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Alumni Association, WWSC
Rustle of spring on the edge of Red Square on Western’s campus.
New course could offer students edge in job market

Though college seniors may have mastered their academic specialties, they are often ill-prepared for the job hunts and interviews which come after graduation.

Because of this situation, seniors at Western are being offered a new experimental course spring quarter, designed to give them an edge in today's tight job market.

The course is titled "Effective Professional Communication." It combines aspects of psychology, speech, writing skills, job search and interview techniques.

Concerns about students' desires for such a course were put to rest immediately, according to Western's Assistant Dean of Students Joyce Gomez.

"The class limit of 25 students was reached during the first day of spring quarter registration, Gomez said. There is already a growing waiting list.

"We've had a lot of requests from Western students and inquiries from prospective students and others about this type of course," Gomez added.

Students will spend the first part of the quarter with Western's Counseling Center Director Saundra Taylor. She will explore the area of worker values and help students discover "who they are" and "where they are going."

Dr. Taylor also will explore the areas of occupational structures and how others perceive work.

Two weeks will be spent with Dr. Golden Larsen, professor of English, on the various aspects of written and spoken communications when dealing with letters of application, resume writing and interviews.

Western's Career Planning and Placement Center director, Louis Lallas, also will work with students on employment trends, the current job market and skill development in job search activities.

Another part of the course will be taught by professor of speech, Dr. Marvin Olmstead. He will work with students on the various components of the interview, including different formats, and followups. Students also will run through mock interview situations which will be video-taped and played back as a learning tool.

During final weeks of the quarter, students will meet with employers to get an idea of what they expect during hiring and interviewing situations.

The impetus for the course was provided by Gomez, who had noted the success of similar ventures while working for California schools.

"This type of class will enable students to market their acquired skills upon graduation," she said. "We'll be able to avoid the situation where graduates get their degrees, but haven't mastered the ability to put it to the best use."

A final decision on whether to offer the course on a continuing basis hasn't been made. During the final week, students will be asked to analyze and evaluate the course and its need.

Spring quarter enrollment hits 8,801 mark

Spring quarter enrollment at Western stands at 8,801 students, the third highest spring term enrollment in College history, according to Registrar Eugene Omey.

The only higher spring enrollments at Western came in 1971 when 9,190 students were registered and in 1976 with 8,840.

With spring figures in, Omey said the annual average enrollment for the 1976-77 academic year is 8,939 or about seven per cent above estimates made in 1974 when the budget for the 1975-77 biennium was determined.

Full-time students number 7,437 or 84.5 per cent of the total and 1,364 part-time students represent 15.5 per cent of the total. Those percentages are almost identical with figures for last spring.

"The healthy spring enrollment provides a solid base for a fall 1977 enrollment about equal to last year," Omey said.

He said admission of new students for next fall is well under way and early indicators are that Western may enroll more new freshmen and transfers than last fall, but fewer new graduate students.

There are 4,403 men and 4,398 women enrolled this quarter.
Western participating in historical records survey

Western is participating in a year-long project to produce the first state-wide cooperative survey of public and private historical records taken in Washington since the 1930s.

The last survey of its kind in this state was taken by the old Works Projects Administration (WPA) 40 years ago.

Last month, the Washington State Historical Records Advisory Board received a $98,572 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to implement the project. The survey plan was developed by the State Advisory Board and coordinated through the Governor's office.

Washington was divided into 13 survey areas for the project, with a goal of developing archival systems within each area. The State Advisory Board selected six survey areas which already have archival programs operating within them, for funding this year.

Jim Moore, regional archivist assigned to Western, will serve as project technical adviser for Area Five which includes Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island and Snohomish counties.

A survey leader and team, hired from within these counties, will begin work this summer. The team will coordinate efforts at the Regional State Archives and the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, both located on Western’s campus.

“We will be contacting nearly 200 records-producing and collecting agencies, organizations and individuals in the next few weeks to invite them to participate,” Moore said.

“Our efforts will rely heavily on obtaining maximum citizen input and cooperation,” he said.

Moore said those contacted will be asked to attend a workshop this summer at Western to become familiar with records management and survey techniques.

