

# School candidates answer tough questions

## MSU's 4 hopefuls look at charter schools, tuition hikes, interviews

### MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CANDIDATES

**• Democrats**  
Robert Weiss, 57, Grand Blanc, incumbent trustee and board chair. Former Genesee County prosecutor.  
Joel Ferguson, 57, Lansing, real estate developer. Served on MSU board 1987-94. Prominent in Democratic Party.

**• Republicans**  
David Porteous, 43, Reed City, incumbent trustee (by appointment). Attorney; served on Gov. Engler's 1990 transition team.  
Colleen Pero, 41, East Lansing. Attorney; former top Engler aide, active in governor's campaigns.

**• MSU**  
Located in East Lansing and has six outreach offices and the Agricultural Extension Service. Has 41,000 students, 75 percent undergraduates. Nation's first land-grant college; now classified as a research institution. Board sets budget (nearly \$1 billion) and hires president. Voters will pick two persons for eight-year terms. Board has four Democrats, four Republicans.

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

Candidates for trustees of

Michigan State University disagree on charter schools and whether MSU has done enough to hold down tuition for the middle class.

Most favor open meetings except when it comes to interviewing candidates for president. The four answered questions at a Sept. 26 forum sponsored by the Livonia branch of the American Association of University Women.

### Charter schools

They were asked by moderator Yvonne Conatas why MSU hasn't joined Central Michigan University in the parade to issue charters to public school districts.

David Porteous (R), incumbent, called Michigan "a leader in charter schools" and said MSU should charter agricultural high schools because many local school districts have ended agricultural offerings. "We have a long partnership with agriculture," he said.

Joel Ferguson (D) said he's "opposed to charter schools across the board. We should strengthen public schools."

Colleen Pero (R) supports charter schools. "They can

enhance public education. Charter schools will force public schools to be the best they can be."

Robert Weiss (D), incumbent, is "opposed to charter schools that are not under a local (K-12) system with an elected board. Charter schools will try to take the cream (good students) off the top. We need better public education, and charter schools are not conducive to that."

### Tuition hikes

Candidates were asked about years of tuition increases that have exceeded inflation.

Pero (R): "Tuition is up  
See MSU, A16

## WSU's 4 contenders take on open interviews, faculty teaching...

### WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY CANDIDATES

**• Democrats**  
Murray Jackson, 69, Detroit, incumbent. Retired University of Michigan professor of education.

Annetta Miller, 75, Huntington Woods. Served three terms (24 years) on State Board of Education.

**• Republicans**  
Vernice Davis Anthony, 51, Farmington Hills. Incumbent (by appointment of Gov. Engler). Vice president of St. John Health System; former director of state and Wayne County health departments.

Dr. Paul Fecko, 62, Bloomfield Hills. Ophthalmologist; former chemical engineer with master of

business administration degree.

**• Wayne State**

Located in Detroit with several extensions. It is considered a research university and has many professional schools. The eight-member board adopts a budget of \$500 million, sets tuition for 33,000 students and hires the president.

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

Candidates for Wayne State University's board differ on holding open interviews for a president, but agree that quality teaching and the low tuition are priorities for urban higher education.

They also see "no problem" at

WSU in exposing undergraduates students to top professors.

Candidates appeared Sept. 26 at a forum sponsored by the Livonia branch of the American Association of University Women.

Although President David Adamany has been at WSU since the early 1980s and there's little prospect of his leaving before retirement, it is known that Adamany has been considered for other jobs.

### Open interviews

So moderator Yvonne Conatas asked their views on the Open Meetings Act, which requires

