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Dr. Charles J. Flora
is Named New
President of Western

Dr. Charles J. Flora was named president of Western Washington State College by the college Board of Trustees in late March. A member of Western’s faculty for eleven years, Dr. Flora had been interim president since June, 1967, replacing Dr. Harvey C. Bunke.

Flora began his career at Western in 1957 as an assistant professor of zoology. He was promoted to associate professor in 1961 and in 1964 to professor, specializing in marine invertebrate zoology.

In 1963, he was awarded the Golden Mike Trophy, a national award, for a television series entitled “Tide Pool Critters” aimed at youngsters and aired over KVOS-TV in Bellingham. The series, about marine life of northern Puget Sound beaches, was judged the best local television program in the interest of youth.

He has also carried out a four-year study of glaciers in the Pacific Northwest and an exhaustive three-year study of Lake Whatcom. The latter project led to establishment of the Institute for Fresh Water Studies on the WWSC campus.

Dr. Flora is the author of The Sound and the Sea, a textbook which has become the major reference work on West Coast seashore life. The book was originally published in 1962 and is now in its second edition.

In 1965, he was named academic dean at Western. Governor Dan Evans recently appointed him to the Washington State Higher Education Facilities Commission.

Upon being named president, Dr. Flora commented, “There can be no greater honor for me than to be president of Western Washington State College. Though we came ten years ago with the intention of staying only one year, my family and I were soon enchanted with the area and the college—so filled with vitality and the desire for excellence—that I came to the conclusion I was going to be a Western ‘lifer.’"

Dr. Flora stated that he faces the role of president with some trepidation. “Were Western a feeble institution, such that any change might be for the good, the task would be less frightening. But such is not the case. This college is robust—its programs are strong and imaginative; its faculty and administration bright, articulate and involved; its governing board enlightened.

“To become president of such a place is frightening because one is aware that so easily much harm can be done. By the same token, such strength can lead Western far toward its distinguished destiny.

“I am thankful for the trust placed in me. It shall be my task to see that this trust is not misplaced."

Dr. Flora, Western’s eighth president, feels the college is one of the strongest state colleges and is “destined to become a very fine university.” He added, however, that it should not become a massive “multiversity” but that development of the cluster college concept should continue and the traditional emphasis upon fine teaching should remain characteristic.

Fairhaven, the first cluster college, is scheduled to open in temporary quarters next year. It is a semi-autonomous, liberal arts college. Western is attempting to avoid ills inherent in bigness, such as student anonymity, by breaking the campus into smaller units.

Dr. Flora sees Western developing as many as seven of these cluster colleges in the next decade. He also predicts the school will have developed a doctoral program within four to six years.

The strong point of the institution will continue to be teaching, he believes. In teacher education, the curriculum will probably evolve toward teachers receiving a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in a major field, however, and remaining a fifth year to earn their degree in education.

Regarding alumni, Dr. Flora feels WWSC is interested in self-evaluation and development and must have alumni support in these endeavors. “We also will need the help of former graduates in the form of legislative support from time to time,” he said. “It follows, therefore, that we need a healthy, active Alumni Association.”

Dr. Flora was the second interim president at Western in recent years. Dr. Paul Woodring, distinguished service professor of the college, served from July, 1964, until February, 1965, when Dr. Bunke, the seventh WWSC president, was inaugurated.

Other presidents of Western have been: Dr. Edward T. Mathes, 1899-1914; Dr. George W. Nash, 1914-1922; Dr. Dwight Waldo, 1922-1923; Charles H. Fisher, 1923-1939; Dr. William W. Haggard, 1939-1959; and Dr. James Jarrett, 1959-1964.
PROFILE
Terry Shannon, Author
of Children's Books

Terry Shannon, author of 25 books for youngsters, was among a group of 30 alumni who attended an alumni reception in Los Angeles recently. Her books cover a wide variety of subject matter—from desert animals to life under the sea.

Miss Shannon, who lives in Corona Del Mar, Calif., works with illustrator Charles Payzant to produce a series of books, many of them educational, others “reading just for fun.”