The survey will deal with records of local government, businesses, churches, organized ethnic groups, historical societies, hospitals and individuals.

Organizations maintaining private manuscript collections, such as Western’s Center for Northwest Studies, will also be surveyed.

Moore emphasized that the ultimate goal of the plan is to achieve a state-wide archival system. If surveys of the first six areas are successful during the year, the State Advisory Board will apply for funding in the seven remaining regions of the state.

Washington's grant, the largest ever bestowed by the NHPRC, runs from April 1, 1977, to March 31, 1978. The survey project in this state will be used as a model for other states as they develop survey systems.

Residents of the five county area desiring further information on the project should contact James Moore, Regional Archivist, Archives and Records Center, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, WA 98225, (phone (206) 676-3125).

Summer Session registration streamlined

Procedures for registration for the six and nine-week Summer Session courses at Western have been streamlined this year.

Associate Registrar Robert Thirsk said enrollment will be speeded up and students should find the process relatively “painless.”

This summer, except for workshops and other short courses, all students will register on Monday, June 10, the day before classes begin. Thirsk said the College previously had five or six different ways to register and used various forms, a process many students found confusing.

Bottlenecks in the final phase of registering—payment of tuition and fees—also have been eliminated. This summer, students need only reserve their classes on registration day and they will be given an appointment to pay tuition and fees the following week.

Thirsk said one-day registration should eliminate re-registration problems that troubled students and the Registrar’s Office in previous years. Last minute changes in course preferences can be made up to registration day with few problems, he added.

The only courses requiring advance registration and partial pre-payment of fees are listed separately in the Summer Session catalog as “Special Enrollment Programs.”

Thirsk said classes with too small turnouts might be continued as conference courses.

Summer Session catalogs, class lists, schedules and registration information are available from the Office of Summer Session, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, WA 98225.

Senior wins scholarship

Shirley Vernale, a senior at Western’s Huxley College, has won a $250 scholarship from Shell Oil Co., which annually provides two such awards to Huxley students.

She holds as associate of arts degree from Empire State College of the State College of New York in Saratoga Springs and expects to do graduate work in environmental research.

Senior physics student wins study grant

A senior physics student from Western has earned an opportunity to work closely with some of the nation’s top physicists.

Kenneth Dragoon, 20, Washougal, has been awarded a four-month study grant by Argonne National Laboratory, near Chicago. He is the second Western student to win the award in recent years.

At Argonne, which is heavily funded through the national Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), Dragoon expects to work with experienced researchers on short-range projects involving energy transfer and storage.

A member of the school’s physics honorary, he has taught laboratory courses for several quarters and is an amateur radio operator.

"Western’s physics department has been a warm and encouraging place to study," said the Vancouver, Wash., native. "The professors here encourage independent studies."

Dragoon earned 18 quarter hours of academic credit from Western for his Argonne experience. He was expected to return to Western this spring to complete a schedule of independent studies.

Long-range goals for Dragoon include graduate school and possibly a career as a research scientist. He was selected by Argonne from approximately 55 outstanding college students around the nation for the study grant.
Are state's log removal practices adding to beach erosion problem?

Washington's present log removal practices in Puget Sound waters may be adding to beach erosion problems in this state, according to Western geography professor Thomas Terich.

A fact to which most any boater can attest is that floating logs pose a constant navigation hazard and have been the cause of a number of boating-related accidents. During stormy weather and high tides, drifting logs also threaten non-boaters as the logs are carried up to and sometimes into the living rooms of beach front homes.

Where the logs come from, how they move from one location to another, and their possible benefit or harm to Puget Sound beaches is a subject now being studied by Dr. Terich.

During the next three months, Dr. Terich and graduate student Scott Milne from Spokane will be monitoring various sites along Skagit and Whatcom county shorelines. The two researchers will be attempting to determine if a relationship exists between the presence (or absence) of this wood debris and beach erosion.

Terich and Milne will be monitoring each site for two to three weeks to identify large log concentrations, estimate the volume of logs on these beaches, and to document the movement of the logs through time lapse photography.

The time-lapse films will record the interaction of waves, sediment and wood debris under various meteorological conditions. The films will show movements of drift logs under high storm wave conditions and during calm periods.

