Western Washington University

Window on Western

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Art knows no boundaries, and neither does Modern Dog. When Michael Strassburger and Robynne Raye met on Western's campus almost 11 years ago, little did they know that their lives would be intertwined over a decade later as soul friends and principal partners of Modern Dog, a highly profitable, Seattle-based graphic design firm. Nationally recognized in design circles, they have a piece in the Smithsonian's permanent archives, and several of their works are part of a 15-year graphic design retrospective at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum in New York City. The show opens in March.

In 1987, after the fledgling designers started dating, they left Western (she with a degree, he with a little bit of an attitude) and formed their business in Seattle. Though originally called Raye Strassburger, they had always signed their partnership with "Modern Dog," inspired by a mutt they liked on a dog groomer's sign. Soon they acquired the name legally.

"The only reason we started Modern Dog was that we couldn't get hired by another studio," Raye said. "We just took the giant leap and learned the hard way."

The early days were lean, even bone dry. At one point the instructions of trying to pay the bills and rent on their 5x8ft. office space, led Raye to "just sit by Green Lake and cry." Designing posters for $60 apiece for a concert promoter wasn't enough.

In 1988, after saving some money, the business partners/companions packed up their belongings and became globe travelers. Six months and 24 countries later they returned as friends and business partners—but no longer romantically involved. At that point they revived Modern Dog with fellow Western alum Christopher Baldwin, chipping in $250 each.

"The company was the most important thing at the time," Raye said.

"We just learned to work together," Strassburger added.

Soon enough their first big break, K2 snowboards, arrived. Their designs caught on with the snowboarding crowd, and Modern Dog continues to produce brochures and books for the company.

Still, in 1991 they weren't where they wanted to be. As a result, Raye, Strassburger and Victorio Costarella, who had just joined the firm, made a list of dream clients and started their "fur box" promotions.

"We had nothing to lose," Raye noted.

The infamous "fur box," complete with dog collar, embroidered name tag and full of samples of their work, landed them several high-profile clients including Showtime, Nike and Warner Brothers Records.

They have a reputation for cranking out high-voltage designs with sharp craftsmanship. It's not unusual for them to "pull all-nighters" producing a bevy of designs. The designer's work that is chosen, becomes the contact point.

Last year the firm invoiced just under one-half million dollars, and Raye and Strassburger each made a goodly sum.

"I never thought I would make that much money," Raye said. Only three years ago they were grossing about $15,000 each.

But Strassburger adds, "We would never do work just to make the money."

"We've turned down a lot of jobs that weren't the type of work we want to do," Raye said. "We're interested in doing good work and staying small."

In late 1994, they refused a high-paying commission from a major greeting card company because it involved giving up the copyright to Modern Dog's work. Consequently, the designs could have been altered in any way, without the designer's approval, and mark a loss of artistry as well.

"We want to keep the integrity of our work," Raye emphasized.

Maintaining the firm's small size is one way to avoid a cookie-cutter approach, they agreed. Costarella and George Estrada, who joined the business in April 1994, round out the creative team. Christopher Baldwin, their former partner, still shares the office space.

(Story continued on page 7)
Campus Connections
Western faculty and students continue to gain recognition throughout the region, state and nation.

Accent on Alumni
Heidi Grant, a 1987 Western graduate, makes a name as a rising Metropolitan Opera star and is recognized by the New York Times as one of 30 young artists "most likely to change the culture in the next 30 years."

Point of View
Change can revitalize. Window on Western, the new alumni publication, is the result of just such a process. Get ready for a new look and a new perspective!

Graphic design Western style
The graphic design program is keeping up with technology, while remaining firmly rooted in fine art traditions. This special section showcases student work and gives an update on graphic design Western style.

Modern Dog designers: A bold new breed
The continuation of the front page feature highlights more on this dynamic design team and their Western roots.

Focus on the Foundation
The Western Foundation boosts scholarship awards to all-time high, allowing more students to pursue their dreams of a college education.

Where are they now?
Student reporter Hilary Parker visits with 15 retired faculty members and shares their work and leisure news.

Class Notes & Tributes

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Write to us! Got a complaint, compliment, suggestion or idea? We want to hear from you. Address your Letter To The Editor to Window on Western, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, 98225 - 9045.
Western wins $3 million Defense Department award

Western has received a three-year, nearly $3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to develop a prototype portable "Midnight Sun" generator for both military and civilian uses. Principal researcher for the project is Michael Seal, founder and director of Western's internationally known Vehicle Research Institute (VRI). Sharing in the research will be Western's engineering technology department, of which the VRI is a part; its physics and computer sciences departments; and the private firm, J.X. Crystals, whose president, former Boeing engineer Lewis A. Fraas, originated the current thermophotovoltaic concepts.

“What the Army wants developed,” Seal said, “is a thermophotovoltaic (TPV) generator that one person can transport on a small handcart. It must be able to provide the heat, electricity and communications for a fairly large structure such as a military command center or one unit of a field hospital. They want the generator to be quiet and virtually emission free.” Under the terms of the grant, however, university research must also have civilian applications.

The TPV generator being developed at Western uses "solar"energy cells to collect power from burning Compressed Natural Gas (methane) rather than the sun. Each TPV burner is quite small: 11 inches high and seven inches in diameter. They can be grouped together to increase their capacity.

