave was not only a wonderful teacher and mentor, but he also became a very dear friend. Dave served as a model for me as I pursued my own academic career and I always felt most flattered when I was compared to him in my teaching and advising style or my research work. . . ."

"The academic community and the engineering profession have lost a very special man, and I and Dave's other students have lost our mentor and our friend."

Sikarskie *Continued from page 1*

"He was a wonderful person, a gifted dean, and when he went back to the faculty and picked up his research, he became preeminent in his field," Dean of Engineering **Robert Warrington** said. "I certainly valued him as a friend. He was doing so much, and he had a lot left to give. His loss is devastating."

Sikarskie is survived by his wife, **Martha Banks-Sikarskie**, who has been serving as interim director of Extended University Programs; a daughter, Anya Anderson of Seattle; two sons, David Jr. of East Lansing and James at home; two stepdaughters, Lari Hayhoe and Amy Jones, both of Mason; six grandchildren; three sisters, Paula Krempin of Rochester, New York, Judy Smith of Waterford, Connecticut, and Jeanne Lopez of Philipsburg, New Jersey. A son, Paul, preceded him in death in 1994.

In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, the family suggests donations to the Michigan Tech Fund or the American Cancer Society.

Nonlinear diffusion seminar May 3

Dr. E. Bruce Nauman of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, will give a talk, "Nonlinear Diffusion and Phase Transitions," on Monday, May 3, at 10:00 a.m. in Memorial Union Alumni Lounge A.

Nauman's visit is part of the chemical engineering department's Arthur and Dorothy Siegel Lecture Series. His talk is free and open to the public.

Physics colloquium May 6

Dr. Diola Bagayoko, professor of physics and director of Timbuktu Academy at Southern University and A & M College, will give a colloquium, "Predictive Calculations of Electronic Energies of Materials," on Thursday, May 6, at 4:00 p.m. in Fisher 139.

Bagayoko's colloquium is sponsored by the Department of Physics, and the public is invited.

MichiganTech

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- By e-mail to ttopics@mtu.edu
- By campus mail, send typed copies to Tech Topics, University Relations.

Each week, the deadline for submitting information is Friday at 5:00 p.m. for publication the following Friday.

Retired ME-EM faculty member dies

Roy Wehmanen, 82, a former associate professor in the ME-EM department, died April 24 at his home, 503 Vivian Street.

Wehmanen came to Michigan Tech in 1955 and served as advisor for general engineering students along with his responsibilities on the mechanical engineering faculty. He retired in 1978.

He earned an MS in Industrial Education from Wayne State and a BS in Industrial Arts from Northern Michigan University. He was an associate professor at the University of Dayton before coming to Michigan Tech.

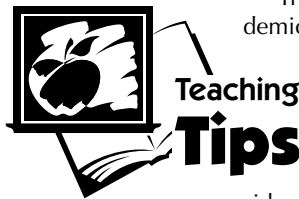
Wehmanen was a veteran of the US Navy, serving during the Second World War, and was a member of Grace United Methodist Church. "Roy was a kind, generous, untroubled man who enjoyed life," said Associate Professor **Jack Jobst** (Humanities), who had been visiting Wehmanen as a volunteer for Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly.

Surviving are two sons, John of Darmstadt, Germany, and Mark of Sandy, Utah; one grandson, Kyle Wehmanen; two sisters, Sylvia Anderson of Marquette and Marie Aho of AuTrain; and one brother, Robert of Marquette. He was preceded in death by his wife, Martha.

Affective dimensions of a course syllabus

Center for Teaching, Learning,
and Faculty Development

By William Kennedy, director



The course syllabus serves as the formal introduction to an academic course. Like any other form of introduction, students gather an initial impression based both upon what the syllabus explicitly states and an affective impression of the course and its instructor by what is written between the lines. Since we know that first impressions are important, often are long lasting, and can create self-fulfilling outcomes, we should consider carefully the "meta-messages" contained in our syllabi.

Ideally, in addition to providing students with a host of useful data points about schedules, resources, office hours, assignments, test dates, and course policies, I believe that a good syllabus should (1) begin to build a sense of trust between the student and the instructor, (2) begin the process of increasing the students' intrinsic interest in the course and the achievement of its goals, and (3) clearly delineate what will be required of the student, what is to be mastered, and lay out how the student can most effectively achieve the specific learning outcomes of the course.