See WSU, A15

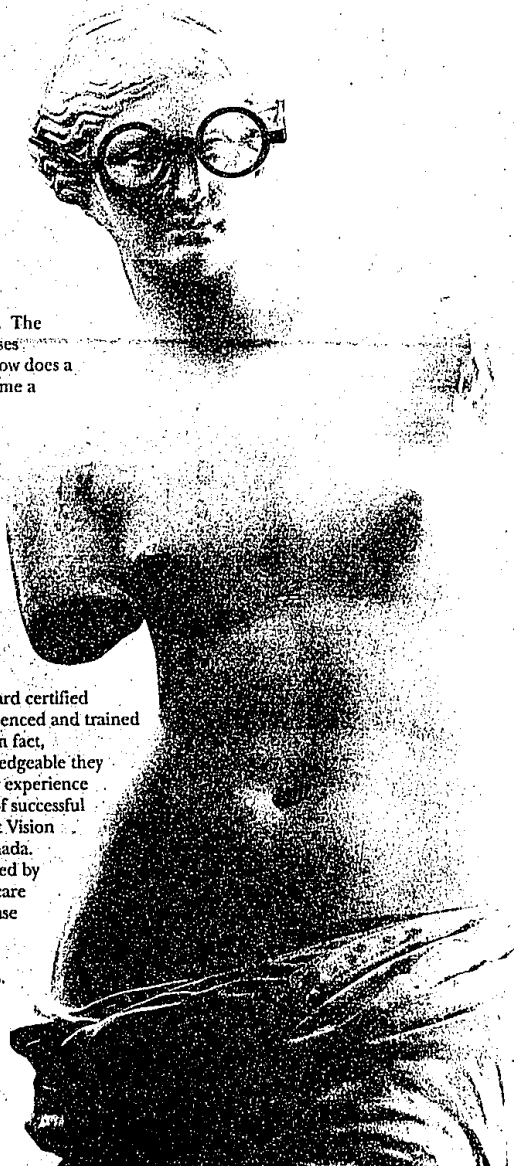
## Specs aren't sexy.

Starting today,  
you could be  
free of glasses  
or contacts.

Look through magazines. The only models wearing glasses are in glasses ads. And how does a mild mannered guy become a superhero? Off with the glasses! Which is too bad because so many of us have to wear them. Until now.

Introducing Laser Vision Sculpting. The smartest way to correct nearsightedness. The smartest not because we use the latest, fastest, virtually painless laser technology — smart because our board certified doctors are highly experienced and trained in this new procedure. In fact, our doctors are so knowledgeable they train other doctors using experience gained from thousands of successful procedures performed at Vision Sculpting Centers in Canada. It's a difference recognized by highly respected health care systems who exclusively use The Laser Sculpting Center to correct their patients' nearsightedness.

Call our Troy office toll free at 1-(888)-2-C-CLEAR for a complimentary consultation and lose those frumpy glasses.



## LASER VISION SCULPTING

Our Doctors Make Our Lasers Smarter.

1-(888)-2-C-CLEAR

## Shopping for Blinds & Wallpaper?

Look no further for the largest selection and lowest price...guaranteed!

Visit the 20,000 sq. ft. Factory Showroom Outlet!  
Over 1,000 Blinds on Display and Over 3,000 Special Order Wallpaper Books on Hand!

Best Price Best Service! Save up to **82% Off!**

We Beat All Competitor Prices!

ALL-1ST QUALITY NATIONAL BRANDS INCLUDING HUNTER DOUGLAS, LEXLOR, GRABER, BAL, HIRSCH, DLETTE, ALL WALLPAPER BOOKS & MORE!

**American Blind and Wallpaper Factory**  
**1-800-735-5300**  
If you can't visit, call for a price quote or a FREE Blind Sample Kit.  
Ask About No Payments for 90 Days!

Showroom located at 909 N. Sheldon Rd. in Plymouth  
For employment opportunities call 313-201-5855

## Eyesight Changes



### Protect Your Vision. Protect Your Sight.

Your Optometrist, your primary eye care provider, is uniquely qualified to care for the visual needs of you and your family.

**American Optometric Association**

### Metropolitan Detroit Optometric Society Membership Directory

<b>BIRMINGHAM</b> Ray A. Salerno, O.D. 810-644-0644	<b>DEARBORN</b> Bilano Eyecare P.L.L.C. 313-581-6997	<b>TAYLOR</b> John Corbett, O.D. 313-466-9572
<b>CLINTON TOWNSHIP</b> D. William Lakin, O.D. Fred L. Von Quanten, O.D. David A. Dzwinski, O.D. Mark S. White, O.D. 810-253-9706	<b>EASTPOINTE</b> D. William Lakin, O.D. Fred L. Von Quanten, O.D. David A. Dzwinski, O.D. Mark S. White, O.D. 810-779-4200	<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> John C. Poggione, O.D. 810-777-0000
		Ray A. Salerno, O.D. 810-751-0400