Seal said the Defense Department is also interested in a unit that would fit into a back pack.

Funding for such research is possible through a two-year extension of the grant, which would bring Western's grant total to $5 million. Others receiving awards included large research universities such as MIT, Princeton, UCLA, Stanford, Carnegie Mellon, the University of Michigan and Georgia Tech.

Legislative Update

U.S. News and Money magazines, among others, recognize Western as a national leader in providing quality education at reasonable cost. This was achieved while Western's budget was reduced 7.5 percent between 1991 and 1995. Further reductions are proposed for the 1995-97 biennium.

The university will do its best to maintain its reputation during these difficult times, President Karen Morse has affirmed, adding that "all university personnel are to be praised for assuming such heavy workloads over the past four years."

Tuition is in the news lately as Gov. Lowry and the legislature decide whether or not to delegate rate-setting authority to local boards of trustees.

President Morse and Western's trustees have stated that the important issue is how tuition monies are used. They believe tuition funds should be dedicated to university programs and financial aid for those students least prepared to pay more tuition. Because they believe that local control makes this more likely, they support tuition rates being set by the individual institutions.

“We want the greatest possible flexibility in using tuition and other funds wisely,” President Morse noted.

Theatre students invited to regional festival

The cast of "Falsettos," (from top left) Amy Gordon, Caroline Blakenship, Daniel Elkhayam (bottom), Chad Jennings, Amy Hicks and John Takavish Jr., were invited to perform during the recent Region VII Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in Eugene, Ore. Judges selected "Falsettos," directed by Western assistant professor James Lottz, as one of the best productions from the region, which includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and Wyoming.

Seven other student actors and one student playwright from Western have also been invited to the festival. They include Marna Herrington, Alton Grimes, Wendy Herlich, Jacob Sidney and Justin Neal. In addition, Fatti Jackson and Simon Prentiss will recreate their roles in "Dying Light," which has already won new playwriting Jason Martin a $100 award for the most promising play written by a student.

Western Highlights

- Shawn Collet and Ron Spitzer, both seniors majoring in business administration with concentrations in production and operations management, are the first-place winners in their division of the American Production and Inventory Control Society International Student Paper Competition. They presented the paper at the APICS International Conference in San Diego and received a $1,500 prize.
- Tim Allen, associate professor of communication and journalism, was elected by other Northwest directors of forensics to the steering committee of the Northwest Forensic Conference.
- George Cvetkovich, professor of psychology, has been appointed to the American Psychological Association's Science Leaders Network.
- Recent graduate Kathryn Bravard received the highest grades in the state on the uniform CPA examination given in May 1994. The Washington exam was attempted by 1,073 candidates, with only 102 successfully passing the entire exam in one sitting.
- William Demmert, professor of education, has been named to the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future. The Rockefeller Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York contributed $1.2 million and $400,000, respectively, to underwrite the commission's work.
- Western's Forensic Team took first place in championship division debates at the Pioneer Invitational at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore., and at the Logger Invitational at the University of Puget Sound.
- Linda Kimball, associate professor of anthropology, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain.
- Bradley Smith, Dean of Bixley College of Environmental Studies, has been named to a task force of the President's Council on Sustainable Development.
- Norman E. Lindquist, associate professor of mathematics, has been included in the 1994 edition of "Who's Who Among America's Teachers."
- A research paper by political science graduate student Heather Smith has been selected as the best paper submitted in the graduate category by the Western Social Science Association Student Paper Committee. Smith's paper is titled "Environmentalism in the U.S. Partnership, Politics and Participation."
- Joseph E. Trumble, professor of psychology and educational administrations and foundations, was honored for "distinctive lifetime achievements" in "research, teaching and demonstrated leadership on behalf of ethnic concerns in psychology" at a recent convention of the American Psychological Association.
- Margaret Willson, a faculty member of the anthropology department, was awarded $12,000 for research on "Race, Class and Gender Among Capeoira Players in Salvador, Brazil" by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.
- Donald W. Whisenhunt, professor of anthropology, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to lecture at Nankai University in Tianjin, China from January to June 1995. Fulbright grants are administered by the United States Information Agency and awarded by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship on the basis of a national competition.
Wanted: Scientists to collaborate with educators

Western Washington University is seeking people "who use principles of science and engineering in their everyday work environment" to collaborate with 40 teachers in a three-year effort to enhance public school science teaching. Operation Physics Outreach, recipient of a three-year $966,000 National Science Foundation grant, expands training and support for elementary and middle school teachers. The aim of the program is to create master teachers who can spread science teaching throughout their school systems.

Most of the 40 teachers who began the project last summer with four weeks of intensive training on the Western campus will receive master's degrees in science education in 1996. Project director and Western physics professor James Stewart hopes these teachers will be the first of many more master science teachers. Participating teachers are from schools in Lynden, Sedro-Woolley and Marysville.

With the campus phase of the program launched, Stewart is seeking scientists, engineers and technicians to form partnerships with teachers.

At the outset, he said, Operation Physics Outreach "needs volunteers who can spend one day a month working with teachers to help bring science alive for their students. In turn, volunteers can learn the art of teaching."

