

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

**TO:** University of Michigan-Flint Faculty and Staff  
**FROM:** Jack Kay  
**SUBJECT:** Quarterly Update from Academic Affairs  
**DATE:** 21 April 2009

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that another commencement is almost upon us and you will soon be preparing for the Spring/Summer sessions or for the many projects you have planned for Spring/Summer. I offer my thanks to the entire campus community for the wonderful accomplishments the campus saw this semester. Those of you who participated in the alternate spring breaks, either in Montreal or in Flint, truly touched many lives, including the lives of our students. I will never forget the joy I experienced in Montreal as our faculty, staff, and students truly made a difference in the lives of others and in turn found the experiences to be life-changing. I feel very blessed to have shared those experiences with Professor Matthew Hilton-Watson. His work with students will live forever.

I also thank the many of you who worked so hard to continue excellent progress on general education reform. The members of the General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee, under the capable leadership of Professor Michael Pardales, have made excellent progress. I was delighted to read the “momentous news” that each of our academic units “has approved the redesign and implementation plan put forth by GECAC” and that our new general education curriculum formally begins in fall of 2010. There is certainly much more to do, but we have made wonderful progress. Thank you.

Special thanks go to the many faculty and staff who made the Inauguration of Chancellor Person a wonderful event that was warmly received by the entire campus community. I heard many nice words said about the ceremony. We were all proud of the wonderful performance by our Music Department students. In the words of Chancellor Person, let’s “compete, convene, and connect.”

*Jack*

**In Fond Memory and Honor.** The entire community was saddened to learn about the death of Associate Professor of Foreign Languages **Matthew Hilton-Watson** who died on March 16, 2009. Professor Hilton-Watson joined the faculty of the University of Michigan-Flint in 1999. Words cannot fully describe what Professor Hilton-Watson meant to his students. His enthusiasm, passion, and love of knowledge were infectious and inspiring. He left a high impact on everyone that knew him and he will be dearly missed. As we mourn the loss of this great scholar, teacher, and friend, our condolences go to his wife, Sarah, and their two children, Alexander and Catherine.

Former Director of Research and Professor of Biology **David L. Wigston** passed away on December 30, 2008. He joined the University in 1996 and during parts of his tenure as Director of Research, he concurrently served as Acting Dean of Graduate Programs and Director of the Master’s of Public Administration Program. Professor Wigston fostered a wide variety of faculty development opportunities for our junior and senior

faculty alike and hosted some of the first Meeting of Minds Conferences on the Flint campus. Professor Wigston has been recognized for his scholarship and teaching by being named Eminent Visiting Ecologist at Michigan State University, Eminent Guest Lecturer in Biology at the University of Toronto, and Bell Fellow of the American Forest History Society. We continue to miss David and our heart-felt thoughts remain with his wife, Sarah.

## College of Arts and Sciences

**Chemistry and Biochemistry Department** – In February, UM-Flint hosted the “Battle of Chemistry Clubs” where clubs from the University of Detroit Mercy, Saginaw Valley State University, and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor competed. Faculty Advisors *Jessica Tischler* and *Monique Wilhelm* are proud to announce that UM-Flint Chemistry Club won the competition.

**Communication and Visual Arts Department** – A summary of Speech and Debate Team Activities for 2008-09 include the team completing six regional tournaments through the end of January, in both debate and individual events. The competitive travel schedule continues through winter semester including several national level tournaments. Our awards to date include:

- Oberlin College Tournament: Brian Farnham and Jennifer Profitt - Fourth Place in duo interpretation.
- Loyola College Tournament: Warren McClure - Third Place and Aaron Keel - Seventh Place novice debate speaker.
- Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League Fall Tournament at Delta College: Alex Derderian - Fourth Place debate speaker and Brian Farnham and Jennifer Profitt - Second Place in duo interpretation.
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor Tournament: Brian Farnham - Second Place in dramatic interpretation and Sixth Place in prose interpretation.

