President Walker Reaches Out During Inaugural Events

By Bruce Annett, Executive Director Marketing & Public Affairs

Lawrence Technological University’s sixth president, Lewis N. Walker, was inaugurated Nov. 2 at the Ridler Field House in a ceremony that celebrated the University’s past, current accomplishments, and bold plans for the future.

Walker was named Lawrence Tech’s president effective July 1 after serving as interim president for five months. He had been provost since 1994 and executive vice president since 2003.

Nearly 400 guests representing all of Lawrence Tech’s constituencies were present as Lloyd Reuss, chairman of the University’s Board of Trustees, formally conferred the office and hung the medallion over Walker’s neck that symbolizes the president’s authority and displays Lawrence Tech’s great seal.

“I am grateful to the trustees for their confidence in my leadership and for this appointment,” Walker said in his address. “I look forward to working with our students, our faculty, staff, alumni, donors, our community and corporate partners, our international partners, and other friends who have done so much to bring Lawrence Technological University to where we are today.”

Walker said that helping undergraduates gain leadership skills and a sense of integrity would be major goals of his administration and that programs are being implemented throughout the curricula to educate students in these concepts. (See excerpts from the inauguration address on Page 5.)

More than a week of inauguration activities reflected Walker’s emphasis on inclusiveness as nearly every group within the University family participated. (See photos on Pages 6-7.)

The week began with a dinner for leaders of the University’s student organizations on Oct. 25. The following evening Walker led a faculty-and-staff team in a basketball game against a crack student team. The students prevailed, 68-53.

The Scholarship Brunch on Oct. 29 brought students and the donor sponsors of many Lawrence Tech scholarships together.

“Go Blue Devils” is what Walker painted to dedicate the new Spirit Rock Oct. 30, the first of what will likely be thousands of slogans to be emblazoned on it in years to come. A fundraiser for Lawrence Tech’s Solar Decathlon team followed that evening at BD’s Mongolian Barbeque in Novi.

On Oct. 31, there was a grand opening for Lawrence Tech’s new life sciences laboratories in S305 and E108 and a groundbreaking ceremony for a new volleyball pit near University Housing-North.

On Nov. 1, Walker led a 5K fun run while Provost Maria Vaz led a 5K walk. Both started at Ridler Field House and concluded at the Elliott Fountain. Taher Food Services presented special luncheon entrees focusing on Italian cuisine, Walker’s favorite. The Professional Women’s Career Networking High Tea in the UTLC Gallery gave female students a chance to meet recent alumnae and hear about the challenges and opportunities ahead of them.

On Nov. 2, President Walker spoke at a luncheon hosted by Student Government and Student Affairs and then attended a pre-inaugural reception for faculty and staff sponsored by the College of Management. The inaugural ceremony was followed by a second reception and dinner in Café Lawrence, and closed with a strolling coffee service in Alumni Hall that featured the favorite desserts of Lawrence Tech’s past presidents.

Inauguration festivities concluded Nov. 4 with an alumni-and-student pep rally at Shield’s Pizza prior to the hockey game against Northwood University. Walker dropped the ceremonial first puck.

Lawrence Tech Expands Programs to Help Students Succeed

By Eric Pope

A three-year state matching grant called the KCP Initiative has helped create a new program to help academically and economically disadvantaged students at Lawrence Technological University.

The KCP Initiative’s first-year budget is $286,371, with about half the funding coming from Lawrence Tech and $140,081 provided by Michigan’s Department of Labor & Economic Growth. Similar state grants are planned for the next two years, with options for two additional years.

The core of the KCP Initiative is a new Lawrence Tech Scholars Program designed to help the targeted students form stronger bonds in college, support each other as peer tutors and mentors, and become more involved in campus leadership. It will enroll 30 students a year.

The new program targets students who haven’t completed the prerequisite coursework required before declaring a major.

“We need to do more to create a sense of belonging and confidence that this is the place where these students are meant to be, so that when it gets tough, they will hang in there,” said Lawrence Tech Dean of Students Jerome Webster, the principal investigator for the state grant.

The KCP Initiative -- named in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., Cesar Chavez and Rosa Parks -- was launched by the state legislature in 1986 to help lower the barriers to the academic success for educationally and economically disadvantaged students and underrepresented minorities. Lawrence Tech has participated for nine years.