"Involvement could include facilitating field trips, presenting interesting and age-appropriate programs in the classrooms, helping both students and teachers learn more science as they experience it, in their everyday working lives," Stewart said.

He also is seeking professionals who would welcome an Operation Physics teacher into the workplace for two weeks during the summer of 1996. For more information on Operation Physics Outreach contact James Stewart at (360) 650-3840.

Upcoming Events

March 29
WWU night to watch the Sonics at the Tacoma Dome against the Minnesota Wolves. Deadlines: March 14; Richard; Ticket Price: $27.

April 1
Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theatre at 8 p.m., Performing Arts Center. Tickets: (360) 650-6146.

April 21
College of Business and Economics Alumni, Comedy Night at Giggles.

April 23
Atlantic Brass Quintet, 3 p.m., Concert Hall. Tickets: (360) 650-6146.

April 28
Life Member Reception WWU Alumni Club. Life Members' Annual event will take place at the Seattle Yacht Club. The evening includes dinner at the club and a cruise on Lake Washington.

May 5
Distinguished Alumni Banquet, Bellingham.

May 10-14
Theatre Arts: Merchant of Venice Tickets: (360) 650-6146.

May 12-14
Western Showtime Family Weekend, featuring a carnival, chalk art contest, scenic boat tours and arts and crafts vendors.

June 23 & 24
Home Economics Reunion. All Home Economics Department alumni are invited back to Western's campus for this special event. Watch for more information in late March.

July
50-Year Reunion, Bellingham. If you are from the class of 1945 or 46, mark your calendars. More info to be mailed soon.

For more information regarding any of the events listed, call the Alumni Relations Office at (360) 650-3333 or 1-800-676-6885.

Newsmakers

New plant discovered

Kate Beck, a 1982 graduate of Huxley College of Environmental Studies, and Florence Caplow, a botany major who attended Western, discovered a new plant species near the Hanford nuclear reservation last summer.

Beck, 35, and Caplow, 30, noticed bladder pods blooming in July and August. Bladder pods usually bloom in May. A sample was sent to Harvard University for analysis. In November, they learned they had discovered a new species. The plant, part of the mustard genus, is 3 to 8 inches tall with silver hairs and yellow flowers.

The Energy Department and Nature Conservancy recently announced the women's discovery. In March, the conservancy hired the pair, who run a consulting firm. The company hopes to introduce the plant, called 'triodium,' to other parts of the country.

Western grad goes North

Steve May, a 41-year-old geophysicist, helped make history as part of the scientific team aboard the U.S. Coast Guard vessel Polar Sea that reached the icebound North Pole last August.

The icebreaker and a Canadian ship were the first surface vessels ever from their respective countries to reach the North Pole.

Robert E. Feary is generally credited with being the first to arrive at the North Pole, by dog sled in 1909, although his claim has been disputed. While a number of submarines visited the North Pole, the first surface vessel to reach it was a Soviet nuclear-powered icebreaker in 1977.

May, who works part-time for the U.S. Geological Survey and teaches part-time at Walla Walla Community College, completed a physics degree at Western in 1975 and a master's degree in geophysics at Stanford University in 1976.

Source Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

Designers market game

About half a dozen students in a Western physical education class on games three years ago hit on the idea of "test your knowledge" game.

The game is similar to the 1980s hit Pictionary, which was invented by former Western student Robert Angel. The new game is available for $16.99 at Target stores. "Educated Guess" consists of "type of" cards. If a player draws a card for cake, other players have to figure out the kind of cake through clues from the drawer.

Source Bellingham Herald

Murphy is in top 30

Heidi Grant Murphy, a rising Metropolitan Opera star who earned her music degree from Western in 1987, was named by New York Times critics as one of 30 artists under 30 "most likely to change the culture for the next 30 years."

In a Nov. 20, 1994, cover story for the New Times Magazine, the 28-year-old soprano was cited for "steady excellence among young artists "so good that we may still be watching or reading or dancing to them 30 years from now."

In 1988, just one year after graduation, Murphy was one of 11 national winners winnowed from about 3,000 in a series of Metropolitan Opera auditions and the only one offered a position in the Met's Young Artists Development Program. Early on, critics hailed her as a rising star. She is noted for her easy temperment by those who work with her.

She was last in the Northwest to appear at the Bellingham Festival of Music, Aug. 24-28, on the campus of her alma mater. Husband Kevin Murphy was her piano accompanist. Murphy is a Bellingham native.

Source New York Times Magazine
Alumni Events

Western tees off: Golf tournament planned

Attention all you alumni golfers! As soon as the ground thaws, start practicing! The first annual WWU Alumni Association Golf Tournament is in the early stages of planning.

Alumni Board of Directors member Jon Stitken, chair of the Athletic Committee, has already pegged the third weekend in September to inaugurate this tournament. It will likely be a scramble format with slots for 36 foursomes.

We will be providing more exact details in an upcoming issue, but you can start putting your teams together. Tournament proceeds will support the Alumni Scholarship Fund. Spots will be filled on a first-come basis. For more information call the Alumni Relations Office at (360) 650-3353 or 1-800-676-6885.

