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Urban Planning Students Work on Book Cadillac Restoration



(Left to Right) Mike Schumaker and Shawn Maguire

To get to the roof of the Book Cadillac, one has to climb thirty-two flights of stairs. The building, still under renovation, is scheduled to open in late October 2008 as the Westin Book Cadillac, a hotel of four hundred and fifty-five rooms. The hotel rooms occupy floors seven through twenty-three. On the top floors—twenty-four through thirty-two—are condo units, the overwhelming majority of which have already sold. On the lower levels, in various stages of completion, are the Old Grand Ballroom, the Italian Garden, the lobby, the exercise room, a pool, and banks of elevators, not yet complete. The hotel has been “back booking” its reservations, beginning with January 2009, then December 2008, and so on, to ensure that the earliest reservations coincide with the hotel’s completion. To tour the entire building, top to bottom, one has to take the steps. A hard hat, boots, and safety glasses are required.

Mike Schumaker and Shawn Maguire, graduate students in the Department of Geography and Urban Planning, act as the building’s tour guides on a cold day in early March. In addition to their common academic interests, they share an employer: Marous Brothers, the Cleveland construction company doing the renovation work on the Book Cadillac. Mike began working for Marous Brothers in June 2004, after earning his construction management degree from Bowling Green. After moving to Detroit to work on the Book Cadillac, he enrolled at Wayne State, where he met Shawn, who had earned his undergraduate degree at WSU before beginning graduate school. In early 2008, when Marous Brothers was looking for someone to assist with interior quality control and finishes, Mike brought Shawn in for an interview. After meeting with Scott Marous, one of the owners, Shawn accepted a position, and was working on-site two weeks later.

The tour began on the ground floor and worked its way up. “This place was built in the 1920s,” Mike says, “with early twentieth century technology.” Coal boilers, he says, were in the third basement. They still are. It was too difficult to remove them, so they were left where they were. Sixty feet of water was in the basements when Marous Brothers began work. It took three weeks to pump it out. Mike describes the state of the building when Marous Brothers arrived on the scene as “eerie.” “There were still beds on some of the floors,” he says.

During a quick detour outside, Mike points out the tuckpointing being done to improve the building’s façade. All of the building’s two thousand windows have been replaced, he says. New spandrel panels have been put in. “The building was not maintained for so long that things corroded,” he says. The total renovation cost, he notes, is \$180 million, with a great deal of care and effort spent to replicate the building’s original aesthetics. “The amount of intricacy on this job is unbelievable.”

Back inside, Mike weaves his way through the workers—carpenters, electricians, millwrights—preparing the hotel

for its fall opening. Roughly three hundred workers are in the building on any given day, down from a high of four hundred. Mike says that most of the workers are local, with the crew members from Cleveland limited mostly to foremen and supervisors such as himself.

The staircase he takes to the upper floors is steep, its steps narrow. On the eleventh floor, Shawn takes over the tour. He says that the eleventh is “the most finished floor,” with carpeting already down and doors ready to be locked up. “We’re carpeting a floor a week,” Shawn says. The floors are being completed in something other than numerical order. The twenty-second floor, for instance, is the least finished on the day of the tour to allow workers access to the outside swing stages. “The coordination of so many trades is a big challenge,” Shawn admits.

Two more floors up, past more workers in the stairwell, and the tour stops on the twenty-fourth, the lowest condo floor. The units vary in size, layout, and stage of completion, but there are commonalities: hardwood floors, granite countertops, spectacular views.

At the twenty-ninth floor, Mike remarks, “The million dollar units.” Thirty. Thirty-one. Thirty-two. Out on the roof, one can see miles in any direction. “We watched the Fourth of July fireworks from up here,” Mike says, taking in the view. To the north, on a clear day, he says he can see Southfield. To the south, one can see deep into Canada. The sheer scope of the city—and the scope of what needs to be done to improve it—is on display. It is clear that Mike and Shawn consider being on the roof of the Book Cadillac a privilege, one that is worth walking thirty-two flights of stairs to enjoy. Mike says that, on some days, he does so three or four times.

As Mike and Shawn walked back down, they talk of the connection between their work on the Book Cadillac project and their graduate work in Urban Planning at Wayne State. “As I work, I can see the impact that one building can have on a whole neighborhood,” Mike says. “There’s a ripple effect.” Eventually, he says, he’d like to get involved in development as well as construction, so that he can be involved not just in building but in the development of new communities.