Ever surprised by students who tell me at the completion of the course that they really didn't understand what was required of them, I have decided to include the following items in my future syllabi.

As your instructor, you can expect me to

- prepare for every class and not let my problems and daily challenges interfere with your opportunities for learning.
- balance the demands that this course places on your time with my high expectations for your mastery of the valuable ideas to be learned.
- give you direct and timely feedback on the progress you are making in the course.
- make myself available to you outside of class if you need additional help or would simply like to continue discussing specific course ideas.
- respect your privacy and your personal positions on issues even as I persistently encourage you to actively participate in our class discussions.

- use examples and analogies that you can relate to based upon your life experiences.
- make connections between new ideas we are learning and ideas that you have already learned in the course.
- remind you of the progress we have made in the course and point out the directions we are going.
- remember that you have bad days and make mistakes just like me.
- try to make each class as interesting as possible while recognizing that learning is often an uncomfortable and disquieting experience.
- recognize that your values, background, and life experience may be very different from my own.
- start and end class on time.

Conversely, as a member of this class, I expect you to

- attend every class unless you are ill or have an extraordinary reason to miss.
- be respectful of me and your fellow classmates by listening carefully to what is being said in class and refraining from unwarranted criticism, ridicule, or other degrading or distracting behaviors.
- prepare for each class by doing the assigned reading and homework.
- let me know if something I do or say interferes with your learning.
- be patient when someone else takes extra time to master an idea or to argue a point.
- help me create a productive, encouraging, lively classroom atmosphere where the common enemy is ignorance, not our different opinions.
- work with me in developing your course projects. Don't put them off until the last moment.

I hope that these words of caution and encouragement will help to set the tone for the term and let students know that they are a vital part of the learning process that we are trying to nurture.

Schulzes take ASEE section awards

Kirk and Noel Schulz have each received a 1999 Section Award from the North Midwest Section of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE).

Associate Professor and Chair **Kirk Schulz** (Chemical Engineering) was given the section's ASEE Outstanding Teaching Award. Assistant Professor **Noel Schulz** (Electrical Engineering) received the section's ASEE Dow Outstanding New Faculty Member Award.

MTU faculty have won the Dow Award four of the last five years and the Outstanding Teaching Award every year for the last four years.

"It's wonderful to see any of our faculty excelling in both research and teaching, and it is really exceptional that we have a husband and wife doing this," Dean of Engineering **Robert Warrington** said, noting that the Schulzes have each received NSF Career Awards for their research. "It's a compliment to both of them as individuals, to their departments, the College, and the University."

The North Midwest Section of ASEE includes universities in the Upper Peninsula, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Manitoba.

Workshop May 13 on digital copyright law

The J. R. Van Pelt Library is sponsoring a workshop on Thursday, May 13, on the latest copyright law. The workshop will be led by AccessMichigan Director Ruth Dukelow, JD, who will discuss the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 and the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act of 1998. The workshop will be held in the Library's classroom, Room 213, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

The workshop covers a variety of current copyright issues, including e-mail and Web pages.

The workshop is open to all MTU personnel. You can register on line at www.mlc.lib.mi.us/cal/index.htm or by e-mailing register@mlc.lib.mi.us. Cost is \$85 for MLC members (MTU personnel may register as members).

Dukelow is widely recognized for her expertise throughout the state. She earned a JD from Duke University School of Law and an MSLS from Catholic University. She formerly was network librarian at the Michigan Library Commission, a legal specialist at the Library of Michigan, and an associate attorney at the Loomis law firm in Lansing. Dukelow authored the book *The Library Copyright Guide*, which is available at the library (Z642.D841992).

If you have any questions, contact Nancy Szofran at 487-2509 or nszofran@mtu.edu

Faculty wanted to pilot Perspectives on Inquiry

The General Education Council has approved the new design for the Perspectives on Inquiry, and faculty are needed to pilot sections of the seminar in 1999–2000. All interested faculty are invited to a meeting set for Wednesday, May 5, at noon, in the SBE conference room (Academic Office 101); snacks will be provided.

The semester-long course was outlined by a committee of faculty and representatives from the library and first-year programs. "We're very excited about what the committee has come up with," said **Diana George**, chair of the General Education Council.

The course is intended to engage entering students in active learning and inquiry and to help them make the transition from high school to college-level work. All first-year students will take Perspectives on Inquiry starting in fall 2000. Sections will be limited to 20 students, and all sections will be taught by tenure-track faculty from across the university.