Georgia-Pacific alumni meet for reception

Western alumni working for Georgia-Pacific in Bellingham gathered this fall at the Leopold's Garden Room for a reception in their honor. In addition to visiting with each other (G-P's Bellingham plant is a big place), attendees also had an opportunity to catch up with alums who had retired from G-P and meet University President Karen W. Morse who brought them up to date on what's happening on the hill. Alumni Board of Directors member Karen Hulford, who also works for Georgia-Pacific, served as emcee for the evening.

Microsoft hosts Western alumni

Numerous members of Western's faculty and staff attended the second annual Microsoft alumni/employee appreciation reception held this past fall at the Microsoft campus in Redmond. Thanks to the generosity of the 160 Western alumni employed by Microsoft, Western has received more than $2.6 million in software and other donations from the company.

Alumni Board of Directors member Kelly Gurse welcomed the Western group as well as numerous alums who stopped by to visit. Western's President Karen W. Morse introduced a campus video, and talked about what software and other donations had already accomplished on campus. Jerry Boles, Western's vice provost for information and telecommunications services, also explained some of the changes and improvements in computing that will be taking place in the near future.

Western was the top national higher education recipient of Microsoft employee and corporate contributions in 1994.

California cruise planned for fall

A seven-day Alumni cruise is being planned for the fall of 1995, (2 nights cruising, 2 nights in San Francisco and 2 nights in Reno). Watch the Window for more info!

Western series presents experts on "New Political Economy of Asia"

Keith A.J. Hay, a Canadian expert on developing countries, will discuss "Financing Infrastructure in China and Vietnam" at 4 p.m. Monday, March 6, in 146 Parks Hall at Western. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Hay is the fourth speaker in the "New Political Economy of Asia" series sponsored by Western's Center for International Studies and Programs, College of Business and Economics, and the Center for East Asian Studies with support from the business community, including Seafirst Bank and the Fourth Corner Economics Club.

The speaker series will conclude May 5 with a full-day symposium. For more information contact Catherine Pease at (360) 650-3753. For parking permits, stop at the Visitors Information Center.

Bring on the Salmon

Arkansas alums share NW feast

Twenty-three Western alumni, friends and family members dined on fresh King salmon at the home of David and Rita Swanson in Little Rock, Ark., in October.

This Northwest feast was accompanied by “Ashtall White” wine from the Hinerzling Winery in Prosser, Wash., and ended with huckleberry pie and marionberry cobbler.

The salmon and mixed berries were shipped fresh from Bellingham by the WWU Alumni Association - presumably was the weather, which was "gray and drizzly," noted David Swanson.

The huckleberry pie filling came off from Doug Murray’s August visit to Seattle’s Pike Place Market.

The event was kicked off with "Louie, Louie," by Rockin Robin Roberts and the Waiters (from an original cut by Etiquette Records).

Campus connections made during the Western experience. A walk across the greenway in front of Old Main can bring a rush of nostalgia even to the most reserved.

For years a new name for this publication was discussed. In 1992 a contest was even initiated to find a new name. Nothing seemed to fit. Enter 1995, the year of the new name, new look and new perspective. We will be providing more exact details in an upcoming issue, but this publication’s predecessor. Academic excellence is the thread that ties each feature, news item and alumni profile together.

Western has a warmth not always found at some larger institutions. Personal connections and personal stories will be a focal point in each issue. As anyone who has attended Western can affirm, lifetime friends are made during the Western experience. A walk across the greenway in front of Old Main can bring a rush of nostalgia even to the most reserved alumni.

We hope that through this new window readers will be able to get a peek at the Western of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Welcome to the Window on Western. Remember, one can look in or out. And, if the light is just right, sometimes you can even see your own reflection in the Window.

By Lori McGriff Boroughs

Change can be exhilarating. And, when it is a team effort, bringing together many people’s ideas and talents, it is energizing. Window on Western represents just such a change. As this publication has evolved through meetings, design sessions and hours of production, the momentum of new ideas and the strength of long-standing Western credos have been blended into this new alumni publication.

For nearly 30 years alumni kept track of Western’s programs and other alums through résumé, a sometimes monthly, sometimes quarterly publication that was originally sent to about 7,000 people. Today, 57,000 alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of Western are on the mailing list.

For years a new name for résumé was discussed. In 1992 a contest was even initiated to find a new name. Nothing seemed to fit. Enter 1995, the year of the new name, new look and new perspective.

Windows on Western is new, but the basic content is the same as that of this publication’s predecessor. Academic excellence is the thread that ties each feature, news item and alumni profile together.

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Lori McGriff Boroughs, a 1983 Western journalism graduate, is the news editor of Window on Western. Before returning to Western last year to work toward a teaching certificate and master’s in education, she was a newspaper reporter, public relations specialist, and photo researcher for Time and Life magazines. She is the recipient of numerous state, regional and national awards. In College, former résumé editor, is now media coordinator in Western’s Public Information Office.
Western's Graphic Design program, in the Art Department, continues to draw on a variety of disciplines when preparing students for the real world of design. But no longer are a drawing board and a few finely sharpened pencils and colored art pens all the tools needed.