The new Lawrence Tech program includes:

• Three faculty advisors assigned to each student to provide support and advice on life issues as well as academic issues.

• Peer tutoring and mentoring under the Scholars as Lead Tutors (SALT) Project.

• Summer Connections Workshop.

(continues on page 2)
Northern Michigan Education Center Grads

Graduation ceremonies were held in Traverse City this summer for a dozen students who successfully completed the MBA program taught at Lawrence Tech's Northern Michigan Education Center, which has classroom facilities in both Traverse City and Petoskey. In the back row (L-R) are Larry King, Scott Meekhof, Carlos Lopez, Joel Greene, Matt Shepherd and Ron Klinefelter. In the front row are Northern Michigan Education Center Manager Terri Goodman, Suzanne Stepan, Benjamin Marentette, Jeff Wood, Andrea Dolan, Therese Sherman, Barbara McKay, Associate Professor of Management Jackie Stavros and Louis DeGennaro, dean of the College of Management.

Chatman Named Staff Member of the Month

Janail Chatman, staff assistant for Student Services, has been named staff member of the month for September by the Staff Recognition Committee at Lawrence Technological University.

Chatman has worked for the Registrar’s Office for almost two years. Through all the changes and implementation of cross-training, she remained a positive influence and her professionalism was an inspiration to her co-workers.

During the 2006 fall registration period, Chatman worked in the One-Stop Center and the Enrollment Services Call Center, as well as handling her primary role in the Data Processing Center. She has even worked at the IT Helpdesk, taking photo IDs at LTU students.

“We heard from a co-worker that Janail is a quick leaner and offers help to everyone she works with. She is a kind and supportive co-worker and a true professional,” said Marshall Jackson, a member of the Staff Recognition Committee.

Chatman went on a brief maternity leave following the announcement of her award. After completing a full work week, she gave birth on Saturday, Oct. 28, to a girl, Jayla Rose, who weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz.

The other nominees were Dawn Andrews, Admissions; Wenping Bo, College of Management; Sedar Eren, IT Services – Helpdesk; Dorrie Frontera, Dean of Students; Joyce McKissen, Humanities; Lori Remlinger, Architecture; and Diane Sobania, Admissions.

The Lawrence Tech Staff Member of the Month program recognizes Lawrence Tech full- and part-time staff for excellence on the job. Please consider nominating someone for Staff Member of the Month. The nomination form can be found online at: www.ltu.edu/facultyandstaff/staff_senate.asp.

Lawrence Tech Support

(continued from page 1)

a two-week orientation program designed to build skills and develop cohort bonds.

• Two-week summer pre-courses for “gateway” courses that often are roadblocks for academically

Recognition by the Staff

Named Staff Member of the Month

By Joe Wallace

SPS student government rep

Heading towards the end of November, the Society of Physics Students (SPS) has many upcoming events and activities planned. Here’s a list of what we’ve been working on this semester:

At the beginning of October, SPS members traveled to Chicago. While there, we toured Fermilab and observed the particle accelerator.

In early November, SPS hosted a talk by Professor Tim Skonieczky of Macomb Community College, who spoke about the many eclipses he has seen all around the world. SPS members also observed the planet Mercury traveling across the sun.

SPS will host a Graduate School Colloquium for all majors on Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 4-6 p.m., in a location to be determined. If you are interested in graduate school, or just want to learn what it is all about, this is just right for you.

Enjoy some refreshments and then talk with alumni from several majors. Watch for fliers about this event.

SPS will hold a campus-wide canned food drive the first two weeks of December. Watch for informational flyers and boxes to drop the cans in.

SPS typically meets the first Thursday of each month in S218 at 2 p.m. SPS members have access to the blackboard site and discussion board, so check it out and send in your ideas. To join SPS or ask any questions, please contact Scott Schneider, s_schneider@ltu.edu.
Levine Brings Practical Experience to Media Communications Program

By Eric Pope
Tech News Editor

Good preparation is essential for producing television shows and it’s also the key to getting a job in the media, according to Suzanne Levine, the new director of the Media Communications Program in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Levine learned what it takes to produce award-winning shows and segments during more than 20 years in the broadcast field in the metro Detroit market. She will share her experiences with students in the new bachelor of science program that emphasizes practical knowledge of the industry.