"Perspectives will give the engineering and science faculty a unique opportunity to teach a first-year course that could have a very profound and lasting influence on the Michigan Tech students," said Associate Professor **Tom Grimm** (ME-EM), a committee member. "Some of the stereotypes of engineers and scientists as dull and narrowly focused individuals could be shattered as faculty expose students to critical thinking and inquiry that combine aspects of technology and life in the modern world."

As designed, each section will focus on an unresolved question that can be addressed from a variety of perspectives. Faculty teaching the course will develop the question, the general topic, and the reading list for their individual sections, and students can enroll in sections addressing topics that they are interested in.

For example, an instructor might focus a section of Perspectives on the question, "What is intelligence?" This might lead the class in a variety of directions, such as: Is intelligence an exclusively human trait or are there also animal and machine intelligences and are these the same or different? Is intelligence an individual or a collaborative ability? What particular abilities are associated with intelligence in various cultures? How has intelligence been measured? For what purposes has intelligence been measured?

"It's a great opportunity to explore an interesting topic with a small group," said another committee member, Assistant Professor **Kim Hoagland** (Social Sciences). Students will do a lot of reading and writing in the course, but the emphasis will be on the kind of learning that comes out of interaction between teacher and students and among students. "I'm excited about the opportunities the Perspectives class provides to teach small sections, where shared learning is much more feasible," says Assistant Professor **Kelly Strong** (SBE), another committee member. "I anticipate the shared learning will include the students teaching me a great deal about themselves and their perspectives."

Faculty who teach Perspectives next year will be able to greatly influence the development of the course. Anyone who is interested in piloting a section or learning more about the new course design is invited to attend the May 5 meeting with the Perspectives committee. Other members are Associate Professor **Marilyn Cooper** (Humanities), Assistant Professor **Nancy Grimm** (Humanities), Associate Professor **Richard Goldstein** (Fine Arts), Librarian **Dave Bezotte** (Library), and **Bonnie Gorman**, director of student orientation and first-year programs.

Jazz and gospel concerts in Walker this week

The Michigan Tech Department of Fine Arts fills Walker Theatre with the sound of jazz and gospel music this weekend as the Spring Jazz Showcase and annual spring gospel concert take the stage. First, on Friday and Saturday, April 30 and May 1, at 8:00 p.m., MTU's Jazz Lab Band, R&D Big Band, Jaztec, and Basin Street Blues Brothers present their best music-making of the year. Director **Mike Irish** promises two evenings of fine entertainment featuring a wide variety of music, from blues classics to swing, funk, Latin, rock, and ballads, with healthy doses of exciting improv.

Then, on Sunday, May 2, the annual spring concert by Echoes From Heaven Gospel Choir, directed by **Inetta Harris**, begins at 4:00 p.m. Jazz combo Salsa Norte joins Echoes in this end-of-year celebration. In addition to their program of gospel music, accompanied by Harris and other musicians, Echoes will honor elementary teachers with the help of a Community Children's Chorus formed for this occasion. Echoes From Heaven leaves smiles on every face with the choir's enthusiasm, hand-clapping, toe-tapping sound, and precision moves.

Both the jazz bands and Echoes are completing a stellar year. Jazz Lab Band and Jaztec won awards at the collegiate jazz festival held in March at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Echoes participated in a national gospel music festival in Dayton, Ohio, and completed a ten-day concert tour in California.

Tickets for these concerts are available at the Memorial Union and SDC box offices (487-3200 or -2073) and Calumet Theatre (337-2610) for \$7 general, \$5 seniors, and \$3 students (\$1 more at the door).

Keweenaw Symphony concert features Tompkins, Lawson

Submitted by the Department of Fine Arts

The Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, with soloists **Joe Tompkins** and **Eric Lawson**, will present works by Serge Prokofieff, Alan Hovhaness, Houghton native **Elena Ruehr**, and fine arts chair **Milton Olsson** on Saturday, May 8, at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m. in Walker Theatre. Olsson will conduct.

Percussionist Tompkins joins the KSO in "Fantasy on Japanese Woodprints" by Alan Hovhaness, a tour de force for the full orchestra, which will include two harps and a large percussion section. Hovhaness uses the orchestra to create sonic environments for virtuoso marimba solos, which Tompkins will play on a new four-and-one-half octave Ludwig marimba. This instrument is a recent gift to the Department of Fine Arts from the Presidents Society.