Since beginning work on the project, Shawn says that “it has occurred to me that one of the good things about the city not having any money is it almost forces historic preservation. If the city had had money in the 1980s and 1990s, it might have knocked this”—the Book Cadillac—“down.” Shawn is interested in the urban design issues related to urban planning that often pass unnoticed—“sidewalk widths, planting out in front of buildings, and of course the redesign of Washington Boulevard, which complements the Book Cadillac renovation extremely well. People don’t think of that, but it all plays a role.” ■

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S.A.D. and Sadness

BY DENVER BRUNSMAN



Denver Brunsmann
outside the Newberry
Library in Chicago
photo by Taryn Boss
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appeared in
Inside Higher Ed

Everything was riding on this year. Last September, I found myself, at age 32, a great success who had not accomplished very much. I was entering the fourth year of a tenure-track job in the history department of Wayne State University in Detroit with a one-year National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship at the Newberry Library, in Chicago. Wayne State had hired me after seeing only two chapters of my Ph.D. dissertation on British naval impressment (forced service) in the eighteenth-century Atlantic world. Soon after a leading university press awarded me a generous book contract. Now, as a fellow at the Newberry Library, I would finally have the time to make good on the promise that had so long defined me.

happened: James Grossman, vice president for research and education at the Newberry Library, called to offer me a one-year fellowship to complete my book. Hallelujah! If there was ever evidence of benevolent academic gods looking down upon struggling young assistant professors, this was certainly it. The fellowship bought the goodwill of my department chair, who was relieved to hear I was going to Chicago and not Baghdad; my publisher, who agreed to extend my deadline; and my family, who signed up enthusiastically for a year in the Windy City.

After arriving at the Newberry, I became even more convinced that Grossman was a divine agent because the library proved to be an academic heaven. Peace, quiet, and resources galore. I made

wonders, our fellowship could not stop the passage of time. But they all seemed to have good excuses for feeling anxious: a pesky cough that turned out to be a serious medical condition; California wildfires that came close to engulfing the homes of loved ones; and a mentally ill family member who was facing unexpected legal problems.

I had no such excuses, not even the all-time leading cause of S.A.D.: playing the job market. I had watched too many friends squander research fellowships to make the same mistake. No, the cause of my S.A.D.-ness was not connected to recreation, health concerns, family tragedy, job applications or even laziness but learning. I used the Newberry's splendid collections to reimmerge myself in my research after a three-year hiatus. Of course, this was exactly the

In a fit of depression, I put my title of "doctor" to medical use for the first time by self-diagnosing my condition as Sabbatical Anxiety Disorder (S.A.D.).

I could not have mapped a better strategy in my first three years of being a professor for not writing my book. My wife and I became smitten parents of two beautiful children. I also volunteered to join the Army Reserves out of an idealistic, democratic, and perhaps naive sense that if our nation was mired in war, all members of society, not just the young and poor, bore some obligation to sacrifice.

And teaching. A friend of mine once likened teaching to gas because it filled every open space of one's life. Sure enough, teaching consumed every part of me not already claimed by parenting and national service. When Wayne State rewarded my efforts with a prestigious university teaching prize last year, I felt like a proud failure: My enormous framed certificate sat on my office desk, while my research materials lay heaped in a corner, almost untouched since our move to Detroit.

Then the closest thing to an academic miracle

lists, schedules, calendars, and deadlines to take full advantage of my good fortune and guarantee that my book would be finished by the end of the year. I tried to maximize every waking second, even devising ways to work on the increasingly crowded and rickety El transit system. And, finally, I resisted temptation (mostly) by indulging in just one Ferris Bueller sick day of sightseeing and Cubs baseball.

By early October the Cubs had exited the playoffs and, despite all my elaborate plans, I did not have one word of my book written. The difference was that the Cubs always had next year; I had just this year and, after a month, it was already slipping away. In a fit of depression, I put my title of "doctor" to medical use for the first time by self-diagnosing my condition as Sabbatical Anxiety Disorder (S.A.D.).

I was not the only person around me suffering from S.A.D. Many of the other Newberry fellows lamented the turning of the season—that for all its

purpose for my fellowship. But the more I read, the more anxious I became that I was not yet writing.

It took profound loss and real sadness to tame S.A.D. In early November I received a call that my father, Frank Brunsmann, had died in a hospital room in Seattle. He was in his third day of recovery from a successful surgery to remove two small cancerous growths in his colon. After getting out of bed for a morning walk, he collapsed suddenly from a heart attack. I already had a plane ticket to Seattle for the next day, when I had planned to help him transition back to his home.

My father and I were extremely close. We spoke at least once a week, exchanged letters frequently, and saw each other often; he visited Michigan four times in my first three years at Wayne State and even sat in on one of my classes. Those near him at the end said that he would tell anyone who would
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Center for Excellence and Equity in Mathematics Established

The number one predictor of students' success in college is their high school preparation in mathematics. In the absence of adequate preparation, students who fail remedial and introductory level college mathematics courses will either fail or drop out of school. By any measure, the students of Michigan, like their counterparts nationwide, are failing to receive the mathematics education they need.

The Center for Excellence and Equity in Mathematics was chartered in 2007 to build on the successful 15-year legacy of the Mathematics Pipeline program in the Wayne State College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Pipeline program provides a unique training ground for Detroit students from middle school through college as they gain the abilities to think logically, reason analytically, solve problems and communicate clearly. The cornerstones of the Pipeline—the Math Corps, Middle School Math Program, Math Corps College Success Center and Emerging Scholars Program—create the framework for delivering innovative

and essential mathematics education programs to students, especially those from inner-city Detroit.

In Detroit and other disadvantaged school districts, the failures in mathematics education are compounded by a failing public school system and the general problems associated with inner cities. The average ACT score in the Detroit Public Schools is below 17, while the national and state-wide average is 21.