She believes her hands-on, one-on-one approach to education will help Lawrence Tech graduates set themselves apart in a very competitive and rapidly changing industry. They will learn about theory, technology, and practice in this interdisciplinary major.

“A criticism I hear across the board is that college graduates aren’t prepared,” Levine said. “They may have the theoretical knowledge, but they don’t know how to apply it. Often they don’t know how to run a video camera, how to write or even how to think.”

Ethical issues will play an important part of Levine’s course, “Media, Communication and Society,” offered for the first time in the spring semester. Students will be asked to consider whether America has become a “tabloid” society where infotainment has replaced unbiased news reporting and “trial by media” has undermined the traditional values of our justice system.

Levine began her broadcast journey as the producer of a late-night radio talk show at WRIF (101.1 FM). She has been a writer and producer for Detroit’s ABC and PBS affiliates. The winner of numerous local and national awards for television production, she both wrote and produced an interview with Michigan actor Jeff Daniels that aired on “Oprah.”

A television producer is responsible for pulling everything together. Duties include writing the script, finding people to be interviewed, securing the shooting location, coordinating wardrobe, picking appropriate music, working with the graphics department, and making sure everything fits perfectly in the allotted air time. The producer helps the camera crew understand the script and then sits down with the editor after the taping is done.

“As a producer, you also have to know what to do if your guest dies an hour before show time, which has happened to me,” Levine said.

The media communications degree program will give students the practical experience and work portfolios that are so important in securing a job after graduation. Levine also wants to provide a firm foundation for media practitioners who will have to respond to constant change along with unprecedented opportunities as news and entertainment outlets proliferate on cable and online.

“I hope my students will not only think outside the box, but also help reinvent the box,” she said.

Delta Tau Sigma

By Megan Motta
Pledge Class President

The Delta Tau Sigma pledges of the fall class of 2006 would like to greet you. There are 10 of us pledging this semester, and we hear this is one of the largest pledge classes in awhile. We want to make sure you get to know us, so we would like to introduce ourselves:

Stephanie Cetnar, 19, of Redford is a junior studying mechanical engineering. She is on the Formula SAE team.

Stephanie Corey, 18, of Grand Ledge was involved in Habitat for Humanity, gymnastics, soccer, and diving at Grand Ledge High School. She is majoring in architecture and is considering a dual major in construction management.

Karenann Ford, 19, of Grand Rapids involved in Habitat for Humanity, gymnastics, soccer, and diving at Grand Ledge High School. She is majoring in architecture and is considering a dual major in construction management.

Karenann Ford, 19, of Grand Rapids was involved in Habitat for Humanity, gymnastics, soccer, and diving at Grand Ledge High School. She is majoring in architecture and is considering a dual major in construction management.

Kara Goldman, 19, of Royal Oak has a part-time job with Taher Dining Services located in the atrium of the Buell Management Building.

Lindsey Sue Mehlig, 20, is a sophomore in the electrical engineering program. She has also been invited to join the electrical and computer engineering honor society, Eta Kappa Nu.

Megan Jane Motta, 19, of Fenton is a sophomore in the architecture program. She is a first-year mentor and president of the pledge class.

Andrea Paulina Freile Salinas, 18, is a freshman majoring in media communications. She works at Career Services, where she gets involved in job fairs.

La Tasha Maree Watkins, 18, of Ferndale is a freshman majoring in electrical engineering. She plays several musical instruments.
Mechatronics Degree Prepares Engineers for the Future

By Eric Pope
Tech News Editor

Lawrence Technological University has introduced a new master’s degree program in mechatronic systems engineering, a philosophical approach that cuts across multiple scientific disciplines.

It’s the first degree program in mechatronics in Michigan and one of only a few in the entire country.

Mechatronic systems engineers design enhanced products, systems and manufacturing processes by bringing together knowledge from mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and computer science. They should learn new principles for designing mechanical subsystems to satisfy the control requirements. They also have to gain hands-on experience in implementing design principles.