In writing his research proposal to the Washington Water Resource Center in Pullman, which is funding the study, Terich cited records of the Department of Natural Resources which operates a log patrol program on Washington waters.

Those records show that 9,202,303 board feet in salvage logs were removed from the state's waters and beaches in 1974.

"If of ample construction quality, 9 million board feet of lumber is enough to build nearly 500 homes, each with 1,500 square feet of living space," Terich said. He also estimated that an equal amount was probably cut and cleared from beaches by private citizens.

As productive as that program may seem, Terich said he has some questions on the effects the log removal practices may have on the state's beaches.

Last year, scientists studying erosion problems on Siletz Spit, near Salishan on the Oregon coast, discovered a considerable number of logs and driftwood material buried beneath the beach bank where a repeated pattern of erosion and building has occurred.

This discovery led Terich and other scientists to hypothesize that logs may indeed help build up beaches, rather than just aid in their deterioration as was previously thought.

"If this theory is true," says Terich, "then maybe we shouldn't be so hurried to remove those logs. Possibly we should be thinking about modifying our log removal practices."

Washington has, in effect, declared an "open season" on these runaway logs.

Anyone can apply to the State's Department of Natural Resources for a Log Patrol License. All that is presently required is that applicants post a $5,000 bond and pay a $104 license fee. About 50 log patrol licenses are now in force in Washington.

Terich said he first became interested in the subject two years ago while studying erosion processes and movement of sand and other sediment along the Whatcom and Skagit county shorelines.

It was while conducting research into that problem that Terich encountered what he termed "the tremendous volumes of logs, piled up at certain locations along the beaches."

"The damage these logs are capable of causing during storms has been well documented in the past," Terich said, pointing to pictures of battered beachfront homes in Whatcom County's Sandy Point area.

The question now remains as to the trade-off of potential damage during high wave conditions and the protection and beach-building processes the logs might be contributing during calmer conditions.

According to Terich, his study is the first of its kind to be undertaken in the Northwest. When results of the study are complete, the information may be used to change present log removal practices along Washington's saltwater shorelines.
Barton Frank: Cellist makes area echo world's finest music

If the hills around Bellingham occasionally echo the sounds of the world's finest music, give Barton Frank some of the credit.

Frank and his 13 fellow faculty members in Western's Department of Music are orchestrating the efforts of an increasing number of first-rate musicians.

For Frank, 50, who came here as a full professor eight years ago, his role as conductor of the Western Symphony Orchestra and director of the Northwest Concert Association climax an outstanding professional career.

The widely acclaimed cellist won a full scholarship to Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music at age 16, becoming a protege of the fabulous Gregor Piatigorsky. At 19, Frank became the nation's youngest principal cellist with a leading musical organization—the National Symphony of Washington, D.C.

Later he played first cello for symphonies in Vancouver, B.C., Tulsa and New Orleans. He also appeared as featured soloist and recitalist across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

"One year I did six different concertos with six different orchestras," Frank recalled.

Tired of the road trips and big-city congestion, Frank set new goals. Before coming to Western, he taught music four years at Washington State University. Still, he had his eye to the west.

"When I was with the Vancouver symphony," Frank explained, "I vowed I'd get back to the Northwest."

Frank, who played violin as a child, now teaches cello and bass, in addition to conducting workshops and directing the Western symphony and its nearly similar counterpart, the Northwest Concert Association.

"Here we can introduce students to the world's best music," Frank said. "I tell students it doesn't make any difference if you're rich or poor—you can play and enjoy the finest music ever composed."

With dark hair slicked straight back, angular features and a Frank hallmark—a turquoise tie holder—Frank grows intent when he discusses the influx of talented musicians at Western.

"We have about 90 students in our symphony and only about 75 per cent of them are music majors," he noted.

"Today, there's more interest in musical careers, thanks mainly to the private teachers and high school teachers who have helped young people understand the value of fine music."

With fewer music faculty than the other state colleges and universities, Western manages to produce the most quality musicians, Frank said.

"I've seen the other schools in the region and I know our students play the hardest programs here."

Western's students, cramped in the school's Performing Arts Center, soon will have more practice rooms, equipment and other facilities when a $1.6 million project is completed next year. Also scheduled is a major renovation of those areas of the building now getting heavy use.