Students enrolled in Michigan's universities are performing below standards as well. Typical is Wayne State's experience with its lowest level remedial math course, which covers arithmetic and ninth-grade algebra. In the fall of 2007, eighty-three percent of Wayne State's incoming students placed into remedial math, and only forty percent of students taking the lowest level course passed it.

High standards and high expectations are the philosophical cornerstones of the Center for Excellence and Equity in Mathematics, which will serve approximately 1,800 students collectively per year in middle and high school as well as at Wayne State. Three years ago, Wayne State was able to

expand Math Corps by adding a second session, doubling the number of Detroit schoolchildren participating in the summer camp. This development confirmed that the program's success lies not in the unique talents of the program's founders, but in the strength of its overall philosophy and curriculum and its ability to make a difference in the lives of Math Corps participants. Math Corps has resulted in dramatic improvements in student achievement. Over fifteen years, test scores over the course of the summer camp typically increase from an average of twenty-five percent pre-camp to ninety percent post-camp. Best estimates are that more than ninety percent of Math Corps students graduate high school, with ninety percent of those going on either to college (eighty percent) or the military (ten percent). Detroit high school students who participated in Math Corps for at least three summers achieved a median score of 21 on the ACT mathematics exam—far higher than Detroit's overall average, and on par with statewide and national scores. ■



S.A.D. and Sadness *continued from page 2*

listen that I was coming soon to take him home. My upcoming visit had given him a reason to live even if his 72 year-old body refused to cooperate.

Instead of guilt, therefore, I felt genuine sadness over the fact that I would never again share my father's unique company. He had grown up in rural North Dakota, and had quite literally written himself off the farm. Frank worked as reporter for 27 years at the *Salt Lake Tribune* before later retiring to Seattle. He covered trials, fairs, elections, disasters and wrote countless portraits of colorful figures who passed through Salt Lake City, the self-proclaimed "crossroads of the West." Among the tributes that flowed in after his death, one from a former colleague described Frank as an "ink-stained wretch"—the highest praise possible for a journalist fully committed to his or her craft.

A few days after learning of my father's death, I received a second shock. One of my colleagues at the Newberry, Robert Southard, a historian from Earlham College, also died from a heart attack in his apartment in Chicago. Bob was teaching a seminar during the fall semester at the Newberry for the Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM). I had attended an ACM institution, St. Olaf College, and Bob and I had become fast friends. He was highly regarded for his work on European and Jewish history, but equally admired for his kindness and wit.

The two deaths have filled my thoughts ever since. The facile conclusions that one could reach are endless, that life is precious, make every day

count, express your love, and so on. But I would like to think that academics are not so empty as to need a Mitch Albom moment, to spend a Tuesday with Morrie in order to realize what is most important in life. We know. After all, as teachers we *are* Morrie, those who have chosen to pursue lives of meaning over mere livelihoods. In my history classes, I stress the importance of "human ties"—the root words of "humanities"—to convey the connections all people and civilizations share with one another across space and time.

But, unfortunately, we do not always act on our knowledge of the deepest truths. This past fall I allowed my anxiety over finishing my book to interfere with the human ties that are most dear to me in the present. I had put off a visit with my father until late December (before later learning of his surgery) because an earlier trip did not fit into my sabbatical work calendar. My scheduling would have made it the longest period, 13 months, that we had ever gone without seeing each other.

I still made the trip to Seattle in December to commune with my father, only in a different way, by helping my sisters to clean out his home. There we discovered that he was probably more worried about his surgery than he let on. One of the last things he was reading was the section on Abraham Lincoln's death in Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. The poems have given me a new link to my dad, for in the verse I can tap into the same timeless human tradition that he turned to in his last days.

Now I am back at the Newberry finishing my fellowship. Chicago has turned bitter cold, and the library feels different. A makeshift memorial to Bob Southard has come down from his office door, although his memory has certainly not faded. A new, modified form of S.A.D. has also crept back into my life and among the other fellows. We arrive earlier, stay later, and work harder as the tunnel at the end of our light gets closer and closer.

I am OK with this, however. My medical credentials might be dubious, but Sabbatical Anxiety Disorder is an actual phenomenon that may even predate the modern sabbatical. In 1804, upon reaching 32, Samuel Taylor Coleridge reflected upon his life and wrote, "O Sorrow and Shame...I have done nothing!" So long as it is kept in check, and we are not too hard on ourselves, some anxiety is probably necessary for producing work of lasting significance.

As for my sadness, I am also at peace. Controlling S.A.D. has allowed me to forge new and deeper connections to people, including myself. I have replaced my policy of working on the EI with a new commitment to using the time to read novels, listen to music, and think. Luckily, one of my first books for pleasure, Richard Ford's *The Lay of the Land*, has astute advice for dealing with loss. The protagonist, Frank Bascombe, reflects upon his son's passing by remarking that he has come to accept the death even if he will never get over it. We would all do well to follow this model. Deadlines will come and go. But we should never get over what really matters. ■

Nobel Laureate Explains Stone-Cold Science



Dr. Eric Cornell

A standing-room only crowd is not a common sight at public lectures on difficult subjects in the hard sciences. Yet on April 10 in Bernath Auditorium people stood and sat in the aisles and squeezed three and four deep in the back of the auditorium to hear a talk by Dr. Eric Cornell, recipient of the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physics, on the topic of “Bose-Einstein condensation and the weird world of physics a millionth of a degree above absolute zero.” An even rarer sight, perhaps, is that of people fully engaged by such a lecture, with the speaker frequently interrupted by the sound of an overflowing auditorium’s laughter. And yet this was

precisely the scene as Dr. Cornell discussed the weird world of physics when things get really, really cold.