Students today fine tune their illustration skills, study art history and through the wonders of technology leap into computer design, using new high-end tools of the trade. The four examples of student work on these pages reflect the various styles and technologies that are currently available to Western students today.

"Technology has vastly changed every level of the design process at a dizzying speed. Computers have totally changed the profession, therefore the profession's needs are reflected in the curriculum," noted Madge Gleeson, a graphics design professor in the Art Department.

"Technology is very critical to the entire way the design area does business," she added. Faculty and students in the '90s have to keep up with an ever-changing array of software. "You need to understand the technology well enough to use it intuitively," Gleeson said. This requires a balance of the traditional ways with the new innovations. "We still need exacto knives, but the field has opened up to a great deal of experimentation and new directions," she said.

About 60 students graduate each year from the program, with an emphasis in either illustration, design production or graphic design. Five faculty, including Gleeson, Kent Smith, Bob Urso, Elsi Vassdal-Ellis and Mike Reed teach in the program.

"We try to stay as current as possible, and we depend on information from alumni to keep us informed," Gleeson said.
E ach spring a professional practices class is offered in which many alumni visit and share their design and business experiences. Students leave this class with a professional portfolio, a must in today's highly competitive market. "Former students have been very generous with their time," Gleeson said. "It's delightful to follow people's career paths and to see how many different directions people are able to go from basically the same educational environment."

Graphic design alumni who would like to be guest speakers or mentors are encouraged to contact the Art Department at (360) 650-3660, or by e-mail: mgleeson@henson.cc.wwu.edu.

A new breed of Graphic Design

(Continued from page 1)

Meetings are held around a 1950s Formica table, which is surrounded by samples of their work. Theater posters, snowboards, stickers, magazine covers, and glossy national advertisements are displayed in a "wall collage" and guarded by a sign that warns "Paws off the samples." To date they have designed more than 200 posters for theater groups alone.

What qualities paved their way to success?

Raye, who admitted to being quite vocal in her classes at Western, said that characteristic helped her to persevere. "I was obnoxious. I was always challenging my instructors," she said laughing.

One of those instructors, Bob Urso, remembers Raye as having a "go-after-it" attitude. "She was absolutely not afraid to tackle anything," he recalled.

Strassburger, who classified himself as an "invisible student," is remembered for his illustration work. "I was not an excellent illustrator," he claimed. "The one thing I had was a sense of humor." Raye nodded agreement. But she also recounted that one of his works strongly affected her when he shared it in class. "You weren't invisible," she said emphatically, a bit shocked to hear his self-description.

Madge Gleeson, another graphics arts instructor in Western's Art Department, credits their ability to not be pigeonholed by what they have done before. "I think they have been remarkable in their abilities to establish a highly successful design firm in a relatively short period of time in their own unique style and way," Gleeson said. "They continue to creatively explore new territory in design and illustration."

What does the future hold for the dogs? They have no plans to restrain their creativity in favor of the "formula look." Madge Gleeson, another graphics arts instructor in Western's Art Department, credits their ability to not be pigeonholed by what they have done before. "I think they have been remarkable in their abilities to establish a highly successful design firm in a relatively short period of time in their own unique style and way," Gleeson said. "They continue to creatively explore new territory in design and illustration."

"Mediocrity is a really scary place to go," Raye said. Strassburger injected, "You have to be totally honest with yourself."

Where exactly their honesty will lead them, they're not sure. But one thing is for sure: Modern Dogs know no boundaries and neither does their art.

- By Lori McGriff Boroughs
Investing in Excellence
Scholarship giving ... the gift of education

As the cost of obtaining a college education increases, the Western Foundation is working to increase scholarship awards.

Last year, nearly $900,000 in scholarships was awarded to assist Western students.

Of that amount, 313 privately funded scholarships worth nearly $280,000 were awarded to Western students during 1993-94. This represents a 34 percent increase over awards made during the previous year.

Scholarship officer Sonja Chorba said the increase can be attributed to the growing number of donors taking an active interest in Western. "More people are realizing the tremendous impact their gifts can make in students' lives," she said.

Chorba added that 218 scholarships — valued at more than $202,000 — were "annual" awards for which donors provide a specific sum each year, ranging up to $5,000. Another 95 — valued at $78,000 — were endowed scholarships.

Giving with built-in returns

Giving away money may actually enhance cash flow and decrease tax liability. The charitable remainder unitrust will become a highly valuable estate planning tool for donors who:

1. Care deeply about the future of Western Washington University and would prefer some of their assets eventually benefit Western rather than being paid in estate taxes.
2. Have highly appreciated securities or real estate that will trigger substantial capital gains taxes when sold.
3. Want a predictable flow of income for their lifetimes.

Interested in more information? Contact Jean Rahn, Executive Director of the Western Foundation, at (360) 650-3027.

Western senior Angelique Davis (center) is shown with Betty and Red Haskell during a recent gathering of scholarship donors and recipients. Davis is a four-year recipient of the James Michael Haskell Scholarship, initiated in 1991 with an endowment gift from the Hassells in memory of their late son.

Chorba said, "Being a donor has brought so many rewards. It's been heart warming," said Sibyl Sanford, creator of the William Sanford Piano Scholarship. "There's been a tremendous outpouring of appreciation from faculty, students and the president of the university.

