Huxley Horizon, 2004, Winter

Huxley College of the Environment, Western Washington University

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During the period from 1996 to 1999, General Motors produced about 1,100 EV1s. These quiet, electric, two-seater cars garnered 23 patents for advanced features. GM’s version of an advanced technology vehicle was donated by the company to universities nationwide.

In conjunction with Huxley College, Western Washington University’s Vehicle Research Institute received one of the vehicles. The EV1, presented to Western President Karen W. Morse and Huxley College of the Environment Dean Brad Smith, is intended to encourage continued research in advanced technology and development of environmentally-sustainable transportation systems. Dave Barthmuss, manager of California Environment and Energy Communications for General Motors, presented the car to WWU in a ceremony on October 7.

Western’s VRI is “very possibly the best school in the country for total car design,” according to Automobile magazine. VRI director Michael Seal has been working with students since 1971 building award-winning experimental vehicles known for fuel economy and safety. According to Seal, “GM’s EV1 is an incredibly advanced vehicle with its lightweight body, aerodynamic shape, and specialized tires. I am very confident our students can convert the EV1 into an impressive and unique hybrid,” he said. Students plan to refit the vehicle with a bio-diesel engine to transform the EV1 into a hybrid vehicle running on fuel derived from recycled vegetable oils and grease.

“As a leader in sustainability, Western has made significant contributions in the last three decades to further the development of energy-efficient vehicles,” Brad Smith said. “We are most grateful for GM’s commitment as an educational partner.”
Message from the Dean ... Brad Smith

As you have read through this latest issue of the Huxley Horizon you will note the growing number and diversity of the organizations with which Huxley has partnered over the past year. Establishing and maintaining partnerships are important to Huxley in a number of ways. As you recall from your time at Huxley, the foundation of a Huxley education is in its applied nature. Having the opportunity to work with governmental agencies or businesses directly complements the knowledge gained in the classroom. In order to provide the “hands on” part of a student’s education it is critical to have partners outside the university that support that goal. A second important aspect of partnerships is the financial support that they provide to Huxley students. There is no doubt that given the current fiscal realities within which universities must operate that we need the support of engaged and generous partners.

Highlighted in the following pages are snapshots of some of the dynamic Huxley partnerships that began in 2003. The donation by General Motors of an EV1 will help students better understand the issues surrounding sustainable transportation. Issues pertaining to regional transportation concerns will be explored through a new collaboration between Huxley and the Whatcom Council of Governments and the Federal Transportation Administration. The photo on this page shows the presentation of a check by British Petroleum Cherry Point Refinery to support graduate students at Huxley. Presenting the check is Karen Payne, Health and Safety Engineer and Elizabeth Daly, Environmental Supervisor at BP in Ferndale, Washington.

The above examples are only a few of the partnerships that Huxley has underway. We continue to have ongoing partnerships with many state and federal agencies. The list of partnerships, however, is never long enough. As you read through the following pages of information on your college, an idea of a new partnership might come to mind. Please share your thoughts with me at brad.smith@wwu.edu, or better yet, give me a call at 360-650-3521. Let’s continue to build Huxley’s future together.
Huxley Graduate Proud of Contribution
in Aftermath of 9/11 World Trade Center Disaster

Huxley graduate David Eisenhardt (1982) submitted an article to Huxley shortly after publication of the last issue of this newsletter. In the email which accompanied his article, he said, “Not long after the events of 9/11 I proudly composed the attached article...the article is lengthy and likely not suitable for the Huxley Horizon publication...It represents a time during which I am proud to have made a contribution, yet one of horrific reality I pray that no other Huxley graduate will ever be thrust into.” Although his article is too lengthy to include in its entirety (due to space limitations), excerpts follow.

On September 11, 2001 the world as we knew it was changed forever. In New York City, this Huxley ('82) graduate was called upon to put into action all of the knowledge and experienced gained in the pursuit of a career in environmental and occupational health and, at this writing, the work is far from over. Since the 11th, my time has been consumed with dizzying rates of activity. I have chiefly been responsible for coordinating the activities of a team assisting the federal law enforcement agencies (FBI, Customs, Secret Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Marshals) with their safety and health needs.