As Dr. Steve Rehse of the WSU Physics Department noted in his introduction, Cornell received his BS from Stanford and his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1990. He is now a Senior Scientist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder and a Professor Adjoint in the Department of Physics at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the American Physical Society, and the Optical Society of America. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and, in addition to the 2001 Nobel Prize in Physics, he has been awarded the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Physics, the Lorentz Medal from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering, among many others.

And yet none of these accomplishments seems to have caused Cornell to view himself as anything other than a humble scientist who takes great delight, and finds great humor, in trying to figure out how the universe works. He began his presentation with a slide that said, “Stone Cold Science: Un film d’ Eric Cornell,” adding that anyone familiar with Powerpoint presentations will understand how hard he had to work to get the hand-written look on all of his hand-drawn slides.

These were the scrawls, however, of a Nobel laureate, one of a team of scientists to get as close in the laboratory to Absolute Zero—about 460 degrees below zero degrees Fahrenheit—as anyone ever has. At temperatures that cold, Cornell explained, atoms become more like waves and less like particles. (He had helpful, hand-drawn pictures of waves to illustrate the point.) “When a gas of atoms gets so cold that the ‘waviness’ of one atom overlaps the waviness of another,” the announcement

for Cornell’s talk noted, “the result is a sort of quantum mechanical identity crisis, a ‘condensation’ predicted seventy years ago by Albert Einstein.”

Just getting near to the temperatures necessary for such condensation to occur was not simple. Einstein never lived to see the technology that would make the condensation named after him possible. Cornell admitted that he felt pressure from other teams of scientists, “competitors” who were also trying to create the necessary conditions in the lab to study Bose-Einstein condensation. “You want to push the frontiers of human knowledge,” he said, highlighting the altruistic impulse of such research, before adding: “But you want to do it first.” On the flight home from a Canadian conference, one of his graduate students, remarking on the competition from other scientists, said, “There’s no time to fiddle around.” Cornell agreed, telling the student, “No, there isn’t, and if you have been fiddling around now would be a fine time to stop.”

The result of that “fiddling” was the first experimental realization of the Bose-Einstein condensate and a trip to Stockholm, Sweden, for Cornell, who was awarded one-third of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2001, a scant six years after performing the ground-breaking work. Cornell concluded his talk by describing some of the strange properties of the condensate, such as acting like a “super-fluid”—a liquid that can spin forever without stopping. As Cornell explained it, while some people might find such behavior strange, physicists find it just “super.” After the talk, Cornell answered several questions from the highly enthusiastic and curious audience and met separately with several Detroit area high-school teachers. A loud and sustained round of applause ended the lecture, Cornell’s charms having “warmed” the audience to the wonders of “stone-cold science.” ■

Sheriff Hackel Returns to Wayne State

In his introduction to Macomb County Sheriff Mark Hackel’s February 27 address to an auditorium that included many WSU Criminal Justice majors, Interim Criminal Justice Chair Marvin Zalman called Hackel, a Wayne State alumnus, “an ideal of what criminal justice education can achieve.” Zalman noted that Hackel, elected as sheriff in 2000, comes from a law enforcement family. He also noted that Hackel’s profile is a bit higher than that normally accorded to county sheriffs. “We’ve all seen him on television,” Zalman said. Two days after his talk, he’d be on television again—this time, on NBC’s “Dateline” program, in a segment concerning the sentencing of Stephen Grant in Tara Grant’s murder, the case that brought Hackel to national prominence. Hackel began his talk by saying that, though he may be an ideal of what criminal justice education can achieve, his first career desire was to go into business—specifically, to own a 7-11. As a kid, he would get on his bike and ride to the store because he was addicted to Slurpies. By the age of eighteen, he’d begun work as a police dispatcher, a job in which he’d caught the law enforcement bug. Seven years later, he earned his bachelors in Criminal Justice from Wayne State, a degree he earned while working.

Hackel’s talk focused on the ways that law enforcement can best interact with the media, a skill he honed during the course of the Grant investigation. “We need more people in law enforcement with more of a business outlook,” Hackel said. The old-fashioned mentality of law enforcement is to distrust the media, Hackel observed, whereas even as a sergeant and lieutenant, he’d “developed a trust with the media.” This trust, he said, is based on things such as “responsibility, accessibility, accountability, and availability.” “The media is the conduit to the public,” Hackel said, and law enforcement “needs to be transparent as far as possible.” After all, as he’d noted earlier, it is the public that law enforcement exists to protect and serve. There is good reason, then, to speak to the public through the media. “Law enforcement needs to understand journalism, and where [journalists] are coming from,” he said. Hackel took journalism classes at Oakland University that helped him to better understand the media. “The media want not just warm, fuzzy stories,” he said. “They want to know about difficulties,” and the Grant case provided plenty of examples. Hackel, however, did not complain; he seemed to view them as coming with the territory.