The foundation promotes three types of private scholarships — annual, endowed and presidential.

Scholarships are awarded based on financial need or other eligibility requirements such as major field of study, talent, leadership or academic performance.

Donors who support named annual scholarships are encouraged to assist in designing the selection criteria for their scholarship and often name the award to honor an individual, family or organization.

Sanford created the piano scholarship in honor of her father, who died in 1988.

"When I set up the scholarship, I did it for him. I never expected to receive so much in return," she said. "When you give to others, you are rewarded. It's a blessing that benefits everybody."

For additional information about providing scholarship funds or other private giving opportunities, contact the Western Foundation at (360) 650-3027.

Parks' estate plan to fund labor relations professorship

Maynard and Mamie Parks have bequeathed $250,000 to the Western Foundation through a charitable remainder unitrust, which will eventually fund the Maynard and Mamie Parks Distinguished Professorship of Labor Relations.

"Thanks to the Parks' generosity, business students and faculty will benefit from a strongly supported professorship in labor relations," said Al Proberger, Vice President for External Affairs.

"The distinguished professor will allow Western to accomplish important academic goals, such as holding specialized conferences, inviting key speakers to campus, funding master's degree projects in labor relations and conducting research," he said.

In addition, the Western Foundation has requested a $250,000 matching grant from the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The Parks have established a long-standing reputation of supporting Western. Parks Hall, home of the College of Business and Economics and the Speech Pathology/Audiology Department, is named in honor of Maynard Parks and recognizes his many outstanding contributions to the university.

Maynard Parks served on the Western Foundation's Board of Directors from 1981-85. Maynard and Mamie Parks are President's Club Benefactors and members of the Old Main Society.

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Investments in Excellence

The following is a brief report of $2,500 or larger gifts received since September 1st to support programs at Western Washington University:

$50,000 from Nick and Markell Kaiser to fund the Kaiser Professorship in the College of Business and Economics... $25,000 from Doris Roshuck in memory of Angie Anderson to support the Edens Hall Artist and Lecture Series endowment... $14,449 in specialized computer software from the Microsoft Corp... $22,000 from Lloyd and Irene Williams to establish two endowed scholarships in education... $8,000 to support the LEAD Project from KeyBank... $5,100 from the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Bellingham to provide athletic scholarships... $4,000 to support the Engineering Technology Department from the Boeing Company... $4,000 from US Bank of Washington to support Viking Athletic programs... $3,000 from Coca-Cola to provide the annual Awards of Excellence... $5,144 to support the Speech and Audiology Department from the Lions Hearing Foundation... $3,250 in unrestricted support from James Paden... $2,500 from the Spokesman-Review to help fund a computer lab in the Journalism Department... $69,000 property gift from Lloyd Sandell to benefit Huskey College... $10,000 from Misty Snow Mathis to support the Mathis Scholarship Endowment... $9,000 from Tempres, Inc. to be divided equally between the Plastics Engineering Technology Endowment and the 1994-95 Plastics Engineering Technology annual scholarship... $70,000 gift of property from Eugene Owens, professor of management in the College of Business and Economics.
Roberta Bouverat travels, "When I can get away." A member of Western's faculty in educational curriculum and instruction from 1971-93, Bouverat admits working in the child care field, Development System, which evaluates the competency of those working in the child care field, was published in August 1994.

Faculty member and administrator from 1963-84, F. Richard (Dick) Feringer is reading manuscripts of a German scholar and writing about the essays for an Eastern publishing company.

August Radke, in the history department from 1953-89, traveled last June with his wife, Carol, to Paris, London and Normandy in what Radke called a "D-Day remembrance operation." Radke was not part of D-Day, but thought its anniversary would be a good time to visit Europe.

A member of the history faculty from 1946-77, professor emeritus Keith Murray's activities also belie the title "retired." In August 1993, the new regional state archives building was named jointly for Murray and former Western planning director H.A. "Barney" Gratz. In June, Murray received the Rotary Club Service Award for his more than 30 years of dedication. In August, he made the principal speech at the opening of the restored Edens Hall.

Sam Kelly retired officially in 1989 after 23 years as a Western administrator, but remained involved with community relations for Western until 1993 and was executive secretary for the search committee that found president Karen W. Morse. Like Murray, he is active with Bellingham Rotary. "I'm going to get my rapier wit, added with a wicked grin." Kelly, known for his rapier wit, added with a wicked grin.

Charles J. (Jerry) Flora, president of Western from 1967 to 1975, retired in 1991 after 34 years at Western. In June he traveled to the South Pacific — with 13 students and his wife, Rosemary — to present field lectures on the biology of reefs.

Retired from Fairhaven College last June after 25 years of teaching, Bob Keller "relaxed" at first with a 16-day kayak trip in British Columbia. But then, it was back to teaching — although his course on the history of the Olympic Peninsula did include a 10-day field trip there last August.

The Western Retirement Association's Panama Canal cruise drew Bouverat, former chemistry professor Lowell Eddy and former administrator Mary Robinson. Robinson also visited the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain in 1994, meeting with some of her students from American University in Beirut where she was dean of women before coming to Western.