Although the fires continue to burn on the rubble pile at Ground Zero as I write this, the majority of federal law enforcement personnel originally involved are no longer at risk of exposure to the contaminants from the smoke there. Nevertheless, hazard awareness training, distribution and guidance on the use of personal protective equipment, especially respirators, and worker exposure monitoring constitute a major part of our team’s ongoing daily activities.

In the days since the attack, it has become evident just how deeply the lives of those in our federal community have been changed. A pall has been cast where once there was none. Some have cemented retirement plans that previously were only under consideration. Some have left for different jobs.

My immediate family was safe and unharmed by the tragedy. Yet there were a few that perished whom I had the distinct privilege of knowing and whose gifts helped me become who I am today. Gone, but never to be forgotten.

Working as a federal public and occupational health official in New York City, I routinely received and examined hundreds of environmental and worker air, water, dust, and soil contaminant sample data points in an effort to better understand where, if any, the immediate or long term risks to health are. Then, equipped with what I have learned about the behavior of these contaminants, I have gone before hundreds of frightened, shocked, sad, angry, and confused federal workers in an attempt to help them to understand the
News - continued

science of it all. All this in the face of my own desperate uncertainty about what the true health outcomes may eventually be for those directly involved and most substantially exposed during the unfolding of the disaster.

Although we have moved farther away from September 11, there remain a few environmental health issues that keep our office very busy. When a friend or colleague in another part of the country asks: "so, is life returning to normal for you now?" I arrive at the same conclusion each time: there is no normalcy in the lives of people who’s physical and emotional landscapes keep changing with each passing moment full of new unknowns. For me, there is solace and refuge in my family, my work and music which means playing drums in whatever band I am in at the moment.

As a Huxley student back in the late 70’s I was on a mission to learn as much as I could about the ways that toxic substances can harm humans and the environment. At the same time, I came to understand a deep and compelling need to make a positive contribution, no matter how small, to a larger community. I consider myself one of the privileged few that can honestly say they have been able to fulfill these life goals. I am proud to be an American and a proud graduate of Western Washington University. I am especially proud to be a member of the Huxley College of the Environment Alumni who, because of the great educational opportunities being an American provides, have been able to give something back.

— David Eisenhardt

Thanks to all Huxley alumni who donated to Huxley's annual phonathon in 2002-03...

Thank you to all Huxley alumni who made a gift to our college last year. Two hundred thirty (230) Huxley graduates contributed more than $12,000 to support graduate assistantships, international initiatives to attract foreign students, undergraduate scholarships and publications like The Planet.

It’s time for the 2003-04 Huxley Phonathon. In the coming weeks, a friendly Western student will call to ask you to join other Huxley College alumni in support of Western. We hope you’ll take a moment to listen to their important message and make a pledge. Your gift will provide resources and opportunities for students that truly enhance their Western experience but aren’t supported by state dollars. Brad Smith, Dean of Huxley College of the Environment, has identified several key funding priorities for this year’s phonathon:

Funding Priorities:
1. Graduate assistantships— Funds are needed to attract and retain the best and the brightest graduate students.
2. International initiatives— Funds are needed to assist foreign students in attending Huxley College.
3. Undergraduate scholarships— Funds are also needed for outstanding undergraduate students.
4. Publications— Funds are needed to assist with college publications, such as the national award winning Huxley publication, The Planet.

In addition to supporting these important programs, our phonathon is the most effective way we have to keep in touch with you to let you know about upcoming campus events. Thank you for taking just a few moments to speak with the student who calls you!

Huxley Enrollment
Huxley College has 321 undergraduates enrolled in these majors: Environmental Studies/Economics, Environmental Education, Planning and Environmental Policy, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies/Journalism, Geography, Geography/Social Studies (secondary teaching), Environmental Studies/Elementary Education, and Student/Faculty Designed Majors.
Local Connections - Interdisciplinary Partnership

Regional Transportation Collaboration with Huxley College

A collaboration between Huxley College of the Environment and North Sound Connecting Communities Project or “NSCCP,” began in September, 2004, to study regional transportation systems.