“As law enforcement officers, we are public figures to some extent.” He called cops “street-corner politicians,” adding that “there’s a loss of freedom as public officials.” For instance, “if obscenities are used at you, you can’t respond.” The facts of the Grant murder case are well-known by this point. However, those in the auditorium heard the story from the inside-out, as it were—straight from the man who led the investigation. Hackel provided *continued on page 7*

Computer Science Professor Tackles Internet Conundrums

BY LESLIE MERTZ

Why do hackers attack certain computer systems and how can they be stopped? How can limited computer resources be utilized efficiently if the users consistently overstate their needs? What motivates computer users to behave and interact as they do online? How can the Internet become more “user-friendly”?

These questions and more are the focus of a \$3 million joint research-and-education program between WSU and the University of Michigan called STIET (Socio-Technical Infrastructure for Electronic Transactions). That \$3 million builds upon separate, additional funding—more than \$3.2 million—that U of M had already received for the research area, which is known as incentive-centered design. Incentive-centered design aims to devise mechanisms that provide incentives for computer users to act properly, so that the Internet becomes a place where people can interact safely, meaningfully, effectively, fairly and productively.

“I will give an example of a problem we are working on at Wayne State,” said Dr. Daniel Grosu, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and principal WSU investigator for the joint program. “Let’s consider grid computing, where several users share hundreds of computers that are connected by a network.

The problem is that the resources are limited.” In response, he said, users tend to overestimate their needs. “Users’ requests for resources may look like: ‘I’ll need this resource for this much time,’ or ‘I’ll need this much computing power,’ or ‘I’ll need my job completed by this time,’ and so on. The users tend to misreport their needs in order to execute their jobs faster, leading to system inefficiencies. In other words, most of the time the users are selfish.

“What we are doing is designing mechanisms that give them incentives to report their true parameters to the system,” he said. “By doing so, the efficiency of resource allocation is increased, leading to improved performance for the system.” Grosu explained that his research group is looking into the use of virtual currency to support the implementation of such mechanisms. “Users might receive an amount of the currency as the initial allocation, and they would spend this to acquire resources. The payment mechanisms, which determine the users’ payments, are designed in such a way that users will not receive any benefits by misreporting their resource requirements.”

Two of his other projects include computer security and the formation of effective virtual organizations. For the first, his research group is using techniques from game theory (the analysis of human behavior and strategy) to understand how computer hackers behave when presented with different scenarios. Grosu explained that his research group sets up systems designed to entice hackers and then watch how the hackers respond. “We apply game-theoretic techniques to design mechanisms that give the attackers incentives to attack some systems, which we call ‘honey-pots,’ and not some other systems.” By analyzing the hackers’ reactions, the researchers identify the incentives and disincentives that work best.

Virtual organizations (VOs) arise when various institutions or organizations come together to



(Left to Right) Nandan Garg, Dr. Daniel Grosu, and Jonathan Widget

acquire and to share computing resources for a given goal. Here, Grosu’s research group is designing incentive-based mechanisms that facilitate the formation of mutually beneficial VOs.

Other research groups at Wayne State are also involved in the program and are working on such topics as supply-chain management, human-computer interaction and user interfaces, the role of incentives in human behavior and agent-based modeling of ancient civilizations (the “agents” are individuals in the population).

All of these research areas are interdisciplinary, Grosu said. “In our research work, for instance, we are heavily using concepts from economics and game theory. The interdisciplinary aspect is very important because it allows us to deal with new issues that are not clearly addressed by the existing theories in computer science.” By combining the engineering/computer sciences with the social/economic sciences, he said, he and other WSU and U of M researchers hope to understand better how people behave online and, with that knowledge, to develop strategies that encourage users to interact in a more mutually cooperative and productive manner.

The \$3 million grant doesn’t just cover research. Provided through the National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) Program and funded by the National Science Foundation as well as an additional \$2.5 million from WSU and U of M, the grant has an educational component that supports fourteen one-year fellowships for WSU PhD students, Grosu said. Through these fellowships, students will not only conduct research, but will also participate in workshops and seminars, and take select courses.

Workshops will be held each semester, and each of the IGERT fellows will use that venue to present his or her work. In addition, the students will participate in weekly research seminars that will be arranged and conducted jointly by Wayne State and the University

of Michigan, and transmitted to both schools with the latest technologies in videoconferencing, Grosu said. “We have designed a high-definition, studio-quality, life-size, interactive videoconferencing system that we are using between U of M and WSU. It’s one of the first such systems in use in the state of Michigan.” The videoconferences are transmitted on a dedicated fiber optic network called the Michigan Lambda Rail or MiLR (pronounced *MY-lar*). MiLR is an ultra-high-speed broadband connection developed together by WSU, U of M and Michigan State University to link the three Michigan research universities to one another.