At home, Eddy and his wife work together in creative endeavors. Caroline, a Western art graduate, designs their oriental garden while Eddy does the landscaping. He also makes jewelry and is a silversmith, using Caroline's designs.

Dorothy Ramsland, chair of the home economics department from 1959-86, says her knee replacement last year is not keeping her home. Last year, she attended an Elderhostel on art and architecture at the University of Minnesota and one on Southern cooking at Charleston, S.C. She is hard at work helping to plan a reunion of home economics graduates and faculty on campus next summer. For information, contact Alumni House, (360) 650-3353.

Travel is an important feature of life in retirement for many faculty, something Western Retirement Association treasurer, Margaret Atiken, well knows. Chair of the physical education department from 1963-84, she regularly participates in association activities, whether it's weekly hikes, monthly local travel programs or the lure of far-away places.

Western alumni and founding member of the chemistry department, Fred W. Knappman enjoys traveling and, like Ramsland, is involved with Elderhostel programs. He, too, keeps in touch with his department, and with his wife created a scholarship for chemistry students on his 80th birthday in 1988. "One of our greatest pleasures is meeting these students," Knappman says.

Beaunice Skeen, an Education College faculty member from 1947-72, is another faculty donor. In 1991, she created a fund to purchase educational materials for early childhood and elementary school teachers. Skeen, who celebrated her 90th birthday in January, says she isn't doing much these days, but she keeps busy reading, watching the television news, and observing the world from her window on State Street.

Former dean of the graduate school, J. Alan Ross, has also mastered the quieter life at The Willows retirement community in Bellingham. He enjoys spending time with his two sons, their wives and children, all of whom live on Lake Whatcom. He especially enjoys holidays like the Fourth of July where "barbecues and beaches" are the feature.

Edith Larrabee, a member of the home economics department from 1957-82, also is taking it easy, spending time with her son, daughter-in-law and their children, who live in Bellingham. "My schedule is as full as I want it," she says. "Being retired, I am able to do what I want to do, when I want to do it," she adds, echoing what many of her retired colleagues find appealing, no matter how busy and hectic their schedules.

This group of "retired" faculty and administrators are, of course, only a handful of people who have given Western so many memories. From time to time, we want to catch readers up on what's happening with some of their favorite professors. If you have wondered "Where are they now?" drop us a line at the Public Information Office, Western Washington University, 98225-9045, and we'll try to find out.
as the deputy chief of staff and as the fleet intelligence officer on the staff of the Com- mander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe... Wallace H. Sigman has been appointed in- terim President of Peninsula College... Seafar's Vice President Walter W. Ito was named National Volunteer of the Year by Business Volunteers of the Arts through their efforts at the Puppet Theatre in Seattle. She received her award in New York in the presence of such luminaries as Lina Home, Beverly Sills and Kitty Carlisle... Kim Pearson is a Ph.D. student at Stanford University and was recently elected House Majority Leader... Alan Adhamjian was recently awarded a two-year NSF fellowship in computer science... Sen. Ed Murray is a member of the Pacific Northwest Women's Mathematics Chair at Oklahoma State University... When he was here recently returned from Padua, Italy were he was being lectured... Scott Burkhart returned to campus in November to make a presentation on the National Ignition Facility (NIF), a revolution energy-generating laser system. At Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

1978 - Hyundai Motor Finance Company in Fountain Valley, CA, has selected Mitchell L. Hogins as Vice President, Finan- cial... SAFECO Corporation's Board of Di- rectors has announced that Leslie Eggerling, manager of retirement market- ing, for SAFECO Asset Management Com- pany in Seattle, has been named assistant vice president... Christina Cho of Vancouv- er announced her candidacy for the position of Student Services Assistant in the Counselling Department. She has worked at the college for 14 years.

1980 - Leslie Nix was awarded a juris- doctor degree at Western State University College of Law in Fullerton, Calif. Carol Atwood-Castillo is Director of Development at Edgewood Children's Center in San An- drés. She will oversee all phases of fund rais- ing for the institution.

1981 - Lindsey A. Dodson recently completed her law degree at Hamline Uni- versity School of Law in St. Paul. and moved to Washington, D.C., in August. Assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum: Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Jadlin

Ford announces retirement

Dr. James M. Ford, President of Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon since 1977, has announced his plans to retire at the end of this school year. A Washington native who grew up in the small logging community of Rydewater, Ford received his bachelor's degree from Western in 1951 and his master's in science de- gree and Ph.D. in zoology from Oregon State University.

He and his wife Fran and their children, Greg, Jean, Stuart, and Doug, are all mem- bers of the Alumni Association.
Six Alums receive award

Six Western graduates were named recipients of the prestigious Washington Award for Excellence in Education. The award program annually honors individuals for their exceptional leadership, contributions and commitment to education. The following are 1994 recipients: William Evans ('76, ’89), principal in Lakewood School District; Joan Beardsley ('86) and Joe McAliffe ('76, ’93), secondary teachers in Bellingham School District; Barbara Hjort ('72, ’77, ’79), second-year teacher in Kelso School District; David Carollo ('69), teacher in Puyallup School District.

We want to hear from you!

Submissions of photos and copy for the Class Notes section may be sent to Western Washington University Alumni Association, Bellingham, WA 98225-9199.