"Practice goes on here every night until 11 o'clock or later," Frank said.

"This is one of the busiest buildings on campus every weekend."

Frank figures he's learning as much about music from his students as he did during his years with the symphonies.

"I've spent 20 years in symphonies but you really start learning when you teach. I push my students pretty hard but I've found it's best for a teacher to be an inspiration, to guide rather than teach."

A number of Frank's proteges have found places in major symphonies. Most, however, go into music teaching or use their skills for personal enrichment.

The Northwest Concert Association serves a unique role in a Greater Bellingham area of some 95,000. Not counting the four or five on-tour performances by the symphony, the local association sponsors about six local concerts and a major musical each year. Frank's background and national contacts have helped lure performers such as pianist Van Cliburn and vocalist Robert Merrill here. This spring, author and pianist Ruth Slenczynska is expected to appear.

"A city this size can't afford the $2 million it takes to sponsor its own symphony," Frank said. "Yet there's a tremendous hunger for good music—the kind of living culture that is at the hub of every progressive city."

Frank said Western's 1,200-seat auditorium has sold out for concert performances for four consecutive years.

"We help provide the art and music this area's citizens appreciate," he said.
Western's Journal of Ethnic Studies:

'The Journal is much better known nationally and in other countries than it is locally'

The recent television production of Alex Haley's book Roots has brought a surge of interest into America's ethnic heritage. But even before Roots there have been ongoing efforts to tell the story of the world's diverse ethnic origins.

One of the more successful endeavors in this area is the Journal of Ethnic Studies at Western. "The Journal is much better known nationally and in other countries than it is locally," says co-editor Dr. Jesse Hiraoka, who is also dean of Western's College of Ethnic Studies.

According to Hiraoka, the Journal, which recently began its fifth year of quarterly publication, now has some 700 subscriptions including nearly 500 world-wide institutions.

Subscribers include Harvard, Princeton and The Sorbonne. In addition to most major universities in this country, the Journal of Ethnic Studies is circulated in Canada, Africa, New Zealand, England, France, Switzerland and the Philippines.

There are journals published in almost every area of study but Hiraoka and co-editor Jeffrey Wilner say the Journal of Ethnic Studies does special duty.

"While many journals cater to scholars of one particular area or discipline, we have tried to attract a more general readership," he said.

In its most recent edition, for example, the Journal carried articles on the Samoan population of Seattle, "Race and Ethnicity in American Baseball," and "The Meaning of Africa for the American Slave."

Poetry, fiction and reviews of the latest books and articles on ethnicity also are a basic ingredient of each edition.

The Journal of Ethnic Studies published its first volume in 1973. Since then it has continued to gain circulation and content.

"At first we were concentrating on ethnic groups in this country," Hiraoka said. "Today we have expanded our focus to an international base."

Publishing the Journal is basically a two-man effort with Hiraoka and Wilner as co-editors. Together, they and two associate editors work with contributing writers from around the U.S. and abroad.

Subscription rates are $8 for the current volume (four issues); $10 for libraries and institutions; and $6 for students. Back issues also are available.

Those interested in subscribing or who want more information should write to: The Journal of Ethnic Studies, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, WA 98225.

Butts’ belly flop wows ’em on television

Viewers of the syndicated television series To Tell the Truth broadcast recently on Seattle's KOMO-TV were treated to the latest exploits of Western graduate Butts Giraud, '70, the subject of the panel's inquiry.

Giraud was the 1976 Belly Flop and Cannon Ball Diving Champion, an honor he earned at Vancouver, B.C.'s Bay Shore Inn last summer. For those not familiar with this sport, the purpose is to "dive" from a one-meter board into a pool and displace as much water as possible upon landing. A panel of three judges decides which competitor made the biggest splash.

Following the usual round of questioning, the ballots were cast and only panelist Peggy Cass detected the real talent in the group. A film of Giraud's winning plunge followed and the effect, to say the least, was impressive—like a whale broaching.

In recognition of his ability Giraud received "... the coveted green bathrobe."