One arena for mechatronics would be the development of electronic stability control (ESC) systems recently proposed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for most passenger vehicles by the 2009 model year. When sensors detect a car is in a skid or about to roll over, an ESC system applies the brakes and reduces engine speed, often before the driver is even aware of a problem.

Many universities in Europe and Asia have mechatronics degree programs, and now Lawrence Tech aims to help the United States keep pace.

The new Lawrence Tech master’s degree program is the result of collaboration between the Math/Computer Science, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering departments, according to Steven Howell, chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

“Because Lawrence Tech is agile and its colleges and departments work closely together, it’s easy for us to develop inter-disciplinary programs,” Howell said. “At larger universities it’s hard to get electrical engineers and mechanical engineers to collaborate on new multi-disciplinary programs, but it’s not like that here.”

The Lawrence Tech program has benefited from an advisory board of more than 20 engineers and executives of mechanical engineering who joined Lawrence Tech in 2001, is leading the two-year master’s degree program that is scheduled at night to accommodate practicing engineers. He had almost 30 years of experience in designing vehicle driveline systems and automatic control of vehicle handling and performance.

Instruction began this month with two graduate-level courses on analytical and adaptive dynamics and modern control systems.

Lawrence Tech is building a mechatronics laboratory with the support of the industry advisory board. Recent additions have come from KUKA Robotics, a German company with facilities in Clinton Township; software developer dSPACE of Novi; and Texas-based National Instruments, which has a sales office in Livonia.

Howell said companies developing and using mechatronic systems have a need for engineers with a background in both electrical engineering and mechanical engineering. That has created a demand for engineers educated in this growing field.

A mechatronics course for undergraduates will be introduced in the spring term, and Howell expects the subject to become a requirement for an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering.

“It has become such an important field that every mechanical engineer should be exposed to it,” he said.

Lawrence Tech Tennis Tournament

The Dec. 4 deadline is fast approaching for the essay contest to commemorate “Constitution Day,” which is held by Lawrence Tech’s Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Communication.

Lawrence Tech students are invited to write on the following subject:

The framers of the constitution wanted to prevent a concentration of power in any one entity. Therefore, in creating the constitution, they devised a doctrine known as the “separation of powers,” which divides power among three branches of government: the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. Each of these branches has certain powers that can be “checked” or limited by another branch: a system known as “checks and balances.”

Using an example from United States current affairs, argue whether or not the notion of a balance of power is being maintained today, 219 years after the U.S. Constitution was signed.

Send submissions electronically by Monday, Dec. 4, to McKissen@ltu.edu. The essays should be 900 to 1,500 words, double-spaced, with MLA documentation style. Prizes will be announced at the end of the fall semester, and the winning essay will be published in the TECH NEWS.

First prize is $150; second prize, $100; and third prize, $50.
Walker Focuses on Leadership in Inauguration Address

Editor’s Note: On Nov. 2, Lewis N. Walker was inaugurated as the sixth president of Lawrence Technological University. In his inaugural address, Walker recounted the role that Lawrence Tech has played in Michigan’s economy since its founding by Russell Lawrence in 1932, and he highlighted the accomplishments of his two most recent predecessors, Richard E. Marburger and Charles M. Chambers. In setting out the goals for his new presidency, Walker focused on the importance of leadership, both for the institution and its graduates. Here are excerpts from his speech:

By Lewis N. Walker, President Lawrence Technological University

As we try to find the solutions to work on all the challenges we face today, I think we must ask ourselves what is most important to get right? … I would assert that it is leadership and integrity. … Successful organizations must be

all of our undergraduate students.

LTU is known for producing very good graduates — architects, engineers, computer scientists, chemists, business and management majors who, as most employers tell us, “hit the ground running and immediately contribute to their employer’s success.” Many of our graduates have made great innovations here and across the country. Many inventions and devices that we all use today were developed by LTU graduates. …

I want LTU to be known for producing great leaders and entrepreneurs and I want to brand LTU as Developing the Leaders of Tomorrow – that here we’re producing, “Leaders in the Making.” When people think of Lawrence Tech alumni, I want them to think of leaders.

John F. Kennedy observed that “leadership and learning are indispensable to each other,” and I’ve long agreed.

We started the planning process when I was provost and we are now implementing and phasing in a strong leadership development program for all undergraduate students at LTU. This program provides leadership development activities in each of the four years of undergraduate study for all programs and majors.