Her most recent book is Project Sealab, the story of the U. S. Navy's Man-in-the-Sea program, with photographs of astronaut/aquanaut Scott Carpenter and others at work under the sea. The book includes a forward by Capt. George F. Bond, program director and principal investigator for the Sealab projects.

She also has written stories about Indian life in the Southwest, an Alaskan village, San Francisco’s Chinatown, and science books on transportation, plants, archeology, desert life, sea life, conservation, food supply, and the four seasons.

Three books scheduled for publication soon are The Sea Searchers, Alyeska (about the many faces of Alaska), and Sentinels of our Shores (lights, lightships and buoys).

Miss Shannon's first book, Tyee's Totem Pole, which is set in Southern Alaska and concerns an Indian boy's wish to carve a great Totem Pole, was published in 1955. This book, along with two others on Alaska—Kidlik’s Kayak and A Dog Team for Ongluk—won the Alaska Centennial Literary Award. Three of her books have been Junior Literary Guild Selections.

Miss Shannon also has three “trip books”—to Paris, Mexico and Quebec. The stories are told in English, but are supplemented by French words and phrases for the Paris and Quebec books, Spanish words and phrases for the Mexico book, all with phonetic pronunciations.

Miss Shannon was born and educated in Bellingham. At Western she majored in education and later taught school for a brief time. She moved to Hollywood and became a feature writer and motion picture columnist known for her articles titled “Behind the Scenes.”

She teamed with Payzant, a nationally recognized water colorist in 1955 to produce Tyee's Totem Pole and they have been working as a team since.

An annotated list of her books may be obtained by writing to the Alumni Office at Western Washington State College.

College, Alumni Plan
Variety of Courses in
Continuing Studies

Preliminary discussions between college officials and alumni representatives show a dramatic need for varied, imaginative programs in continuing studies for alumni. Some of the ideas being discussed include boat trips through the San Juan Islands and a summer trip to Alaska.

The college hopes to obtain a boat this spring and expects to begin the San Juan trips in June. These may be offered in a variety of formats, i.e., a marine biologist from the college could accompany a group of alumni and provide instruction—for credit—on Puget Sound sea life. Trips also could be arranged for archeological and geological study. In addition, the college would like to make the boat available to alumni groups who prefer to develop their own excursions.

The Alaska trip is being scheduled for eight days during summer of 1969. An anthropologist, biologist, and historian will accompany the alumni on the trip and will offer lectures, field studies at various points, and other explanatory data on British Columbia and lower Alaska for credit.

Also being discussed are a series of professional and general courses to be offered in various communities throughout the state. Additional information on these and other offerings will be provided at a later date.

All alumni are invited to suggest areas of study or types of instruction they would like to have the college provide. Correspondence should be directed to the Alumni Office at Western.

Third Annual
Alumni Day Is
Set for May 25

Alumni Day initiated two years ago as another way to familiarize alumni with recent campus developments, has been scheduled again this year for Saturday, May 25. The program will include registration and coffee hour, a no-host lunch, campus tours, a general meeting in the afternoon, and a reception and dinner in the evening.

Dr. Charles J. Flora, newly appointed president of Western, will give the main address at the banquet.

Additional details and a reply card will be distributed soon. All alumni are invited to attend.
Organization of Alumni Chapters in Communities Begins

Representatives from the college and local alumni have met in ten areas since October to organize local and regional chapters of the Alumni Association. In nearly all cases, the response by alumni has been enthusiastic, and the drive is continuing to other areas.

So far, organizational meetings have been held in Washington, D.C., where 35 attended, Los Angeles (30), San Francisco (75), Portland (60), Longview-Kelso (35), Wenatchee (18), Yakima (3), Centralia (25), Olympia (36), and Hoquiam (61).

Other visits are being scheduled for Spokane on April 15, Walla Walla on April 16, Tri-Cities on April 16, Ephrata-Moses Lake on April 17, Tacoma on April 18, Bremerton on April 19, Seattle on April 27, Everett on April 17, Vancouver, B.C., and Mount Vernon.