In addition to congratulations to our Speech and Debate Team, accolades are in order for the following students who participated in this year’s ADDY’s, the advertising industry’s largest and most unique competition hosted by the American Advertising Federation (AAF). The local ADDY’s is the first of a three-tier, national competition and was held in February. Gold medal winners automatically move on to the regional ADDY awards. Faculty Darryl Baird, Janet Lorch, and Jennifer Weaver provide the results of the student participants below:

- ❖ David Garcia (*Communications*) – (2) Silver Awards
- ❖ Joyce ElHayek (*Visual Communications*) – (1) Silver and (1) Gold
- ❖ Keri Larange (*Visual Communications*) – (1) Silver
- ❖ Bill Alverson (*Visual Communications*) – (1) Silver
- ❖ Lindsey Maples (*Visual Communications*) – (1) Silver
- ❖ Drew Smith (*Visual Communications, for work completed at Mott*) – (1) Silver

In addition to the students, faculty members *Chuck Apple* and *Marcus Paroske* are called upon from time to time to provide numerous appearances for TV-12 and other media for their expertise in areas such as the presidential debates, various City of Flint issues, etc.

**Foreign Languages Department** – Through the Sister Cities of Flint, **Paul O’Donnell** has been working with a group of Peruvian-Americans to establish a “friendship city” relationship between Trujillo

and Flint and bilateral relations between the National University of Trujillo (Peru) and the University of Michigan-Flint. Paul has been the *de facto* liaison to the Major's Office for Sister Cities of Flint. Although the work is community-related, the hope is that development of relations may increase international enrollment of Peruvian students at UM-Flint and/or provide an additional overseas study destination for our students.

In addition, Foreign Languages report that enrollment is soaring: Japanese is up 81.5%, Arabic is up 33%, French is up 58%, Russian is up 16.7%, and Spanish is up 9.3%.

**Mathematics Department** – In a recent edition of the *New York Times*, one of our actuarial math graduates was recently quoted [the article concerns better ways of determining what football teams should be chosen for college bowl games]:

There is, most people agree, a better way. In a paper co-authored with **Madhur Lamsal** [UM-Flint graduate] and published last spring in *The Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, Brady T. West, a doctoral student in survey methodology at the University of Michigan, conceived a playoff system with the teams selected by criteria that include scoring margin, offensive yardage, first downs a game, defensive yardage yielded a game and a half-dozen other quantifiable statistics, some not unlike the statistics used in the B.C.S. computer rankings. But the goal, West said, is to have a real tournament. Utah, which thumped Alabama on Friday, would agree.

The Forty-Second Annual Math Field Day was held on February 24 with 175 high school students representing 35 Michigan schools and competed in eight different team and individual mathematical events composed, administered, and graded by the Mathematics Department, its students, and guests.

**Philosophy Department** – Faculty Research: Oaklander, Nathan co-edited with Magalhães, Ernâni. *Presentism: Essential Readings*, accepted for publication by Lexington Books, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

**Sociology Department** – Congratulations goes to **Heather Laube**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, and the recipient of the Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) Faculty Community Service-Learning Award. The annual award and the highest MCC bestows on faculty in the State of Michigan, recognizes a recipient's influence on students to be engaged in community service or service-learning through modeling, influencing, and instruction. Heather was recently honored at MCC's 2009 Service-Learning and Community Service Awards Ceremony in Grand Rapids.

#### School of Education and Human Services

**Education Department** – is working hard on a redesign of the undergraduate teacher preparation programs as well as NCATE Accreditation. On February 25, the SEHS Alumni Affiliate hosted the Summit on Community Response to Urban Youth. Community-University collaboration was achieved by Dean Chandler and faculty members Rose Casement and Tyrone Croom presented at the conference. Participation by nearly 50 professionals from the community assured the conference goal of "focusing on enhancing and enriching the quality of life for the youth in Genesee County" was met. Other faculty work includes:

- **Pat Gallant** has published her article, "Too Much, Too Soon, Too Fast! Kindergarten Teachers Speak Out!," in *Reading Horizons*, as well as two other articles in press and several conference presentations this academic year.
- **Li-Hsuan Yang** published an article entitled, "Lighting the Way Through Scientific Discourse," in *Science Teacher*.