NSCCP has existed as a forum for government officials, planners, and citizen and private sector transportation interests since 1996. Under its auspices between 30 and 50 participants have met regularly at the Farmhouse Inn between Mount Vernon and Anacortes—and the NSCCP has become affectionately known as “The Farmhouse Gang.”

The NSCCP, in collaboration with Seattle’s non-profit Discovery Institute’s Cascadia Project, and agencies such as the Whatcom Council of Governments, Skagit Transit, Skagit Council of Governments, and Snohomish County Public Works Department has developed studies of regional issues. These issues span from traveler information to the potential for increased passenger rail services, as well as the complex issue of regional governance and cooperation.

The NSCCP has recently received a federal grant, administered by Western Washington University on behalf of the Whatcom Council of Governments, supported by Congressman Rick Larsen and Senator Patty Murray, to undertake studies of how regional public transportation connections, such as those between trains, buses, and ferries can be improved. This effort involves a collaboration between Huxley and the NSCCP in the development of a compendium of regional transportation plans and data relevant to NSCCP committees looking at specific aspects of this issue. Huxley’s Geography graduate program students Jill Leonetti and Steve Rybolt are working with NSCCP liaison Preston Schiller in this two-year effort. This collaborative program is supervised by Dean Brad Smith.

Huxley Map Library

The Map Library continues to serve a diverse group of patrons, including the university community, environmental consultants, genealogists, Indian Nations, public school children, and referrals from government agencies.

The size of the map collection continues to grow through the Federal Depository Library Program and through donations by other libraries, including the Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division.

Under the direction of Janet Collins, plans for the map library are to add a large format scanner and printer this year to facilitate projects involving the scanning and preservation of some of the “special” collections. There is also significant interest in the scanning and availability of historical Aerial Photography.

...more about the Map Library on page 16
The ‘GreenHeart’ Project is Growing at Huxley

Huxley College continues to host the non-profit Cascadia Pacific Center and its core ‘GreenHeart’ regional landscape strategies and its civic development project.

The ‘GreenHeart’ project involves three universities of the emerging ‘Cascadia Pacific’ metropolitan region: The University of Washington, The University of British Columbia, and Western Washington University. Holland’s Wageningen University is also involved. The project will soon include other institutions.

Project coordinators are collaborating with The Urban Land Institute, The American Farmland Trust, and others to explore a coherent, inclusive, and balanced approach to the future of the narrow lowlands corridor between the expanding Vancouver, British Columbia, and Seattle urban areas.

A full program of events for 2004, presented jointly by all partners, includes a regional conference and workshop in March, a study tour of The Netherlands in early June, and a regional scenarios charrette in October.

Cascadia Pacific founder and Project Director Robert Tibbs says, “Huxley is providing a key service to communities of Puget Sound and BC’s Lower Mainland, which must work and plan together if they are to maintain their prized individuality and quality of life as well as succeed in an ever changing world. This trans-national region has ample capacity in human and natural resources and technology to set an example of livability for North America - and beyond. It is entirely appropriate for our schools, colleges and universities to take a clear lead in preparing for their students’ future, - now.”

When asked to describe the association between Robert Tibbs and Huxley College, Dean Smith replies: “He has a passion; he links Huxley to his vision.” Smith goes on to describe Tibbs as “a visionary who draws others in, a connector...just a good person to have in Huxley’s orbit.”
Huxley Faculty - Innovative Teaching and Learning

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Rabel J. Burdge, Visiting Professor
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Dept. of Environmental Sciences and Director, Scientific Technical Services
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Ruth M. Harper-Arabie, Assistant Professor
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Robin Matthews, Director and Professor
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Herbert H. (Bert) Webber, Professor Emeritus
Retired July 2003

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Huxley faculty continue to be diverse in their interests and research, prolific in their publications and involved with their community and students. We have included web sites for further information about their projects, publications and classes. Also, see http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~huxley/facstaffdirectory.html for more information about our Faculty as well as a listing of Adjunct and Affiliated Faculty.
Andrew Bach—teaches a variety of geography courses, including map reading and climatology. His research at Lake Ozette, mostly carried out by graduate students, is beginning to develop results. Analysis of sediments from the wetlands shows that over a dozen fire events have occurred over the last several thousand years. Research on Vancouver Island suggests that the fire return interval may be as long as 6000 years. As suspected, humans have likely been burning the area. He will spend the next few years sifting through the forest understory looking for more evidence of fires.