The trips are intended to establish first-hand contact between alumni and the college. Since Dr. Charles J. Flora was named interim president last summer, and more recently was appointed to the presidency, the attitude of the college toward alumni affairs has changed from a passive one to an active one. President Flora, who spoke to the Alumni Board last fall, stressed that the relationship between the college and the alumni is a two-way street: each can mutually help and support the other. The college feels it is obliged to establish and carry out a strong, imaginative program for alumni in continuing education. It also feels it should make available to alumni its general and specialized facilities—the library, the student union, meeting rooms, and others. And it believes that alumni should have a continuing and active voice in the direction the institution is going.

On the other hand, alumni can assist the college in four areas: 1) Planning and evaluation of the curriculum, since by perspective and distance, they are in an excellent position to judge its effectiveness. 2) Student recruitment. The college is constantly seeking to attract the best students in many areas. As the competition for top scholars and performers becomes more acute, alumni will be asked to play an increasingly important role, particularly as the cluster colleges are developed. 3) Legislative support, whereby alumni write state representatives concerning legislation that affects Western. 4) Financial assistance, particularly for student scholarships and loans. With the adoption of a formula to provide scholarships for students in music, drama, art, and athletics, the college’s appeal to greater numbers of students is increased. Yet, money for these scholarships must be available or student interest will quickly decline.

Alumni Response to Fairhaven Appeal Aids in Selection

In response to an appeal from Fairhaven College, alumni contributed nearly 200 names of students who they felt were good candidates for admission as freshmen to Fairhaven. All persons whose names were submitted have been contacted by Fairhaven officials and many of these already have been admitted.

Dr. Charles Harwood, dean of Fairhaven, expressed his thanks to the alumni for their assistance and noted that they “helped tremendously in our determination to select an outstanding group of students for the first class.”

This year, Fairhaven has 13 freshmen on assistantships to assist faculty with planning and development of the Fairhaven curriculum. Next year’s entering freshman class will number about 200, with additional classes to be added in succeeding years.

Fairhaven, the first in a series of cluster colleges planned for Western—and the first in the Western states other than California—is a semi-autonomous, liberal arts college. It will open in temporary quarters next fall, then move to its own campus, southwest of the main campus, in fall, 1969.

The Fairhaven curriculum is nearly complete and will be included under a separate section in the 1968-69 general catalog. Copies will be available to alumni from the Registrar’s Office. A brochure on Fairhaven, stating its philosophy, objectives, types of students it seeks, and other information, also is available by writing Dean Harwood, Fairhaven College, WWSC.

Doctoral Thesis of Dr. Marie Pabst
Published by U of Cal

Dr. Marie B. Pabst, founder of the Geology Department here and a member of the faculty until her death in 1963, was honored recently by publication of her doctoral dissertation. Her paper, The Flora of the Chuckanut Formation of Northwestern Washington, has been published by the University of California Press at Berkeley and is being distributed to interested friends and science laboratories.

Dr. Pabst came to Western in 1948. As the first chairman of the Geology Department, she was vitally concerned with its development. Today the department has nine faculty members and is widely known and respected for its contributions to geological sciences.
Alumni Notes

'10 Miss Katherine Schumaker is doing volunteer work for the National Retired Teachers Association.

'18 Mrs. Henry L. Brokaw and her husband are enjoying their retirement, spending time between Arizona and the coasts of Oregon and Washington.

'25 John A. Thomson, an educator in the Renton School System since 1926, was named winner of the Jaycee Distinguished Service Award.

'28 Holly Tisdale Hopkins is teaching kindergarten at Granite Falls.

'30 Mrs. Esther Vail of Vancouver, Wash., donated copies of two books of which she is the author: Snow King Lookout and Tools of Teaching.

'59 Sandra J. Adams was graduated from Women’s Army Corps Officer Basic Course at Women’s Army Corps Center, Ft. McClellan, Ala. ... Sister Jerolynn Mary, C.H.S., is teaching in St. Hilda’s and St. Hugh’s School in New York, run by the Sisters in the Community of the Holy Spirit, an Episcopal religious order for women ... Oscar Olson is teaching 5th Grade at Parkview School, Bellingham.

'60 Mike Sullivan is Chief Probation Officer of Snohomish County.