- **Suzanne Knezek** has made four conference presentations this academic year including, "Reading Beyond Themselves: Pre-service Teachers Response to Multicultural Texts," presented at the annual meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English.
- **Judith Ableser**, as of January, was appointed Director of Graduate Programs in Education. In addition to overseeing the existing graduate programs, she will focus on developing and implementing new programs. Development includes a cohort partnership with the MPA Educational Leadership program and a future Educational Specialist program. Judith is also an associate professor and the area coordinator of the special education graduate program.

**Social Work Department** – as it prepares for the upcoming reaffirmation visit from the Council on Social Work Education, they have also revised its curriculum from a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work to a Bachelor of Social Work degree. The Department has also created a new minor in Crisis Intervention and Community Disaster Response and is preparing the courses in the Substance Abuse Treatment minor to be offered fully online. Faculty work include:

- **Denise Dedman** and **Jackie Harvey** presented, along with Betsy Voshel of the Ann Arbor social work program, a roundtable at the Council on Social Work Education National Conference in Philadelphia which showcased a pilot project for online training of internship field instructors.
- **Denise Dedman** and **Kathleen Woehrle** presented a workshop on teaching systems theory at the Baccalaureate Program Director's Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, in March.
- **Denise Dedman** assisted Student Services and Enrollment Management in the preparation of a U.S. Department of Education grant proposal, "Strong Enough to Walk Away: A Cognitive Behavioral Program Focusing on Creating a Positive Peer Culture to Prevent Violent Behavior Among College Students."

**Early Childhood Education Department** –

- **Aviva Dorfman** published a paper, "The Problem of Models and Modeling: One Teacher's Solution," in *Networks*, an online journal for teacher research. She presented papers at Michigan Academy of Higher Education, provided professional development for the Genesee County Child Care Directors Association in Flint and Tri-County Head Start, and she continues to work with the UM-Flint staff by leading a Teaching Circle to develop portfolio assessment.
- **Linda Pickett** published a paper, "Integrated Schools in Northern Ireland: Education for Peace and Reconciliation," in *Childhood Education*, Diversity Committee Columns and newsletters for Association for Childhood Education International. She also presented papers at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, American Educational Research Association, and the Association for Childhood Education International. Northern Ireland student teachers joined India student teachers to share their experiences during a presentation on February 18.

#### School of Health Professions and Studies

Two new members were welcomed to the Advisory Board – **Dr. Edwin Gulletson**, Vice President of Medical Affairs at McLaren Hospital and **Dr. Bobby Mukkamala**, EENT who works from all three hospitals in Flint. We are grateful to have their expertise. Please welcome **Ms. Ann Kuhl-Roy** as Director of Operations for the Urban Health and Wellness Center. Ann began work on February 23. SHPS submitted three proposals to be considered for funding under the stimulus package expected by the Governor. The proposals include the expansion of three current programs and the creation of five new programs. Since the proposals needed to be written in one and a half days, it was an exciting two days and the conference room looked like a war room, but the experience was challenging and worthwhile. We are hopeful that some of these programs will be funded.

**Department of Nursing** – Master of Science Nursing (MSN) students are representing University of Michigan-Flint in the following ways:

- Three first year MSN students had a paper accepted for publication as a result of a new course requirement from Dr. Krywko's Pathophysiology class.
- Two groups of MSN students are presenting posters with faculty at the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners in June 2009.
- One MSN student has a research poster that has been accepted at the Midwest Nursing Research Society in March 2009.
- One MSN student submitted her research to Sigma Theta Tau International for possible presentation.

Nursing Majors spent Spring break engaged in Service Learning Projects in the Dominican Republic and Kenya.