Beyond the workshops and seminars, students will also enroll in two core courses (“Microeconomics” and “Electronic Commerce”) and three elective courses. The “Electronic Commerce” course is new and is a direct result of the IGERT grant, Grosu said. “This course, which will be offered in fall 2008, covers the theoretical background of electronic commerce systems, the design of auction systems, the theory of auctions and market design. Students will also learn how to design actual e-commerce systems and will implement an e-commerce site as part of the practical requirements of the course.”

The IGERT grant piggybacks on \$3.2 million in funding provided by the National Science Foundation to U of M before WSU became involved. In addition, Grosu said, industry leaders IBM, Google, and Yahoo are supporting the project by offering research opportunities to WSU and U of M students.

“This program is an excellent opportunity to collaborate with University of Michigan researchers in the development of the emerging field of incentive-centered design. U of M has a renowned research group that is working on incentive-centered design. The members of this group are the pioneers in this field,” Grosu noted. The principal investigator at U of M is Jeffrey MacKie-Mason, professor of economics and public policy and Arthur W. Burks Professor of Information and Computer Science. ■

Distinguished Professor of Development Economics Joins WSU Faculty



Dr. Clifford Clark

In today's *New York Times*, Dr. Clifford Clark, a Visiting Distinguished Professor of Economics, says, "there is an article on psychotherapy in developing countries." Clark is a development economist, so the article was of particular interest to him. "Now any economy," he continues, "is more effective the more inclusive it is. When a depressed person becomes productive, everyone wins." Other reading materials on his desk this day, aside from the *New York Times*, include *The 9/11 Commission Report* and Joseph Stiglitz's *The Three Billion Dollar War*, a book that concerns America's ongoing military involvement in Iraq. "I'm doing a paper on it," Clark says of the Stiglitz book. In a summary of one of his recent talks, Clark argues that increasing U.S. development programs will not only "aid people of developing countries," but increase "prospects for world peace and our national security." Development, he asserts, is as "an effective alternative to militaristic options."

Clark began teaching at Wayne State in the fall of 2006, and since then he has taught the department's course in development economics. It is a field, he says, "that goes back to the Marshall Plan, and to the western powers giving up their colonies. The field grew out of those experiences." He continues: "With the Marshall Plan, the federal administration took the position that Europe needed help. Not everyone knew of the conditions of Europe after the war—the droughts, the

starvation. Two hundred members of Congress went to Europe preparatory to considering the budgetary request for the plan. This created awareness, along with public support." He adds, more generally: "When you speak of economic development, you can't separate it from the society you're seeking to develop. There can't be economic change without societal change. For students who come from the confines of economic theory, this is a new experience."

It is an experience that the students and Clark alike have enjoyed. "I was telling Li Way"—Economics Chair Li Way Lee—"and the provost"—Provost Nancy Barrett, herself an economist—"that the development economics course I taught in winter 2007 was the best class I've ever had." What particularly pleased Clark was the range of students in the class. "I had sophomores and PhD students," he says. "Most were Americans from Detroit, but I had two students with heritage from Bosnia, two recently from Egypt, three with experiences in India, three from Germany, and one from Pakistan." Some of the students were full-time, while others, like so many WSU students, had full-time jobs and families. Though Clark is now in his sixth decade of teaching at the university level, he'd never before had a class of such breadth. "I appreciate Wayne State," he says. "Parts of it are truly unusual"—with *unusual*, in this case, being a positive. The one thing all of the students in that development economics class had in common, he says, was enthusiasm for the subject matter. "A development economics course hadn't been taught in the department in five or six years," he says, "and there was pent-up demand. Though they were separated by age, geography, religion, and color," he says, "the level of aspiration among the students was high."

Clark, in addition to his sterling academic credentials, brings a tremendous amount of life experience to bear on his teaching. He earned his MA in Economics from the University of Chicago in 1951, and his PhD from the same university in 1953. While pursuing his PhD, he worked for the Central Intelligence Agency, a position he kept until 1955. Prior to earning his BA in Economics from the University of Kansas, Clark saw combat in World War II. He was a member of the army division

that liberated Dachau, the first Nazi concentration camp, and received the Bronze Star for combat in northeastern France. He has taught at North Carolina State, New York University, the University of Kansas, and Binghamton University (New York), holding a variety of administrative positions along the way, including Dean of the School of Business at Kansas and President of Binghamton University from 1975–1990.

After the end of the war, Clark stayed in Vienna. "I took a job dealing with displaced persons, particularly Jews who'd managed to survive the Holocaust." It was then, he said, that "he tried to understand the Holocaust, and the human potential for acts of depravity." A few years later, prior to entering the CIA, Clark learned Russian at the Georgetown language school. He says that "concerns for the nation and a particular way of life" led him to the agency. In fairly short order, however, the secrecy of such a life became a problem. "When you can't even discuss things with your wife..." he says, his voice trailing off.