'61 W. R. (Bill) Asplund is teaching chemistry and is the Alpine Club advisor at Wenatchee High School. He recently served as chairman of the local alumni meeting held in Wenatchee March 19 ... Donna Thompson is teaching elementary P.E. in the Wheaton (Illinois) Public Schools where she was elected chairman of elementary P.E. teachers. She hopes to visit Western this summer.

'62 Russell Farrell is teaching biology at Bellingham High School, has an M.A. from the University of Oregon.

'63 Mrs. Lois Edwards is teaching Spanish at Sehome High School, Bellingham.

'64 Glen Shagren is teaching in Arlington School District ... Donald M. Cammack is director of bands at Portland University ... Hal Parrott was named Jaycee of the Month at Marysville. He is vice-principal of Marysville Junior High School.

'66 Craig L. Mathison was commissioned as an Army 2nd Lieutenant upon graduation from Armor Officer Candidate School at Fort Knox, Ky. He has been assigned as an armor platoon leader ... Leonard R. Bean was promoted to Army Spec. 5 in Viet Nam and assigned as a clerk in 623rd Quartermasters Company near Cam Ranh Bay ... David Turner was graduated from a VISTA training program in January at the University of Maryland. He will work in Pittsburgh, Pa., with the Allegheny OEO, a project working with Neighborhood Youth Corpsmen. After graduating from WWSC, he attended the Graduate School of Social Work at Fresno State College ... Mrs. Paul Leonard Dexter is an engineer-draftsman with Pacific Northwest Bell in Renton ... Eric M. Schram was promoted to Army Spec. 4 at Fort Hood, Texas, and is serving as motor pool clerk assigned to Headquarters Company and Band, Support Command of the 2nd Armored Division ... Mrs. Diane Haydon is teaching 2nd Grade at Marietta School, Bellingham.

'67 Lawrence A. Lewis is a new member of the Yakima District Staff of the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles. He will handle cases in part of Yakima County and all of Klickitat and Kittitas Counties ... Sandra Churchill is teaching a contemporary class and U. S. history at Washougal ... Mrs. Carol Beatty is teaching 5th Grade in Lynden ... Mrs. Leslie Salkeld is teaching 2nd Grade at Birchwood Elementary School in Bellingham ... Jeanine Primavera is teaching in Port Orchard ... Terranne Lane is teaching science at Sehome High School ... Mrs. Sharon Bornstein is teaching 5th Grade at Parkview Elementary School, Bellingham ... Mrs. Nancy Armstrong and Mrs. Marlene M. Lang are teaching in Burlington ... Thomas Thomas is teaching 3rd Grade at Carl Cozier Elementary School, Bellingham ... Mrs. Margaret Trott is teaching language arts and math at Shuksan Middle School, Bellingham ... Robert L. Conrad was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Air Force upon graduation from OTS at Lackland AFB, Texas. He was assigned to Williams AFB, Ariz., for pilot training ... Mrs. Barbara Ann Luther is teaching English at Whatcom Middle School ... Mrs. Jacquelyn Bauer is teaching 3rd Grade at Columbia Elementary School, Bellingham ... Mrs. Priscilla Higbee is teaching 4th Grade in Lynden ... Frank Gonzales is teaching English at Sehome High School ... Mrs. Gail Aarstol is a teacher-therapist in the auditory program at Alderwood School ... Douglas C. Schaill is assigned as a medic in Headquarters Co., 2nd Battalion of the 7th Infantry Division’s 31st Infantry at Camp Casey, Korea ... Robert L. Windus has completed an eight-week preparatory course at the Army Artillery and Missile Center, Fort Sill, Okla. ... Robert L. Baxter III, helped his organization at Offutt AFB, Neb., earn the U. S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. He is a data programming specialist ... Lester Galley is teaching English and P.E. at Sehome High School ... Mrs. Jeanne Chadwick is teaching 2nd Grade at Columbia School, Bellingham.
MOVED RECENTLY?

Does the Alumni Office have your current address? If not, please complete the form below and return it to the Alumni Office, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, Washington 98225. The Alumni Association and the College are developing many new and exciting programs for alumni and we are certain you will want to continue hearing about them.

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