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Alumni

Florence Mae Passig Smith Orrall (29), a life-long Vashon Island resident, died Oct. 15 at the age of 84. Her life on the Island was marked by hard work and dedication to her community. During WWII she served as an aircraft observer. She was best known as an elementary school teacher, and for each year providing a special formal tea party at her home for her second-graders.


Helene Mooers ('41, '54), a longtime Davenport school teacher, died Sept. 6 in Davenport. Over her teaching career, Mrs. Mooers taught in the states of South Dakota, Alaska, Texas, and Washington. A volunteer with the American Cancer Society, she also traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad.

Mary Marguerite Moon Graham, a Normal School graduate, died Nov. 4 in Bellingham. She was a 50-year member of the First Congregational Church and a life member of the Alumnae Club. She served as the secretary for the Woman's Auxiliary of the American Legion Post 3 and was an active volunteer with the Salvation Army. She was best known for her second-graders in which she provided a special formal tea party at her home for her students each year.

Faculty

Paul H. Stoner

Violinist and conductor Paul H. Stoner died Christmas day at 76. He taught violin and music theory for 22 years, retiring in 1983. Fellow music faculty member Eugene Zorio praised Stoner as the “essence of collegiality,” saying — unlike many specialists — he “worked best in groups."

Although often approached as a solo violinist, Stoner performed with faculty chamber music groups, was conductor of the Skagit Valley Symphony, minister of music at Bellingham’s Garden Street United Methodist Church and president of the American String Teachers Association.

A native of Idaho, he received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas, his master’s from the University of Washington and his doctorate from the University of Colorado, where he was designated the outstanding doctoral student in 1958. Before coming to Western, he taught at universities in Kansas, California and Colorado.

Nicole Bandeau Rapoza

Born in Paris in 1925, Nicole Bandeau Rapoza spent her early years in Shanghai where her father was the French consul general. After the Japanese invaded in 1938, the family went to Tunisia before returning to France during World War II. She met her former husband while working as a nurse and translator for the American Armed Forces in Paris, was married in 1945 and came to the United States the following year.

She came to Western to teach French in 1969, earning her doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley the following year. Rapoza, who died Oct. 18 at 69, taught at Western until her 1987 retirement. She was a classical pianist and enjoyed art, painting, sketching, gardening and traveling.

Darlene E. Nelson

Darlene E. Nelson, who died Oct. 12 at 64, completed her 15-year career at Western in 1982 as director of special projects. Earlier she taught English and humanities.

Before coming to Western she worked at Boeing and served with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. She studied at the University of Washington and Arizona State, and earned her bachelor’s (1960) and master’s (1962) degrees at Western. During the 1960s, she taught music in Montana and Bellingham high schools as well as at Western.

MemoriaIs may be made to the Leslie Hunt Memorial Poetry Award through the Western Foundation.

Richard C. McAllister

Retired assistant professor of accounting Richard C. McAllister died Nov. 14 at 71. A certified public accountant, he received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Washington, the latter in 1954.

Cindy Joy Brower, 37, a resident of Olympia died on Oct. 3. She received a bachelor’s in botany from WWU in 1982, and served briefly on the board of the RainForest Audubon Society. She found great pleasure in outdoor activities and was an ardent climber, sea kayaker, and gardener. Brower was considered a local authority on the use of native plants.

Port Townsend city planner, Darlene Blemboofield, 56, a life-long Quileute resident with plans to get married, died unexpectedly at her parents’ home on July 11. She was a lifelong hiker and bicyclist, recently completing a tour to Silver Lakes on the Olympic Peninsula.

Lee Van Zanten ('54,69) died in an automobile accident in Oct. 1993 shortly after retiring from being a music and elementary teacher. He taught in Bellingham, Maine and Longview during his 28-year career. As a vocal student at Western, Lee studied with Bernard Regier, sang in concert choir and opera productions, and with the Don Walter Folk Singers. In addition to his classroom career, Lee directed church choirs for 33 years, and passed his skills on to his children.

Seattle geologist Kurt Schmierer, 38, was killed Dec. 5 when he slipped into a crevasse in a Himalayan peak, after high winds forced his four-man climbing team to abandon its attempt to scale Mount Dhaulagiri. Schmierer earned his bachelor’s in 1980 and master’s in 1986 in geology from Western. He was a geologist for Tetra Tech, a Redmond-based environmental evaluation company.

Rachelle Laviguere died Nov. 15 at home. She was 28. She attended Western and was to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in psychology in March. She worked with the Bellingham Connection. She loved the outdoors, hiking, camping and making homemade jewelry for her three sons and a daughter. Memorials may be made to the Laviguere Children Memorial Fund, c/o Puget Sound Employees Credit Union, 1100 DuPont Plaza, Bellingham, WA 98225.

Patricia Nieman Macklin died in September of complications from intestinal cancer. She was a Bellingham Normal School graduate, and participated in the Ladies Auxiliary of Veterans of Foreign Wars. She married Joseph D. "Dave" Macklin in 1954. The couple raised five children during Dave’s 24 years of active U.S. Army service. The Macklin’s lived all over the world including in Norway, Saudi Arabia and Alaska, before moving to Ferndale in 1987.