- For the past 13 years **Maureen Tippen** has been taking nursing majors to the Dominican Republic in partnership with the Midwest Medical Mission, a non-profit volunteer organization comprised of physician-nurse medical and surgical teams. This year Maureen and three students traveled to San Pedro and spent 8 days providing health care services in clinics in the sugar cane villages and surgeries in a public hospital. In addition to their professional expertise, the volunteers brought medical equipment and supplies, including donated items obtained by students as part of a community-wide appeal.
- **Linda Knecht, Rose Luster Turner**, and five nursing majors spent Spring break engaged in primary health care and health education activities at Saint Mary's Mission Hospital in Nairobi as part of a student-faculty exchange program that began last year with a faculty exchange. Although the student exchange is funded, in part, through the generosity of a donor, the faculty and students spent many weeks prior to the trip gathering donations such as medical equipment, supplies and, educational materials. The students at Holy Family School in Grand Blanc have enthusiastically "adopted" St. Mary's Hospital and the UM-Flint nursing team that traveled to Kenya.
- **Connie Creech** and **Marilyn McFarland**, along with their Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain Research Group (5 nursing students), have initiated a study of the treatment modalities used with patients in an underserved population with chronic musculoskeletal pain. They will be conducting this research through the UHWC.

### **Health Sciences & Administration**

- The **Radiation Therapy Program** held its inaugural induction of the Delta Chapter of the Lambda Nu Honor Society for the Radiological Sciences on February 2. The Program inducted 11 members into the society at an event in the White Building where family and friends gathered to watch their students being honored. Provost Jack Kay was the keynote speaker for the event. Kelly Brown is the Radiation Therapy Program Director.
- **Health Education** – Under the supervision of **Professor Rie Suzuki**, undergraduate research assistant Linda Jackson will develop health promotion materials that identify barriers that discourage preventive screenings for women with disabilities in Genesee County. She will present this material at the 17th Annual Meeting of Minds Conference in Dearborn on May 15, 2009. Professor Suzuki's will lead a poster presentation "Barriers and Facilitators in Access to Primary Health Care Among People With Disabilities" at the American Public Health Association Meeting, November 2008. The abstract is to appear in the *Disability and Health Journal*, 2008. Professor Suzuki has been selected as a reviewer for Public Affairs in Health published by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

- **Professor Arlesia Mathis** passed the National Board of Public Health Examiners examination to become Board Certified in Public Health (one of only 500 in the nation). She presented on the following:

“Can Private Providers Improve the Public’s Health: Examining the Effects of Outsourcing on Post Neonatal Mortality, NIH Summit: The Science of Eliminating Health Disparities,” Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland, December 2008.

“Examining the Effects of Outsourcing on Primary Care Access in Florida,” The Fifth International Conference on Health Care Systems, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 2008.

“Eliminating Disparities in Access to Primary Care,” Poster Presentation, Florida Minority Health Summit 2008 (Bridging the Gap: Embracing Solutions to Eliminate Health Barriers) Grand Hyatt-Tampa Bay, Tampa, Florida, August 2008.

“Examining the Effects of Outsourcing on Primary Care Access in Florida, World Neighbors Sharing Strategies to Transform Healthcare,” Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Health Care Systems, pp 216-222.

### School of Management

In January, **Bill Sheng**, Visiting Associate Professor, was welcomed to our school from Tamkang University in Taiwan. Dr. Sheng will be here until this August. A new television series has begun in conjunction with Michigan Public Television, entitled: “The New Deal.” The first lecture, filmed January 13, included our Entrepreneur-in-Residence, **Michael Witt** and **Patrick Morand**, Managing Director of the Southwest Michigan Life Science Fund. On February 6, the Dean’s Speaker Series brought **Daniel Wiechec** to campus. Mr. Wiechec is the General Director of Global Automotive Audit, General Motors. Faculty updates include:

- **Tom Hemphill** published “The Telecommunications and Information Industries: U.S. Patent Policy and the Criteria of Non-Obviousness,” “Technology Standards-Setting in the U.S. Wireless Telecommunications Industry: A Study of Three Generations of Digital Standards Development,” “American Business and the New Social Regulation,” and “U.S. Pharmacists, Pharmacies, and Emergency Contraception: Walking the Business Ethics Tightrope.”
- **Keith Moreland** was featured on ABC12 News and TV5 in several interviews.
- **Mark Perry** appeared on ABC12 News and Minnesota Public Radio. He was also featured in *Investor’s Business Daily*, *The Michigan Daily*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, *New York Times*, *Saturday’s Globe and Mail* (Canada), *thereason.com* Stimulus Symposium and *USA Today*.
- **Yener Kandogan** published “Immigrants, Cross-Cultural Literacy and Export Performance: The Swiss Case.”

### Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Programs

#### Office of Research

**eResearch Update** – A new version of eResearch (2.0) the web-based regulatory management system (eRRM) that centralizes the review and approval process for human subjects research applications for the entire University of Michigan system, was released in March. The update incorporates numerous recommendations for making the system simpler and more user-friendly. The new system will be particularly helpful for exempt and not regulated projects – reducing the number of questions by as many as 60. eResearch will also soon expand to include proposal management (eRPM) for the electronic routing, approval, and submission of funding proposals to external sponsors, including Grants.gov. This

will replace the current Proposal Approval Form (PAF) paper process. Please watch for email announcements and training opportunities. More at: <http://www.eresearch.umich.edu>

**The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Minds Undergraduate Research Conference (MOM)** will be held on Friday, May 15, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Since it began in 1993, the MOM Conference has provided a forum for the sharing and publication of undergraduate student research. The conference; which involves students from our campus, the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Oakland University, has grown to be a great opportunity for students who either wish to present their work or get an idea on what type of research is being conducted at the undergraduate level. More at: <http://www.umd.umich.edu/meetingofminds>.

### Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Undergraduate Admissions saw a significant increase in enrollment for the winter semester of 7.2% and preliminary numbers look good for spring/summer. In terms of fall, we remain cautiously optimistic. Although we are up in applications and admits, we are down slightly in enrollment deposits. We have denied admission to 62 students – 27 more than this time last year (representing a 77% increase in denies over last year). In addition, we have waitlisted 220 FTIAC pending updated grades and/or ACT scores. These 220 will most likely be denied admission and will hopefully enroll as transfers at a later time. We are taking aggressive steps to bring in a healthy class, although much uncertainty remains. The UG Admissions March update included a list of scheduled visits and events.

**New Staff** – We are excited to announce that two new counselors have joined the team: Michel Valkoun and Tera Freeman. Tera has over four years of focused admission experience having worked at both the University of Phoenix and Kettering University. Tera is also a UM Ann Arbor graduate. Michel is a UM-Flint alumni with local ties. Michel is a Powers Catholic HS graduate and interned in our office this past fall.

**Zinch** – We recently signed an agreement with Zinch™ to secure leads. Zinch is an interactive community of high school students and colleges. Any high school student in the world, free of charge, can create a comprehensive online profile to help optimize their exposure in the college recruitment process. Students actively engage in the college admissions process by sharing information with prospective colleges through their social medium, the Web.

**Veterans** – We will be making veterans recruitment a more prominent part of our recruitment plans. The number of veterans pursuing higher education after completing service is on the rise, and is expected to explode in the coming years, thanks to the new and very generous Post 9/11 G.I. Bill ([www.gibill.va.gov/S22/Post\\_911\\_Factsheet.pdf](http://www.gibill.va.gov/S22/Post_911_Factsheet.pdf)), which goes into effect in August 2009. Stay tuned for more details.

### University Outreach

**LAUNCH** received over \$130,000 in grant funds from three sources (the Michigan Initiative for Innovation and Entrepreneurship-MIIE, the Michigan Universities commercialization Initiative-MUCI, and the C.S. Mott Foundation) to support the LAUNCH PAD Student Business Hatchery. Currently there are 6 student businesses housed in the LAUNCH PAD Student Business Hatchery. There are an additional 10 student businesses that received support services from LAUNCH as part of the hatchery program.

In May 2009 (date to be announced) LAUNCH will co-host an Elevator Pitch Contest for all College Town Flint students (students from UM-Flint, Kettering, Mott Community College, and Baker College). The

event will be held in the C.S. Mott Building, on the actual elevator. Students will learn how to develop a pitch for their businesses that can be presented in an elevator (giving them only enough time to concisely engage an investor or partner).