As we investigated leadership development in colleges and universities across the United States, we were surprised to find only three programs that delivered the breadth and depth that involved all undergraduate students. These programs were at the three military academies: West Point, the Naval and Air Force Academies. And now, with the addition of Lawrence Tech, there will be four.

We aim to imbue in our graduates the ability to have confidence in themselves -- not arrogance -- but confidence to step up to situations in work and in life and achieve success. “Leadership,” as Peter Drucker said, “is lifting a person’s vision to higher sights, the raising of a person’s performance to a higher standard, and the building of a personality beyond its normal limitations.”

During one of my visits with our partner schools in Asia, I happened to read a Chinese proverb that says, “An army of a thousand is easy to find, but, ah, how difficult to find a general.” Well, the types of educational programs we’re adding will help create more generals, more great leaders -- and that’s good for our graduates, good for our corporate partners, our community, and our country. …

I believe Lawrence Tech has a great future and that we are well on our way to becoming the educational leader that we have envisioned. My dream is that LTU will:

• Prepare more of the great leaders of tomorrow.

• Develop graduates with an entrepreneurial mindset.

• Continue to develop and evolve key programs that are nationally and internationally recognized.

• Use innovative teaching methodologies, including online learning, to maximize the effectiveness and accessibility of the LTU learning experience.

• Assure that Architecture will be one of the great programs in this country.

• Assure that Engineering will be a leader in engineering education distinguished for applied projects and producing leaders and entrepreneurs.

• Assure that our College of Management will be nationally recognized for the Global Leadership Programs.

• Assure that our new Life Sciences programs strongly support this rapidly growing sector of our economy.

• Achieve through our next capital campaign the support that will enable us to have two named colleges on this campus within the next five years. …

Call this number for up-to-date info on Lawrence Tech’s status. Inclement weather may affect either day or evening classes at Lawrence Tech, but be aware that storm patterns vary widely and the University may not be affected by the pattern in your immediate area. WWJ-AM 950 and WJR-AM 760 are the first radio stations notified if bad weather forces cancellation of classes at Lawrence Tech.
1. ALOeTERRA, the Lawrence Tech student team preparing for the 2007 Solar Decathlon competition in Washington, D.C., held a fundraiser at BD’s Mongolian Barbeque during inauguration week. Provost Maria Vaz and President Lewis N. Walker joined team members (L-R) Steve Tominac, Ryan Smith, Clarice Westman, Elliott Schmitt, and Majd Murad at the grill. The event raised $890.

2. Jeffery Morrissette and Julie Zwiesler-Vollick, two new assistant professors of biology, discuss lab procedures during the grand opening of the new chemical biology lab in the Science Building on Oct. 31. Among the participants in an experiment to demonstrate how contagious disease spreads were (L-R) Provost Maria Vaz, Tracy Thomas of the College of Arts and Sciences dean’s office and President Walker.

3. Ron Foster, director of biomedical engineering, describes how the new biomedical engineering lab in the Engineering Building will serve the degree program that was started last year. Listening are CJ Chung, associate professor of computer science; Diana Richard, coordinator of disability services; Provost Maria Vaz; and Hsiao-Ping Moore, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. Student Employment Coordinator Sherry Kerby, Dean of Students Jerry Webster, and Resident Life Director Janielle Ostrowski opted for a slower pace during the President’s 5K Fun Run/Walk.

5. President Lewis N. Walker and student Stephanie Knapp watch as Matt Quist, the corporate chef for Taher Dining Services, demonstrates how to prepare Italian cuisine — the president’s favorite — as part of an inauguration week presentation of the On-Display Wednesday Meal at Café Lawrence.

6. President Walker (R) took the lead briefly at the start of the President’s 5K Fun Run/Walk that was part of the inauguration festivities. The 3.1-mile course started at the Ridler Field House and meandered around the campus to end at the Elliott Fountain on the quad.

7. Inauguration week concluded for President Walker on Nov. 4 when he dropped the ceremonial first puck at the Southfield Civic Center Arena for a game between the Lawrence Tech Blue Devils and Northwood University. Hockey player Adam Jakubowski, coach Kevin Gee and Provost Maria Vaz were the other Lawrence Tech representatives. Northwood won the game, 6-4.