Lawson will play a masterwork for violin, considered by many to be one of the most hauntingly beautiful pieces ever written, Prokofieff's Concerto No. 2. The piece opens with unaccompanied solo violin, then unfolds in themes and orchestral accompaniments which critics call "ravishingly beautiful." The second movement contains what many violinists consider among the loveliest themes in the entire violin repertoire. "This is a very rewarding work to perform and to hear," says Olsson.

The KSO will introduce Elena Ruehr's composition "Sky Above Clouds" to the composer's home-town audience. Ruehr grew up in Houghton, where her father and mother, Otto and Ruthann Ruehr, were Michigan Tech faculty members. In her youth, she studied with Melvin Kangas, Isabelle Hagen, Joan Luehrs, Ted Diaconoff, and then-Houghton High School band director Robert Norden. She completed bachelor's and doctor of musical arts degrees in composition at the University of Michigan, and a master's degree in composition at Juilliard.

"Sky Above Clouds" is named after a series of paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe. Ruehr explains, "I first saw one of these works as a child, and it has always been one of my favorite paintings. In this orchestral piece, I tried to capture the things I loved in her painting: its simplicity of design, its light and airy colors, and its vast sense of space."

The concert also includes a new piece by Olsson, "Konzertstück: Waldkraiburg 1998," written last fall while he was on sabbatical in Waldkraiburg, Germany.

Both featured soloists are well-known to local audiences. Joe Tompkins, son of President **Curt Tompkins** and his wife, **Kathy Tompkins**, returns to Houghton each summer to perform in the Pine Mountain Music Festival. Lawson came to Houghton in 1996 as concertmaster of the KSO. Their performances are supported in part by grants from

the G. Cleaves Byers estate and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Tompkins has played with orchestras and chamber groups nationally and internationally, including the Vienna Philharmonic in performances at the Pacific Music Festival in Japan. He was chosen by the Eastman School of Music to tour Costa Rica, Panama, and El Salvador in more than twenty solo recitals. During 1996–97, he was principal percussionist with Orquesta Simfonica de Tenerife, then returned to New York, where he has performed with the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera, other major orchestras, and on Broadway. A graduate of the Eastman School and the Manhattan School of Music, Tompkins lives in New York with his wife, violinist Kelly Hall Tompkins.

Lawson holds degrees from Michigan State, Louisiana State, and the University of Minnesota, where he studied with Sally O'Reilly. An active recitalist, he has given numerous performances in Houghton, Marquette, and Minneapolis during the past three years, and is also a founding member of the Keweenaw String Quartet. During the summer, he appears with the Superior String Alliance and coaches ensembles in summer music institutes.

Tickets are available from the Memorial Union Box Office (487-3200), SDC Central Ticket Office (487-2073), and Calumet Theatre (337-2610) for \$10 general, \$7 seniors, and \$3 students (\$1 more at the door).

Johnson: How the Internet will change the world

Submitted by University Cultural Enrichment

Deborah G. Johnson, professor and director of the program in philosophy, science, and technology of the School of Public Policy at the Georgia Institute of Technology, will visit Michigan Tech on Tuesday, May 4, to deliver a lecture, "Ethics on the Internet—Reflections on How the Internet Will Change the World."

The author/editor of four books, she is an authority on the social impact of computing technologies and on ethical issues of technology in engineering and the sciences. The lecture is at 8:00 p.m. in Walker Theatre and is free and open to the public.

Johnson examines predictions about the social implications of the Internet, questioning whether it is an inherently democratic technology, or whether it can promote democracy in organizations, in national, state and local government, or on a global scale. "From a theoretical point of view," Johnson says, "the most intriguing idea is that the Internet is somehow by its very nature democratic, the implication being that it will, without any shaping or prodding, produce democratic institutions and relationships, and promote democratic values." Johnson then reviews the democratic ideas that seem to be at stake in the evolution of the Internet. She looks at the connection between the Internet and democracy in terms of the governance of the Internet, and argues that the Internet is not being developed in a democratic way, and warns that "this does not bode well for its development into a democracy-enhancing technology."

Johnson teaches courses on ethics, ethics and information technology, engineering ethics, and values and policy. Johnson's four books are *Computer Ethics; Computers, Ethics, and Social Values; Ethical Issues in Engineering;* and *Ethical Issues in the Use of Computers*. In addition, she has published articles in prestigious journals, and her writings have also been included in many collections.