Gigi Berardi—is Huxley's Chair of Environmental Studies. She teaches classes in Human Ecology, Research and Writing Methods in Geography, Natural Resources Management, and Agroecology and Sustainable Development. With Lynn Robbins, she is an advisor to the Tribal Environmental and Natural Resources Management Program (TENRM), a Huxley College and Northwest Indian College project.

Brian L. Bingham—teaches marine science courses and a graduate course in experimental design. He administers the National Science Foundation-funded Minorities in Marine Science Undergraduate Program (MIMSUP), to continue through 2008 (continuously funded since 1990). The program has allowed many students from other institutions to study at Western Washington University and is helping spread the word about our unique students, faculty, and programs in Huxley College. Check out the webpage at http://www.wwu.edu/~mimsup.

Leo Bodensteiner—teaches lecture, lab, and field courses in ecology, including fundamentals, limnology, stream habitat assessment, and fisheries management. He also teaches the Huxley core course and environmental impact assessment. His research interests are fisheries management and aquatic habitat assessment and restoration. Some of Leo's recent projects are 1) application of a multiple stressor framework to discriminate among anthropogenic impacts to aquatic biological communities; 2) application of resource survey methods, GIS, and integrated multimedia format to identifying sensitive shorelines and other lake habitats in the Winnebago Pool Lakes, Wisconsin; and 3) limnological characteristics of Soap Lake, a saline, meromictic lake in central Washington.

Scott Brennan—teaches Environmental Science 101 and a variety of Environmental Studies courses. He is faculty adviser to Huxley's rapidly growing Environmental Journalism program. Scott also advises The Planet, which was recently recognized as one of the top eight college magazines in the U.S! The Planet has recently added an online radio station in partnership with Seattle's KPLU at http://planet.wwu.edu Addison Wesley Longman-Benjamin Cummings will publish Scott's introductory environmental science textbook in February 2004. Entitled "Environment: The Science Behind the Stories," this case study-based book has been in development for three years.

In October 2003, Brian Bingham participated in a 10-day NOAA-sponsored cruise to study fish and invertebrate communities on the seafloor off the Olympic Coast. The goal of this ongoing survey effort is to assess benthic disturbance and recovery in the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The primary sources of disturbance are trenches for buried fiber optics cables and trawl scars from commercial bottom trawling. Abundances and distributions of fish and invertebrates were determined by "flying" a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) along bottom transects. When weather prevented launch of the ROV, benthic cores were collected with grabs deployed from the back of the ship. This made for some interesting work on the back of a ship pitching about in rough seas in the middle of the night. Because of the cost of the vessel and the ROV, operations ran 24 hours a day. Scientists participating in the cruise worked 12-hour shifts identifying benthic organisms from the ROV's video feed and from collected bottom samples, processing and vouchering specimens, and reviewing and cataloguing digital video records of each dive. For more information about this study and to see photographs of the seafloor at the project location, visit http://www.ocnms.nos.noaa.gov/research/fiberoptics.html
Huxley College of the Environment

Huxley College of the Environment

Huxley Faculty - continued

Patrick Buckley—teaches human geography, natural resources management, geographic information systems, planning process, transportation planning, third world, and world affairs.

Rabel J. Burdge—is currently a Visiting Professor in the Department of Sociology and Huxley College of the Environment at Western Washington University, where he teaches courses on environmental sociology and social impact assessment. He is a Professor Emeritus from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Burdge was recently appointed to a four-year term (2003-06) on the Whatcom County (State of Washington) Planning Commission. He edited a 2003 special issue of the international journal, Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal titled, “The Practice of Social Impact Assessment.” He is also working on the 3rd edition of his two textbooks, The Concepts, Process and Methods of Social Impact Assessment and a Community Guide to Social Impact Assessment, both to be published by the Social Ecology Press of Middleton, Wisconsin.