8. President Walker delivered some impromptu remarks during a reception for faculty and staff in the UTLC Gallery prior to the inauguration ceremony on Nov. 2.
LAWRENCE TECH CELEBRATES
of a New President

9. President Walker (L) paints Lawrence Tech’s Spirit Rock for the first time during the dedication ceremony on Oct. 30. Helping him are Janielle Ostrowski, director of residence life, and two members of the Sigma Pi fraternity, senior Adam Harwood and sophomore Richard Brienik.

10. President Walker joins members of Sigma Pi at Lawrence Tech’s new Spirit Rock. The fraternity spearheaded efforts to bring a new focal point for student spirit to the campus. A day later it had already been repainted three times.

11. President Walker spoke with students about his plans for the university at a luncheon served at Café Lawrence prior to the inauguration ceremony on Nov. 2.

12. Inauguration week included a groundbreaking ceremony for a new sand volleyball pit down the hill from University Housing–North. With a temporary volleyball net in the background, (L-R) Student Activities Director Al McLaughlin, Ben Gregory, Student Government President Fadi Abro, Mike D’Allesandro and President Walker turn over some soil where the volleyball pit will be installed next spring.

13. Clifton Johnson leads Walker’s Warriors onto the basketball court for the Oct. 26 game against the students. The faculty and staff also fielded an energetic team of cheerleaders.

14. President Walker draws a foul as he takes a jump shot in the Oct. 26 basketball game between a student team and a faculty-and-staff team known as “Walker’s Warriors.” President Walker’s team jumped out to an early 10-point lead, but in the end couldn’t keep up with the more energetic students.

15. Nancy Walker (L), wife of President Walker, hosted the Professional Women’s Career Networking High Tea held during Inauguration Week. Prior to the panel discussion, she spoke with panelists (L-R) Jennifer Hitchcock, Karen Evans, Rosemary Bayer, and Laura Stenzak.
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Detroit Studio Proposes Lifestyle Center For Low-Income Detroit Neighborhood

During the fall term junior and graduate students at the Detroit Studio of the College of Architecture and Design are working on plans for an urban agriculture, health, and fitness (UAHF) lifestyle center and a community master plan for a low-income neighborhood on Detroit's east side.

The UAHF lifestyle center project includes high-yield micro farms, greenhouses, community farms, and other supporting uses. The goal is to use urban agriculture to help create sustainable communities and to deal with the crisis of widespread vacant lots and buildings in Detroit neighborhoods.

Joongsun Kim, associate professor of architecture and director of the Detroit Studio, teaches the graduate level urban design studio and the architecture component of the junior studio, and coordinates the project, while Anirban Aditya, assistant professor of architecture, teaches the urban component of the junior studio.

The Boston Society of Architects is the sponsor. A number of community development corporations (CDCs), the City of Detroit Planning Department, the MSU Extension Program, residents, and other entities are collaborating. With feedback from these participants and guest jurors, students will develop an architectural proposal for the UAHF lifestyle center. In addition, students will work in teams to develop master plans for the surrounding community.

Improving public health is a major goal for the project. According to a recent report from the Kellogg Foundation, an increasing number of people suffer from obesity-related health problems resulting from the lack of exercise and unhealthy lifestyles. The National Institutes of Health and many other agencies agree that obesity has become a national health epidemic. Studies show that children are increasingly at risk.

Chronic poverty, crime, and other socio-economic issues make the problem worse in low-income neighborhoods. Detroit has been the fattest city in the country for several years, according to one national health-related publication.

This Detroit Studio project includes several goals:

- To educate youth and community residents about the values and importance of healthy food, fitness, and a healthy lifestyle, as well as the negative impact the built environment can have.
- To promote urban agriculture development as a catalyst for community revitalization.
- To conduct research in obesity, food, and fitness.
- To showcase, promote, and market urban agriculture products.
- To create a model for a healthy lifestyle in an earth-friendly setting.

“As architects, we can play an important role in helping to create a built environment that promotes a healthy lifestyle in an earth-friendly setting,” Kim said. “Obesity and fitness issues are complex. They are intertwined with many social, cultural, political, economic, and physical factors.”