She has served as the chair of the American Philosophical Association Committee on Computer Use in Philosophy, and she currently serves as president-elect of the Society for Philosophy and Technology.

Johnson's visit is coordinated by the University Cultural Enrichment Department (487-2844) and is part of the 1998–99 Van Evera Distinguished Lecture Series.

On the Road



Assistant Professor **Jaroslav Drelich** (MME) pre-

sented an invited seminar, "Probing of Colloidal and Adhesion Forces with Atomic Force Microscope," at Dura Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in San Diego, California, on February 23. He also presented a paper, "Improved Methodology for Contact Angle Measurements on Coal (Heterogeneous) Surfaces," during the 1999 SME Annual Meeting, held March 1-3 in Denver.

Two MTU chemical engineering undergraduate students presented papers at the AIChE North Central Regional Student Conference, held March 5–6 at the University of Toledo. **Michael A. Hickener**, advised by Professor **Bruce A. Barna**, presented "Process Economics—Risk Evaluation using a Monte Carlo Simulation of Net Present Value." **Erik H. Weber**, advised by Assistant Professor **Julia A. King**, presented "Development and Characterization of Conductive Polymers." Associate Professor **Anton J. Pintar** (chemical engineering) attended the conference.

Associate Professor **Xiaoqiu Huang** (computer science) gave a talk, "Programs for Finding Genes in Genomic Sequences," on February 4 at Monsanto Company, in St. Louis, Missouri. He also gave a talk, "CAP3: A DNA Sequence Assembly Program," at the Genome Sequencing Center on February 5 at Washington University in St. Louis.

EPA continues CenCITT funding

Submitted by the News Bureau

CenCITT has received an additional \$1 million from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development to support its ongoing pollution prevention research.

CenCITT Director **John Crittenden**, a presidential professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, said the latest EPA grant will be used to support ten projects that will be carried out within the Center's four focus areas during the next two years.

Eight projects will be conducted within the Clean Process Advisory System (CPAS) and Clean Reaction Technologies (CReaTe) focus areas. The CPAS projects will build on technologies developed previously. "These projects are especially promising as they build on many years of CenCITT research," Crittenden said.

The CReaTe projects focus on developing green chemical process technologies that start with waste product streams, low value feed stocks, or biologically produced chemicals. New technologies developed from previous CReaTe projects are already reaching the industrial community and working their way into the market.

One project will be carried out under CenCITT's Environmentally Conscious Manufacturing focus area. The Product Environmental Index will indicate the environmental impact of the creation and dismantling of a mechanical product assembly, such as an automobile or aircraft. The project includes a high degree of interaction with industry, and will provide test cases to ratify the methodologies and software programs used.

Another project will develop an innovative process for recycling waste polymers generated by the lost foam technology used in the metal casting industry.

CenCITT is a research consortium that includes the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis, with Michigan Tech as the lead institution. It was established by an EPA grant in 1992.

During the last seven years, CenCITT has supported 75 collaborative projects which include 60 faculty and 200 student researchers from all fields of science and engineering with environmental and manufacturing interest and expertise. These projects have focused on researching better technology to meet environmental needs. For more information on CenCITT, visit their Web site at <http://cpas.mtu.edu/cencitt>.

Tech Tea: Conflict in the Balkans

Submitted by University Cultural Enrichment

Tech Tea Time on Wednesday, May 5, will be devoted to the situation in Kosovo. One thing we know about war is that there are seldom easy answers. Nowhere is this more true than in the Balkans, where the conflict we see in the news today has its roots in the past. Controversy over the NATO bombing and whether or not to send in ground troops continues in the United States and Europe as we watch the tragedy unfold on CNN. The key ingredients at this Tech Tea Time are listening and respect. It is hoped that, by hearing personal stories from people with very different perspectives who are close to the conflict or who are familiar with the region, the audience will gain a better understanding of events in Kosovo.

Participants will include **Ron Martin**, **Dusan Milacic**, and **Aleksandar Filipovic**, graduate students at Michigan Tech, and undergraduate student **Elis Vllasi**. Dr. **Jim P. Cross**, director of international studies, will serve as moderator. Tea Time is held at 4:00 p.m. in the Memorial Union Alumni Lounge and is free and open to all.

When Martin traveled through Yugoslavia in July 1985, he didn't know the difference between a Serb, a Croat, or a Muslim. "I just thought everyone was Yugoslavian," he says. He returned to a much changed Balkans in 1996 to teach environmental engineering at the University of Tuzla in Bosnia and Herzegovina and as an observer for the elections.