Devon Cancilla—teaches courses in environmental toxicology, environmental chemistry, and environmental disturbances. Devon’s projects include development of a University Integrated Laboratory Network (ILN): remote laboratories that will allow high schools, researchers and other colleges to use Western’s equipment. Quote from Cancilla: “I’m not poisonous.”

John T. (Jack) Hardy—is Chair of the Department of Environmental Sciences. He directs student research and teaches courses in the areas of environmental science, aquatic toxicology, and global environmental change. He supervises graduate student research projects involving the application of remote sensing to the study of coral reefs.

Peter Homann—Peter’s courses include terrestrial biogeochemistry, environmental systems, water quality, and biostatistical analysis. His research is focused on 1) quantifying soil organic matter at local and regional scales, evaluating controlling factors, and assessing uncertainty, 2) nutrient and carbon cycling in forest ecosystems, and 3) modeling plant-soil interactions at seedling to forest-stand scales.

Wayne G. Landis—Along with his faculty duties, Wayne is Director of the Institute of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. He teaches courses in environmental toxicology and risk assessment. Research includes developing new methods in toxicology, evaluating multi-species toxicity tests, and describing how ecosystems respond to stressors.

New Faculty Member
Ruth M. Harper-Arabie
Assistant Professor
Department of Environmental Sciences

Dr. Ruth Harper-Arabie comes to Huxley College from the Colorado School of Mines Environmental Science and Engineering Division. Dr. Harper’s most recent research was conducted on radionuclide chemistry and how organic ligands affect mobilization and bioavailability in the environment.

Robin Matthews—is Director of the Institute for Watershed Studies and teaches stream ecology, environmental pollution, aquatic toxicology, and statistical ecology. Her research interests include freshwater ecology and aquatic toxicology. Research projects include Lake Whatcom watershed and Abbotsford/Sumas ground water monitoring programs in collaboration with Robert Mitchell (Geology) and Geoffrey Matthews (Computer Science).
Huxley Faculty - continued

John McLaughlin—teaches courses in fundamentals of ecology, population biology, conservation of biological diversity, field methods in vertebrate ecology, and biostatistical analysis. Research interests include habitat relationships of birds and carnivores, effects of forest management on wildlife, population dynamics, and predator-prey interactions. His research includes studying the dynamics and extinction risk in populations of the Bay checkerspot butterfly (Euphydryas editha bayensis) and research in the areas of 1) avian distributions and habitat relationships in the North Cascades and 2) the grizzly bear habitat evaluation in the North Cascades Recovery Zone.

Michael Johns Medler—Michael is a physical geographer with interests in landscape ecology, biogeography and the policy dynamics of natural resource management. Prior to coming to Huxley, Dr. Medler taught for the Department of Geography at Rutgers University. He also taught at the University of Oregon and the University of Arizona. He applies integrative and analytical geographic approaches to ecosystem-scale management questions working with tools such as GIS, remote sensing, and spatial analysis. His efforts center on developing techniques that use remote sensing, GIS, and advanced visualization techniques to simplify the mapping and interpretation of complex biophysical characteristics such as forest fire, fire hazard, or habitat. He also examines wilderness and wildland management issues and resource policy.

Jean Melious—teaches land use law, environmental law, environmental law, dispute resolution, and various environmental policy courses. She was sworn into the State Bar of Washington on November 14, 2003, after passing the Summer 2003 Washington State Bar Exam. She is also admitted to the State Bar of California. Jean recently was commissioned by Environment Canada, the Canadian federal environmental agency, to prepare a report entitled Transboundary Air Quality Management Models: Options for Western Canada/United States. This publication formed the basis of the international air quality management strategy adopted by the Georgia Basin-Puget Sound International Airshed Coordinating Committee in October, 2003. At the request of Chinese air quality officials, the report has also been sent to China for use in their transboundary air quality planning efforts.