In response to these complex challenges, the Junior IDS 3 (Integrated Design Studio 3) Studio and the Graduate Urban Design Studio at the Detroit Studio Community Outreach Program will propose a UAHF lifestyle center on East Warren near Chandler Park on Detroit’s east side.

The most successful student proposals will be submitted to the Boston Society of Architects (BSA) for inclusion in its national publication. Only ten programs across the country have been invited to submit proposals.

Lawrence Tech architecture students working on a plan for Detroit’s east side include (L-R) Aaron Pelosi, Steven Cooper, Valentino Mancini and Jay McGuire.

Thanksgiving RoboParade Coming Nov. 18

Lawrence Technological University will host the Thanksgiving RoboParade, believed to be the world’s first-ever indoor robot parade for Thanksgiving, on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Buell Management Building.

Students will design fully autonomous robot floats that will follow the parade route and detect other robots in front of them. The robot floats will be fully programmed to stop and start without human help.

The parade will feature robot floats constructed and programmed by middle school and high school students at Lawrence Tech summer camps organized by CJ Chung, associate professor of computer science. Video of the students preparing their robots for the parade can be found at www.robofest.net.

If you would like to volunteer your time at the RoboParade or need additional information, contact Chung at chung@ltu.edu or 248-204-3504. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

Forensics, Robofest Highlight Science Teachers’ Conference

Lawrence Tech will host the 2006 Michigan Science Teachers’ Association (MDSTA) Fall Conference, which will include a forensic science workshop and a national Robofest.

By LaVetta Appleby, Associate Director Master of Science Education Program

More than 1,000 metropolitan Detroit teachers came to the Lawrence Tech campus on Oct. 21 for the 66th Annual Metropolitan Detroit Science Teachers Association (MDSTA) Fall Conference. “Fueling the Future” was the theme of this year’s conference. More than 100 sessions covered topics such as meeting the science benchmarks, integration of technology, inquiry learning, and classroom curriculum.

Faculty members and staff of Lawrence Tech’s Department of Natural Sciences and other members of the university community participate in this event every year by volunteering, giving logistic support, making presentations, and marketing. This conference provides a venue for showcasing Lawrence Tech programs such as the Master of Science Education (MSE) and Master of Educational Technology (MET).

Julie Zwiesler-Vollick and Jeffery Morrissette, new assistant professors of biology at Lawrence Tech, led a hands-on Termite Tracking activity and a DNA extraction activity. Chemistry lecturer LaVetta Appleby demonstrated how to make strawberry ice cream using liquid nitrogen. CJ Chung, associate professor of computer science, showcased the Robofest program.

Valentina Tobos, director of the MSE/MET programs and Anthony Sky, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences, were both session presenters.

Also presented was Lawrence Tech’s first CSI Forensic Science workshop, which includes accident reconstruction, blood analysis, glass analysis, white powder ID, fingerprints and impressions, DNA techniques, forensic entomology, and legal issues. For more information, visit www.ltu.edu/arts_sciences/master_science_ed/forensic.asp.

The MSE/MET programs offer K-12 teachers a solid and comprehensive understanding of subject matter in science and technology. These programs provide science education courses that are inquiry-based and have a strong hands-on component. Aided by kits of materials developed by course instructors, participants engage in a variety of guided and open-ended projects as the primary means of developing their understanding of the concepts. Participants assess their own science teaching and use the strategies presented to design learning experiences for their own classrooms.

For questions regarding the MET and MSE programs, contact Tobos at v_tobos@ltu.edu or 248-204-3617, or visit www.ltu.edu/arts_sciences/naturalsciences/natsci.asp.
Lawrence Tech Wins Grant to Help Special Education Teachers

By Eric Pope
Tech News Editor

Lawrence Technological University has received a $184,102 state grant to help special education teachers in Macomb County design better strategies for teaching science.

Lawrence Tech will partner with Madonna University’s College of Education and the Math and Science Center of the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD). The teachers will be drawn from Ben Ross Public Academy, Connor Creek Academy, Connor Creek Academy East, Clintondale Public Schools and Macomb Center schools.

A total of 20 special education teachers will earn five graduate credits with more than 90 hours of professional development through the Super Science for Special Teachers (SST) project.