Martin has made six trips to work as an election official in Yugoslavia, Bosnia, and Croatia.

Milacic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, Yugoslavia. He came to Tech in 1992, when he was 21, to finish his BS degree. He has since finished his master's degree and is about to finish his PhD in mechanical engineering.

Filipovic is a graduate student in mechanical engineering from Yugoslavia.

Vllasi left Kosovo five years ago and moved to the US to continue his education. He attended college in Arkansas, Missouri, and now Michigan. His uncle was the president of Kosovo until he was removed from office in 1989, and members of his family have fallen victim both to the current conflict and the annexation of his country in 1912.

Cross graduated with a PhD from the University of Geneva, Switzerland, with a specialization in international security. Since then he has held various posts in Europe and the Balkans, including director of external relations for the NATO parliament; founder and director of the Albanian Training Institute in Business and Government; consultant on Albania for the US State Department Foreign Service Training Center, and guest policy analyst on Albania for Voice of America and NPR. He is also the author of numerous articles on political and economic development in Albania.

Tech Tea Time is coordinated by the University Cultural Enrichment Department. Call 487-2844 for further information.

Bawdy Swedish comedy at Club Indigo

Submitted by Joe Kirkish

Mu Beta Psi music fraternity brings a bawdy, rowdy, sophisticated Swedish comedy to the Calumet Theatre Friday, May 7, as the Club Indigo program.

Smiles of a Summer Night is one of Swedish filmmaker Ingmar Bergman's rare excursions into romantic comedy, but it was so successful when it came out that it spawned a host of similar plots in other entertainment media, as in Woody Allen's *Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy*, Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*, and a couple of naughty French films.

The movie reveals a group of Swedes who get together at an isolated mansion in the country for a weekend of fun and sophisticated revelry. They are a prosperous lawyer, his young and virginal wife, the lawyer's son and a maid who secretly adores the son, an actress who was once the lawyer's mistress, and the actress's current lover and his wife. In Bergman's capable hands as writer and director of the film, we are treated to a captivating game of mix and match, in which relationships privately change and interchange in astonishing and clever ways. With the Bergman touch, an otherwise unsavory tale becomes a cleverly told, witty comedy—a droll and amusing expose that is both captivating and humorous at the same time.

Smiles is actually a clever, entertaining revelation of social conventions that are bypassed in an isolated situation—all this taking place at a time when such goings on would be cause for scandal, at the turn of the century—which makes it all the more titillating.

As with all Club Indigo programs, this will also be preceded by an appropriate gourmet buffet, in this case a sumptuous Swedish smorgasbord as created by master chef Eric from the Old Country Haus in Kearsarge. If this buffet is as well attended as last month's nine-course French cuisine, it might be a good idea to get there early and enjoy all of it.

The buffet begins at 6:00 p.m. (\$7.50), with the movie at 7:00 p.m. (\$3.50). For reservations, call the Calumet Theatre at 337-2610.

Smiles of a Summer Night has been made available through a generous sponsorship of the Library Restaurant and Bar. The next Club Indigo will take place on Saturday, June 8—the original French horror classic *Diabolique*, accompanied by a French buffet.

April

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

30 Friday

4:00 p.m.—Jeffrey Skolnick, "New Methods for the Prediction of Protein Structure and Function from Sequence"—Fisher 139

8:00 p.m.—Spring Jazz Showcase—Walker Theatre

May

1 Saturday

8:00 p.m.—Spring Jazz Showcase—Walker Theatre

2 Sunday

4:00 p.m.—Echoes from Heaven Gospel Choir Spring Concert—Walker Theatre

3 Monday

10:00 a.m.—Bruce Nauman, "Nonlinear Diffusion and Phase Transitions"—Memorial Union Alumni Lounge A

7:00 p.m.—Wind Symphony, University of Wisconsin Wind Ensemble, "Hearing Double"—SDC Varsity Gym

4 Tuesday

8:00 p.m.—Deborah Johnson, "Ethics on the Internet—Reflections on How the Internet Will Change the World"—Walker Theatre

5 Wednesday

noon—Perspectives on Inquiry committee meeting—Academic Office 101

4:00 p.m.—Tech Tea: Conflict in the Balkans—Memorial Union Alumni Lounge

6 Thursday

9:00 a.m.—MTF account manager workshop—UPPCO Community Room

4:00 p.m.—Diola Bagayoko, "Predictive Calculations of Electronic Energies of Materials"—Fisher 139