John Miles—teaches courses in environmental history, ethics, nature writing, and environmental education. Former Huxley College Dean and Chair of the Department of Environmental Studies, Miles was instrumental in the initiation of a collaborative Master’s program in Environmental Education with North Cascades Institute. John is also a member of the Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission.

Debnath Mookherjee—teaches courses in systematic and regional fields of geography including urban and economic geography, regional development, spatial analysis of environmental problems, the developing world, and Asian geography. His professional activities include research, publications and presentations at national and international professional associations. In August, 2003, he traveled to Ljubljana (Slovenia) to participate in the International Geographical Congress meeting, where he presented a paper (co-authored with Eugene Horauf) on the theme of Monitoring the Cities of Tomorrow, and took part in a workshop on Deprived Urban Areas. His current research focus includes analyses of the dynamics of growth in metropolitan environments.

Gene Myers—Gene’s courses include environmental education, community-based environmental education, conservation psychology, graduate environmental education courses, and offerings in the core, including social science and humanities perspectives. He is also
very involved in the M.Ed. in Environmental Education programs, including the “Residency” option in partnership with the North Cascades Institute, now in its third year. A special issue of Human Ecology Review will appear soon, which Gene co-edited on the theme of Conservation Psychology. Works in progress include a revised edition of his ground breaking analysis in human-animal interaction, “Children and Animals: Social Development and Our Connections to Other Species,” to be issued by Purdue University Press, and a 6-year longitudinal qualitative study of WWU students in environmental and other majors. Gene has teamed up with Nick Zaferatos and Professor Arunas Oslapas of Industrial Design in Engineering Technology to propose a new academic minor in Sustainable Design. This fall he organized the Huxley noon speaker series to highlight this emerging field.

John Rybczyk—and Huxley graduate students currently work on numerous wetland-related projects in Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington, as well as in Italy, Spain, Micronesia, and the UK where their research interests include: the effects of global warming and sea level rise on coastal wetland sustainability, wetland restoration, invasive species, and ecosystem modeling. He teaches a variety of classes at western including Wetland Ecology, Estuarine Ecology and the new core course for incoming Huxley students.

Donald T. Singh-Cundy—teaches courses in public opinion and environmental issues, application of survey methods to environmental issues, and analysis of survey data. Research interests include public opinion and environmental/wildlife issues and the role of the media in shaping public opinion.

Tom Terich—continues to teach physical and human geography along with natural hazards, geomorphology, and geography of the U.S. He is pleased to announce that the research of two recent master’s students will soon be published in refereed journals: one in Environmental Hazards and the other in the Journal of Coastal Research. Other than that... “wish’in I was fish’in!”

Wendy Walker—teaches environmental education, interpretation, curriculum and outdoor education. Wendy divides her time between Huxley College and consulting work in interpretive writing, exhibit development, and planning. Interests include developing environmental education programs for youth-at-risk, agricultural land preservation, creative writing, and the arts.

David Wallin—teaches courses in fundamentals of ecology, terrestrial ecology, landscape ecology, and use of remote sensing in ecology. His research interests focus on the regional-scale study of land-use effects on the structure and function of forest ecosystems. His work is heavily dependent on the use of simulation models and satellite remote sensing.
Dr. David Harris Shull has joined Huxley College Winter 2004. He received a bachelor’s degree in oceanography from the University of Washington and then moved to the east coast for graduate school. Dr. Shull received a master’s degree in oceanography from the University of Connecticut and a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from the University of Massachusetts Boston. He was a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Maine’s Darling Marine Center, and an assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts.

Dr. Shull’s research focuses on the structure and function of soft-bottom marine benthic communities. His primary research area examines how animals in these communities affect the distribution and fates of chemicals in the sediment. He has been studying the effects of sediment irrigation by animals on rates of mercury methylation in sediments of Boston Harbor. He is also studying the role that benthic animals play in the initiation of harmful algal blooms in New England. A third area of current research involves the relationships between salt marsh grasses and the distributions and growth rates of salt marsh invertebrates.