The grant is funded by federal money administered through the state Department of Education’s Improving Teacher Quality Competitive Grant Program.

“The problem is that a vast majority of special education teachers are only certified in the student disability in which they teach,” said Anthony Sky, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences at Lawrence Tech. “Very few of these teachers have training in science content.”

Historically, special education students have not done well on science MEAP tests. Addressing this weakness is becoming critically important because in the future science will be added to the criteria for determining a student’s average yearly progress.

Lawrence Tech has a long history of working with science teachers on instruction for K-12 students. It offers master’s degrees in science education and educational technology.

Sky said that an important part of the SST project is building a learning community of special education teachers. They will meet at least seven times at the Lawrence Tech campus in Southfield during the school year and then will attend a summer institute in 2007 where they will participate in hands-on activities that will strengthen their science content knowledge.

Anthony Sky uses liquid nitrogen to make ice cream. It’s the type of scientific demonstration that high school science teachers can use to grab the attention of their students.

Ark Foundation Clothing Drive

The students of Integrated Design Studio (IDS) 3 are collecting clothes to donate to the Ark Foundation of Detroit. Men’s clothing is needed the most. Donation boxes are located near entrances of every building on campus. Bring large donations to room T416 in the UTLC Building. Please help by Nov. 22.
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Blue Devils Host First Tournament

The Blue Devils starting lineup in the Nov. 4 game against Northwood University consisted of (L-R) Dan Baker, Andy Kruzcynski, John Archibold, Dan McCarthy, Adam Jakubowski and Rich Parkinson.

Your mighty Blue Devils are skating hard and often early in the season. After losing their first two games, they had some ground to make up going into their first tournament.

The first Blue Devil Invitational was held Oct 20-22. It was a four-team tournament hosted by Lawrence Tech at the Southfield Sports Arena. Albion, Alpena, and Northern Kentucky were Lawrence Tech’s competition for the weekend.

The Blue Devils played tough as they won all three of their games in the first two days and advanced to the championship game on Oct. 22. They lost to Alpena and ended the weekend with an impressive 3-1 record as runner-up in our first tournament.

The Lawrence Tech community should come out to watch some exciting college hockey and cheer on the Blue Devils as they battle for a league championship. Home games are played the Southfield Sports Arena, typically on Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $5 for adults and $3 for students.

The next two home games are Saturday, Dec. 2, against Lansing Community College, and Saturday, Dec. 16, against Muskegon Community College. Both start at 7:30 p.m.

Flag Football Coming to an End

Lawrence Tech’s intramural basketball league is in full swing with 10 teams playing Tuesday and Thursday nights for bragging rights as campus champions. Recently some of the league’s best players competed in tournaments at Wayne State University and Kettering University.

Players who have represented Lawrence Tech include these members of the Liberators, last year’s intramural championship team, (L-R) Mike Lawson, Jeremy Hoeruf, Brandon Varilone, Todd Hochstetler, Dave Duckworth, Jon Banks, and Dave Werthman.

 Humanities Happenings

By Betty Stover, Chair
Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Communication

SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW being accepted by the Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Communication (HSSC) for Prism 2007, its annual journal of art and literature. Please contact Joyce Munro (munro@ltu.edu) with questions or for more information.

Representing Lawrence Tech on the hardwood

Lawrence Tech’s intramural basketball league is in full swing with 10 teams playing Tuesday and Thursday nights for bragging rights as campus champions. Recently some of the league’s best players competed in tournaments at Wayne State University and Kettering University. Players who have represented Lawrence Tech include these members of the Liberators, last year’s intramural championship team, (L-R) Mike Lawson, Jeremy Hoeruf, Brandon Varilone, Todd Hochstetler, Dave Duckworth, Jon Banks, and Dave Werthman.

GIVING TREE

The Staff Senate Community Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Giving Tree for the Southfield Goodfellows. Gifts tags to be filed are on the Giving Tree in the atrium of the Buell Management Building.

Gifts can be dropped off at the Giving Tree gathering on Friday, Dec. 8, from noon to 1:30 p.m. There will be hot chocolate and cookies to celebrate the holiday spirit. Contact Martha Thompson (ext. 2518) or Marilyn Hotaling (ext. 3000) if you need to drop off your gift early.