He has been far happier, it seems, over the last fifty years of teaching and research in the academy, particularly since what he teaches and researches has such real-world applications. He believes that this country needs to develop "a Marshall Plan for the Middle East. We should do as we did with the Europeans after the war—with the Europeans in charge, to be dealt with the utmost respect." Such an approach in the Middle East, he believes, would yield far better results than military intervention, both for the people of the region and for the United States itself. "Though dimmed by the current administration's military-based foreign policy," Clark has written, "students of development remain somewhat optimistic. The goal of development is to develop responsive political institutions, in a context of expanding economies that provide fairly distributed opportunities and programs that minimize individual deprivations and poverty."

It is a goal towards which it is worth dedicating one's life work. Clark quotes one of his professors at Chicago when he says, "Once you start thinking about development, you can't really think about anything else." ■

WSU Receives \$7.77 Million Grant to Fund Chemistry Building Expansion and Endowment

BY TOM REYNOLDS

Wayne State University has received a \$7.77 million grant from the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. A. Paul Schaap, former Wayne State University chemistry professor and founder of Southfield-based Lumigen Inc., and his wife Carol, recommended the grant to support expansion of the Chemistry Building and the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Endowed Distinguished Graduate Stipend Fund at Wayne State University. Wayne State University, pending approval by the Board of Governors, will name the Chemistry Building the "A. Paul Schaap Chemistry Building" and the lecture hall within the building the "A. Paul Schaap Lecture Hall."

Schaap, who retired from the university in 2000 to become the full-time president of Lumigen, has

maintained strong ties to the university. He hopes that the grant will provide the foundation and resources to further the Department of Chemistry's reputation for attracting world-class scholars and researchers.

"Carol and I are grateful to Wayne State University and we wanted to give back," Schaap said. "We appreciate what the university offered us during our 30-year affiliation, particularly my teaching and research experience that contributed in large measure to the founding of Lumigen. This grant is both an expression of gratitude and a stake in the future of Wayne State and its students."

Wayne State University President Irvin D. Reid shares Schaap's vision of building a stronger Chemistry Department. "Dr. Schaap's generosity will distinguish Wayne State's chemistry department as a leading force in academic research and learning," Reid said. "The planned expansion of the chemistry building and the endowment fund will have a profound influence on our ability to expand research opportunities while attracting outstanding faculty and PhD students into the program."

Expansion of the chemistry building will allow for a common space for studying and group interaction; a chair's office suite; and a lecture hall to accommodate large groups. These improvements will help ensure

security throughout the building, an important amenity for researchers and students and for protecting intellectual property. The lecture hall also will be a venue for scientific meetings and conferences in conjunction with the university's Welcome Center.

During his tenure in the chemistry department, Schaap and his research team developed a novel luminescent compound called a 1,2-dioxetane which can be triggered to produce light in medical tests, called immunoassays, to provide evidence of certain diseases in patients. The discovery of an efficient light-emitting molecule in mid-1986 evolved into a compound that is used worldwide to diagnose AIDS, cancer, hepatitis and other diseases.

In 1987 this discovery led Schaap to found Lumigen, now the world's largest supplier of chemiluminescent reagents to the clinical immunodiagnosics market. Lumigen Inc. was recently acquired by Beckman Coulter.

Schaap's bond with Wayne State University began more than 30 years ago when he was hired as an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry. His wife, Carol, was secretary to the chemistry chair; she later was secretary to then-President David Adamany until 1990. ■

Democracy! Democracy?

One of the undergraduate courses that Political Science Professor Sharon Lean teaches is called “Democracy.” One should not assume that there is anything simple about this course or its one-word title. “I often tell my students that I’m not sure if we should put a question mark or an exclamation point at the end of that word,” Lean says, laughing. Democratic countries are not so easily identified, and democracy itself is not so easily defined. It can be understood in different ways — representative democracy, participatory democracy, and deliberative democracy among them. Lean’s “Democracy” class raises questions that she asks her students to attempt to answer. “Is Islam compatible with democracy?” she asks rhetorically. “Do you need a certain level of economic development for democracy? What makes different democracies democratic?” For their first paper, students are asked to take two different definitions of democracy and apply them to countries whose democratic status is debatable. Lean cites Russia and Kenya as examples. “Some students thought that Kenya was a democracy, despite the recent riots,” she says. “Some didn’t.” Neither answer is incorrect, since there is a case to be made on both sides. It is a matter of punctuation: the question mark or the exclamation point.

Before her arrival at Wayne State in the fall of 2005, the Political Science Department was without an expert in Latin American politics. Lean’s particular area of interest is democracy assistance in Latin America, a part of the world well represented by the maps of Mexico, Central America, and South America on the wall of Lean’s faculty office. She teaches a general education course, “Introduction to Political Science,” that focuses on global and comparative politics instead of American politics. “I’ve never taken American politics,” she says without apology. On a bookshelf in Lean’s office is a picture of her participating in a panel discussion in Nicaragua in November of 2006. On the dais with her is the former president of Peru, Alejandro Toledo, and former US President Jimmy Carter. It was through the Carter Center that Lean found herself in Nicaragua, coordinating a team of international elections observers. She’d done previous elections work in Venezuela in 2003 and 2004, and in Peru and



(Left to Right) Ryan Ferrante, Lauren Henriksen, Dr. Sharon Lean, and Amanda Hunter in Mexico City; Photo by Anthony Talarico

Nicaragua, also through the Carter Center, in 2001.