LAUNCH is offering two internship programs this Spring – the Entrepreneur Internship Program is being offered in partnership with MSU, CMU, and SVSU and will offer up to eight internships to students from any of the four partnership schools to be placed with new start-ups/entrepreneurs in mid-Michigan; and, the Economic Development Internship Program is for UM-Flint students only and will place 4-6 students in Economic Development Agencies in the Flint area.

**The Center for Civic Engagement (CCE)** supported nearly 70 students who chose to spend their Spring Break at home doing service in Flint. Students worked collectively to clean over 10 abandoned or foreclosed homes for the Genesee County Land Bank and helped afterschool programs for middle school children at Washington and Hamady Middle Schools. Students celebrated and reflected by visiting similar and unique projects in Detroit.

The Center for Civic Engagement (CCE), with the assistance and expertise of **Marcus Paroske** is hosting a new series *The Times Talks* discussion group which will meet on Mondays from 1:30-2:30 in 329 French Hall. The campus community is invited to join Dr. Paroske and CCE Program Coordinator, Gary Ashley for a free copy of *The New York Times*, refreshments and compelling discussion. Please encourage your students to attend. CCE can provide verification of student attendance for faculty members who wish to make attendance part of a course. Dr. Paroske welcomes all faculty to join him in leading a discussion session.

**The American Democracy Project (ADP)** held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Civic Skills Conference in November in coordination with the Community Challenge Partners with funding support from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint with over 130 participants (57 youth and over 70 college students and adult community members) in attendance. The goal of the Annual Civic Skills Conference is to bring together youth, college students, and community members to participate in civic skill building and networking. The intention is to build the capacity of our community to be engaged and to develop and employ solutions that are designed for the community by the community. The theme for this year was collaboration. Intergenerational and regional partnerships were promoted and fostered in effort to focus on our shared goal of a prosperous future for Genesee County. Presenters included: **Chris Waters, David Lossing, Joel Rash, Mona Younis, Gary Ashley, Heather Laube, Jonathan Jarosz, and Marcus Paroske.**

There was also a two-hour session titled “Box City”. This session brought people together around the concept of creating the “perfect city” out of cardboard boxes. Teams were given the assignment of creating the perfect city with specific resources and specific challenges and assets. The participants found it very rewarding and learned a great deal about governmental structure, planning intent, and community through this process.

There was a key note address during the lunch hour of the conference. The speakers included Ashley Atkinson, Director of Project Development and Urban Agriculture for the Greening of Detroit and Erin Caudle, Outreach Program Coordinator for the Ruth Mott Foundation’s Applewood Estate.

**The ADP-POV Film Series** has seen continued success this academic year. Each film showing and discussion has attracted over 70 faculty, staff, and students. **Dr. Peggy Kahn** serves as the committee chair for ADP-POV. Several faculty members have served as discussion leaders and facilitators including **Professors Rudy Hernandez, Heather Laube, Sapna Vyas, Janet Haley, Linda Pickett, and Denise Dedman.** The last POV Film for this academic year, *Boys of Baraka*, was held on March 17 at noon.

**The Center for Applied Environmental Research coordinated Streetscape Intervention: A celebration of Flint's Green Spaces, 2008 Park(ing) Day Downtown Flint (Green Arts)** Check out a short video at [www.youtube.com/universityoutreach](http://www.youtube.com/universityoutreach)! And check out photos at [www.flickr.com/photos/umflintoutreach](http://www.flickr.com/photos/umflintoutreach). Click on the Park(ing) Day set to access the images. UM Flint Student David (Antonio) Garcia recently won an ADDY for the work that he did on the Park(ing) Day video.

In late September, the Green Arts Project at the UM-Flint teamed up with local landscape architects and artists to participate in National Park(ing) Day. About 150 people walked, cycled and jogged through the four Park(ing) Day mini-park installations in Downtown Flint on Friday, Sept. 19. Participants learned about recreation spaces within the City of Flint, and enjoyed the street theatre and art installations while celebrating what is unique to our city.