When not defending his title, Giraud busies himself with a number of enterprises in Vancouver, including a t-shirt shop and handling a concession business. Following his graduation, he played for the Winnipeg Bluebombers in the Canadian Football League and followed the professional wrestling circuit.

RETIREMENT PARTY
for
C. W. "Bill" McDonald
No-host Cocktails
8 p.m., June 8
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McDonald Retirement Program Committee
Average freshman student is white female

While pushing for regional university status in the State Legislature, Western has the numbers to prove it draws students from around the state.

Data gleaned for the Admissions Office from fall 1972 through 1976 by graduate student Joyce Weston show the “average” new freshman student is a white female graduate of a high school of more than 1,000 students. She comes from King County or Pierce County.

However, the “average” new transfer student is a white male who transferred to Western from a community college in either King County or Pierce County. For the 1972-76 period, the freshman class was comprised of 8.3 per cent of freshman students who came from outside Washington, 26.4 per cent from northwestern Washington, 46.6 per cent from King and Pierce counties, 10.1 per cent from southwestern Washington, and 8.7 per cent from eastern Washington.

For transfer students, Western found the pattern looks like this: 21.3 per cent from out-of-state, 18.3 per cent from northwest Washington, 34.0 per cent from King and Pierce counties, 12.2 per cent from southwestern Washington, and 14.3 per cent from eastern Washington.

The average grade point average of incoming female freshmen was 3.16 on a 4.0-point scale; transfer students averaged 2.90.

Weston said ethnic minority admission figures for 1976 freshmen have declined over the two previous years. However, she added, “minority admissions figures for transfer students appear to be steadily rising over the last three years. It is difficult to obtain accurate information since ethnic origin is an optional item on application forms.”

For the current quarter, Western is enjoying its third highest enrollment for the period with 8,801 students.
Residents of Coupeville on Whidbey Island are resting easier these days thanks to efforts by 30 environmental planning students from Western.

In 1973 a 22 square-mile area, including Coupeville, was designated as the Central Whidbey Island Historical Preservation District.

Since then, the 3,500 area residents have felt a growing concern for preserving their rural identity in the face of encroaching development and increased tourism. Their way of life and scenic surroundings were being threatened and they weren't sure what to do about it.

Faced with this problem, the Island County Planning Department contacted planning professor Gil Peterson at Western's Huxley College of Environmental Studies.

"Island residents had a perplexing problem on their hands," Peterson said. "They saw land use in the area beginning to change and had no way of controlling it."

Still primarily an agricultural region, central Whidbey Island has a unique environmental blend of forests, prairie farms, scenic bluffs and distinct beaches.

Peterson and his Huxley planning students were asked to assess the problem and develop some alternatives for future land use in the area. But shortly after beginning the process, it became apparent that island residents needed a better assessment of the area.

"Our first task was to find out what people thought they had now and what they wanted their area to be," Peterson said.

Throughout the year Huxley students used the Whidbey problem as the basis for their classes in regional, urban and site planning. The courses apply academic work and theories learned in the previous two years in the classroom.

The students began their work with surveys to synthesize residents' attitudes, values, perceptions and goals for their surroundings. Then they compiled data on zoning ordinances, trail setbacks and possible funding sources for community development of historical preservation programs.

Using photographs, slides and other studies, the students documented current land-use practices, natural formations, economy, demography and other aspects of the area.

Public meetings were used to present the findings and give local citizens a working concept of their environment, Peterson said.

"The project provided a unique opportunity for the students and our community," said Len Madsen, assistant director of the Island County Planning Department. "All of their work was very well received and has left residents with a heightened awareness of this kind of problem."

Madsen said the various departments, agencies and public groups are currently studying the students' findings to see which proposals to implement.

Results of the year-long study were recently published by the Huxley students. The report outlines methods used and contains summaries of such aspects as soil analysis, natural resources, development limitations, climatic considerations and several alternative plans for the future use of the area.

Similar projects have been completed or are now under way by Huxley students in San Juan and Whatcom counties, Peterson said.

He said the Whidbey project had some special benefits for two of his students.

One, Carol Delahanty, is currently director of the newly formed Coupeville Planning Department. Another, Stephen Ladd, works as a planner for the Island County Planning Department.