Lean gauges the efficacy of democratic assistance in Latin America by studying the programs of multilateral organizations and international non-governmental organizations and their interactions with the state and with civil society—by studying “everything,” she says, “minus military involvement.” Her interest in the region goes back to her undergraduate days, when she earned a BA from Brown in Latin American Studies. She lived and worked in Mexico between 1994 and 1997, and in 1996 earned her MA in Social Sciences from the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales. The 1990s were a good time to be in Mexico for someone with Lean’s academic interests. In 1994, Mexico had what Lean calls its first “relatively clean” elections, a process that culminated in 2000 with the election of Vicente Fox and the ending of seventy years of one-party rule. Eventually, she says, “I started looking at countries outside of Mexico in Latin America.” In 2004, she earned her PhD from the University of California-Irvine. Her dissertation was on the transnational aspects of elections monitoring.

In addition to “Democracy” and “Introduction to Political Science,” Lean has taught “International Organizations,” “Politics of Latin America,” “Latin America in World Affairs” and the “Advanced Seminar in Comparative Politics” during her time at Wayne State. But the class she seems most proud of was a directed study on Protest in Mexico that she taught for five hand-picked students during Winter 2007. “I sent the students an e-mail,” Lean says, “to see if they were interested.” They were. After receiving a Wayne State Faculty Global Grant for field research and student training, Lean took the students on an

eight-day trip to Mexico that summer to study how social protest groups get their voices heard. Prior to leaving for Mexico, as part of their preparation, Lean led them through personalized reading lists. “I assigned them texts that I’d been wanting to read,” she says.

Lean considers the experience one of her happiest academic moments, and the students who participated agree. Lauren Henriksen says, “I spent my first week in Mexico examining democracy in the indigenous Zapatista autonomous communities in Chiapas, and the second talking to party officials and academics in Mexico City about the state of democracy and protest. The field work in Mexico

really helped to build my confidence as a researcher and provided many new insights and skills. And when it came time to present about our research, Dr. Lean was incredibly helpful and encouraging.” Tony Talarico, another of the students who went to Mexico, says that “working with Sharon has focused my interest in civil society and Latin American affairs. In Mexico City, I was most impressed by the high level of interviews that we were conducting as undergraduate students. We interviewed leaders from the ruling party, as well as the opposition, about very sensitive and current affairs.” Ryan Ferrante, with whom Lean is currently working on a paper entitled “Local and National Effects of Subnational Authoritarianism: The Case of Oaxaca, Mexico,” says that “Lean used her extensive connections to have us meet with government and party officials, NGO members, university professors, university students, and even common people embroiled in the very protest situations we were studying.”

This past September, Lean, along with the five students in the class—Henrikson, Ferrante, Talarico, Eric Waters, and Amanda Hunter—gave a Humanities Center Brown Bag presentation on their research findings. They found, as their summary report said, that “citizen action in the public sphere in some cases makes important contributions to the nation’s political discourse. In other cases, political participation in the public sphere is perceived to impede political progress by reinforcing non-democratic patterns of the past.” Lean, proud of her students, smiles at the memory of the presentation. “I tried not to talk too much,” she says. ■

Hackel *continued from page 4*

several examples from the Grant case indicating how the media, far from impeding the investigation, actually aided it. After Grant refused to take a polygraph, for instance, a Macomb County Sheriff’s officer made a traffic stop and arrested Grant for a suspended license. When the mug shot of Grant hit the press, Grant realized that, in Hackel’s phrase, “he didn’t look good, so he made himself available to the media.” It would turn out that Hackel was far more adept at using the media than Grant. Throughout the investigation, Hackel said he “wanted to embrace Stephen Grant, so that he’d help” the Macomb County Sheriff’s office to find this “missing person”—his wife, Tara Grant. Stephen Grant would not help. “That’s a red flag,” Hackel said.

Later in the investigation, Hackel received a tip from a reporter at the *Macomb Daily*. Grant had told the reporter that, two years earlier, he had seen Hackel riding his bike in Stoney Creek metropark “without a helmet.” The location struck Hackel as telling, and he ordered Stoney Creek searched. As he saw the search team combing the park on television, “Grant panicked,” Hackel said. From that point on, things started to go badly for Stephen Grant. *The Detroit News* published text messages between Stephen Grant and the family *au pair*. The Macomb County Sheriff’s office got a search warrant after human blood was found in a bag in Washington Township. During that search of the house, Tara Grant’s torso was found.

At that point, Hackel said, they didn’t want the media to know that they had found the body, because they didn’t want to give Stephen Grant reason to flee. But Grant was on the run anyway, driving up north in a neighbor’s car. Hackel’s awareness of how the media and images affect public perception extended to the very end of the investigation. After Grant was picked up by police in northern Michigan, Hackel called the Petoskey police and made certain to send up “prison attire” for Grant to put on—in this case, a striped Halloween costume Hackel had purchased for an office party. Hackel said that he didn’t want Grant to be photographed “in his hospital gown, looking like a victim.” ■

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