Park(ing) Day was coordinated by the **Green Arts Project**, which is managed by **University Outreach** at the University of Michigan-Flint and funded by a grant from the **Ruth Mott Foundation**. UM-Flint University Outreach teamed up with **Gould Engineering**, **Cyclefit**, and **The Good Beans Café**, which offered free refreshments. **Rowe Engineering, Inc.**, **Flint Institute of Arts**, **Keep Genesee County Beautiful**, and **Applewood** collaborated on another site. **Wade-Trim** hosted its own site as did **Salem Housing**. **UM-Flint students** from **Tony McGill's COM 428**, a Senior Seminar in Communication, through a program through University Outreach's **Center for Civic Engagement**. They volunteered service learning hours to help with the UM-Flint site, the Salem Housing site and especially the ambitious Wade-Trim site.

**2009 Regional Trails and Greenways Summit (Greenlinks)** – The 2009 Trail and Greenway Summit was held on our campus on Thursday last week. There were 250 participants, representing 12 counties, and all sectors, including state and federal governmental offices. CAER's partner for this event was the Genesee County Planning Commission. This was the first time to our campus for well over half of the attendees.

Topics at the breakout sessions ranged from partnering for success, legal issues, volunteer recruitment, trail and business development, etc. Overall the summit received rave reviews. A number of folks, especially those from the DNR and MDOT commented that it could easily be expanded to be a statewide conference and encouraged the university to continue its leadership role. CAER is already planning the 2010 conference with partners at the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (keeping our fingers crossed that foundation support is still there to sponsor the event).

**Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative** – CAER received word at the end of February that a planning grant to the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust focused on place-based learning in collaboration with the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative was funded (20K for Feb-June 2009). This is a first time grant for us from that funding source, and sets the stage for a multi-tiered collaborative effort between community schools and UM-Flint. The Genesee County Land Bank and the Michigan Nature Association are committed partners for this project. Faculty members from the following departments have expressed an interest in engaging in this planning process: Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, Biology, and Education.

**Saginaw Bay RC&D** – The Center for Applied Environmental Research (CAER) recently received an award for “**its contributions to the quality of life in the Saginaw Bay Watershed**” from the Saginaw Bay RC&D (Resource, Conservation and Development). The award was given for the work that Jonathan Jarosz, Assistant Director of University Outreach and Sara McDonnell, Project Coordinator for CAER have been doing with Frankenmuth focused on the Cass River and the work that Lindsay Stoddard, CAER Multimedia Specialist did to help develop a graphic identity (logo and use standards) through the Greenlinks Project (funded by the Ruth Mott Foundation).

The Saginaw Bay RC& D is located in the middle eastern part of lower Michigan. The counties it covers include: [Arenac](#), [Bay](#), [Clare](#), [Genesee](#), [Gladwin](#), [Gratiot](#), [Huron](#), [Isabella](#), [Lapeer](#), [Livingston](#), [Midland](#), [Saginaw](#), [Sanilac](#), [Shiawassee](#), and [Tuscola](#). RC&D is a partnership between the Federal government and a local nonprofit organization led by local community leaders.

**Flint River Corridor Alliance** – Also at the end of February 2009, UM-Flint through University Outreach hosted the Flint River Corridor Alliance 2nd Annual Community Gathering. It was a great success with approximately 162 in attendance including City of Flint Interim Mayor Michael Brown. The focus of the gathering was on creating a new narrative for the City of Flint and the Flint River focused on change, creativity, and innovation.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual **Super Science Friday** Event will be held on May 15, 2009. There will be over 30 faculty and student-led workshops to accommodate the 800 students we are expecting to visit campus this year. Super Science Friday 2009 will feature a very special keynote speaker, Anousheh Ansari, the 1st Private Space Explorer and 1st Space Ambassador. To learn more about Anousheh, visit [www.anoushehansari.com](http://www.anoushehansari.com).

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