David Shull grew up in Puyallup, Washington, and is happy to have returned to Washington to study Puget Sound.

Grace Wang—teaching and research interests are in the broad area of natural resource and environmental policy. Her specific interests include community-based forestry and non-timber forest products. In particular, she is working with federal agencies and tribal nations to better understand natural resource use over time.


Nicholas Zaferatos—teaches urban and environmental planning; sustainable community development; planning theory, history, and methods; planning studio classes; and Native American community development. His research interests include growth management, community development, intergovernmental relations, Native American community and economic development, federal Indian environmental policy, and European community development. Nick was involved in planning and organizing the international ISOMUL land use conference held at Huxley in 2002. His Spring Quarter planning studio class was the recipient of the 2002 Honor Award for best student planning project in Washington, awarded by the Planning Association of Washington and the Washington State Chapter of the American Planning Association. This spring, he taught two classes in Athens, Greece, in urban design and planning and European environmental policy through the NCSA international program. While in Athens, he explored partnership collaborations with the Greek government and environmental organizations to establish a future Huxley College field research and educational program in European policy. He continues to form partnerships between Huxley and local communities to help achieve sustainable community development. He is active in the local community, serving on the Bellingham Planning Commission.
The first annual Dean’s Distinguished Student Award was presented in June 2003 to Huxley graduate Moses Tcheripanoff. Moses received his degree in Geography (Environmental and Resource Management) in 2003.

Congratulations, Moses!

Kori Buford
Long Trek Leads to New Understanding of Fire Ecology

Kori Buford grew up near the Wenatchee National Forest in the middle of Washington State. Her first job right out of high school didn’t take her far; the “travel” started when she was actually on the job. Kori was assigned to a silviculture team working at replanting and fire rehabilitation after one of the largest fires to have occurred in the Wenatchee National Forest. Buford sums up her career in the forest as a “professional hiker” as each job entailed hiking through the forest. As a Geography undergraduate at Western, she continued to spend her summers in Wenatchee. She worked three seasons in reforestation; her final summer she used a GPS system mapping areas for replanting.

The following year Buford was hired on an initial fire attack crew. She received extensive fire training, finally becoming one of 20 highly-trained members of a hotshot crew in Rocky Mountain National Park. As is common among those in stressful jobs, Kori began to feel a certain degree of burnout. She made the decision to attend graduate school, applied and was accepted to Huxley College, and began working toward her Master’s Degree last fall. Although she chose Huxley in part for the Natural Resource Management program, her firefighting experience kept her interested in fire ecology and influenced her choice of thesis subject.

Buford is studying fire seasonality: how fires differ depending on the season in which they burn. Her research includes quantifying the time of year during which fires burned historically as well as using computer modeling techniques to gain a better understanding of how fire behavior and fire effects might change depending on what time of year (or season) in which a fire burns. She anticipates that the data will be useful for forest management professionals to determine the best time to perform prescribed burns.

At press time, Kori Buford was traveling again (though not hiking), on her way to present a poster of her work to date at the Association for Fire Ecology conference. After completing her thesis work, Kori hopes to continue in fire or other resource management research projects in Washington State, or perhaps teach geography at a community college.
Katie Frankhauser
... From Quiet Music Student to Peace-Builder and Presidential Scholar

Katie Frankhauser came to Western Washington University as a music-oriented student who loved to read. Katie played oboe with the Western Symphony Orchestra and other groups and graduated magna cum laude in environmental science in June, 2003, with 251 credits and a 3.90 GPA. In an effort aimed at personal growth, Katie also forced herself to get involved in her new community. She and Candace Youngren founded Restoring Eden, an Associated Students club, in 2000, as a method of linking two strong Western communities: Christian groups and environmental groups. Frankhauser was also involved in Western Environmental Watch and Students for Fair Trade, and was named one of seven Presidential Scholars at Western. As might be expected, however, that was only the beginning for Frankhauser. Following up on her travels to study in the jungles of Belize in her senior year, and an internship on a semi-organic citrus farm under the Global Stewardship Study Program, Katie left immediately following graduation to travel to South Africa. While there, she served as the leader of a team of seven college students tutoring in ethnic communities near Cape Town, in what she calls peace-building. Frankhauser plans to return to Belize in January, 2004 to serve as a program director for Global Stewardship (a project coordinated with the Anglican Church).
Huxley Students - continued