7 Friday

1:00–6:00 p.m.—Princess Point Cleanup—Princess Point

6:00/7:00 p.m.—Club Indigo, *Smiles of a Summer Night*—Calumet Theatre

Wind Symphony presents "Hearing Double"

Submitted by the Department of Fine Arts

MTU's Wind Symphony promises an evening of high-spirited musical entertainment on Monday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m., in the SDC Varsity Gym. "Hearing Double" will showcase two college bands, the Wind Symphony and its guest, the Wind Ensemble from University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. This is the second joint concert by these two fine bands.

Monday's program includes Symphony of Themes of John Philip Sousa, folk dances by Dmitri Shostakovich, folk songs by Ralph Vaughn Williams, an all-American rag, and a movement from Mahler's Resurrection Symphony. Carolyn Barber, director of bands at UW-La Crosse, and **Jeffrey Bell-Hanson**, director of bands and orchestra at Michigan Tech, will conduct. Tickets are available at the Memorial Union Box Office (487-3200), SDC Ticket Office (487-2073) and at the door for \$7 general admission, \$5 senior citizens, and \$3 students.

New database on library Web site

As the quarter comes to a close and the weather gradually gets warmer, students and faculty are wrapping up papers, research projects, and articles for publication. Finding up-to-date information in the least amount of time becomes a priority.

On a trial basis until June 1, the J. R. Van Pelt Library is making Current Contents Connect (CCC) available. CCC provides access to all of the current-awareness information available in a variety of fields: Agriculture; Biology & Environmental Sciences; Social & Behavioral Sciences; Clinical Medicine; Life Sciences; Physical, Chemical & Earth Sciences; Engineering, Computing & Technology; Arts & Humanities; Business; and Electronics & Telecommunications.

This research tool can answer questions such as, "What articles are in the recent issue of YOUR FAVORITE TITLE HERE?" "What is the name of that researcher who wrote an article about the costs of nuclear waste dumps in Japan in the recent issue of *Nature*?" "Who else is publishing on photocatalytic reactors?"

You can search by topic or subjects, journal or book titles, the names of authors and editors, author and publisher addresses, disciplines, document type, language, or a combined set of fields and terms. You can also search all full-length, English-language author abstracts.

You can limit a search session to the latest

week of data, the latest four weeks of data, the latest six months of data, or an extended accumulating data file. Table-of-contents browsing includes articles, editorials, meeting abstracts, commentaries, letters, book reviews, and clinical reports, so you can scan the literature by discipline or by title. In addition, increased functionality includes creating sophisticated profiles and multi-query searching.

Once your search is complete, you can mark relevant results. This Personal Interest Checklist can be printed or saved to a file in various formats, and can be sorted by date, first author, or journal title. Publisher and author names, addresses, and e-mail links are also included so you can communicate with colleagues and request reprints.

You can preview this Web-based access to current research information by going to the JRVP Library Webpage, <http://www.lib.mtu.edu/jrvp/browser2/libwel2.htm>; clicking on the Indexes & Databases drawer pull; scrolling down to the Trial Section on the left-hand side of the screen; and selecting Current Contents Connect. If it asks for a userid, type in "mtu"; if it asks for a password, type in "mtu" again.

Give CCC a try and give us a call at 487-2899 or send a message to eseidel@mtu.edu with your comments. If you wish to schedule a one-on-one training session with a librarian, contact instrlib@mtu.edu or call 487-2867.

MICHIGAN TECH FUND POSITION AVAILABLE

The Michigan Tech Fund is accepting applications for the following position:

Business Systems Analyst—Michigan Tech Fund

For more information, call 487-2310 or e-mail Janice Henkel at jrhenkel@mtu.edu. To apply, send a letter of application, resume, and three references to Janice Henkel, Michigan Tech Fund, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931-1295. Applications will be accepted until May 5, 1999.

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 position will be posted Friday, April 30, 1999, at 1:00 p.m. through noon, Friday, May 7, 1999, in the Human Resources Office.

Senior Clerk (N2)—Auxiliary Retail Services/Campus Store (Regular, part-time, nine-month position, 20–40 hours/week; UAW internal and external posting)

University employees are reminded to apply in writing prior to noon, Friday, May 7, 1999, 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.