Student Activities
Spring Block 2003

Alumni Updates

- Chris and Roland Behee are brothers who both graduated in 1990 with majors and minors in geographical information systems. Both have been working in GIS since graduation. Chris is with the city of Bellingham Planning and Community Development Department and Roland is with Community Transit in Snohomish County. This fall they co-authored an article on their research on a detailed mapping and analysis of the Tycho crater area on the moon. They used their mutual interest in astronomy, their GIS skills and data gathered by a NASA moon mission to prepare an article about the crater, including detailed maps and three-dimensional graphic illustrations.

- Tiffany Campbell, 2001 graduate in Environmental Studies/Journalism, continues her work as CNN Sci-Tech reporter. Her story “Study: Honda’s Insight rated ‘greenest’ car” was the lead story on CNN’s Science-Technology beat on February 5, 2002.

- Greg Berghoff, 1990 graduate in Geography, is employed in GIS by the Kitsap PUD. His efforts in obtaining more detailed elevation data through new technologies (LIDAR) have helped delineate several important geologic fault structures which extend throughout the south Puget Sound region.
Friends of the Huxley Map Library

An Open Letter to All Alumns:

The State of Washington, like many other states, is facing budget restrictions. Unfortunately, there is not always sufficient funding for maps, aerial photography and digital information. Instructional and research needs in geography, geology, environmental studies, and other disciplines require cartographic information in a variety of formats.

To make up for the shortfall in state funds and to maintain the quality of the map collection, "Friends of the Huxley Map Library Committee" (members below) proposes the establishment of a permanent endowment which will provide a continuous income for the purchase of maps, photos, digital products and student staffing.

The WWU Foundation has established a minimum of $20,000 for a permanent endowment and a yield of 5%, which will provide $500 a year for Map Library purchases and $500 a year for student staffing, once the $20,000 goal is reached. The funds need to be collected within a five-year period.

Your Friends Committee is looking for forty (40) Map Library supporters to pledge $100 a year for five years! It could be eighty persons giving $50 a year for five years or four persons giving $1000 per annum for the same period. We think you can see that any pledged support would be most welcome. If we should exceed $20,000, it means greater financial support for the map library needs identified by its Director and Map Librarian, Janet Collins.

We hope you will give this your thoughtful consideration. The WWU Map Library ranks 46th in the nation and 2nd in Washington State. It is a treasured asset for the institution and the region. Each committee member thanks you for thinking carefully about this request and we look forward to your support.

Sincerely,

Friends of the Huxley Map Library Membership Committee
Janet Collins, Director and Map Librarian, 1977 - present
Andy Bach, Huxley Geography Faculty, 1995 - present
Phil Bakke, Alum, 1994
Mark and Christy Cook, Geography Alums, 1980 and 1979
Kris Hartin, Huxley Environmental Science Alum, 2003
Eugene Hoerauf, Huxley Staff, 1970 - present
Bob Monahan, Faculty Emeritus in Geography
George Mustoe, Geology Technician
Tom Terich, Huxley Geography Faculty 1973 - present
Huxley Staff

Staff Directory

Nancy Bonnickson
Scientific Instructional
Technician Supervisor

Janet Collins
Map Librarian

Marilyn Desmul
Grants Administrator

Sally Elmore
Graduate Advisor

Stefan Freelan
GIS Specialist

Mike Hilles
Research Associate

Gene Hoerauf
GIS/Cartographer

Sue Hoidal
Chair’s Assistant

Kathy Johnson
Undergraduate Advisor

Judy Kincaid-King
Assistant, Retired

Teresa LaFreniere
Assistant to the Dean

April Markiewicz
Assistant Director

Mary Moores
Huxley Registrar

Diane Peterson
Chair’s Assistant

Donna Vandergrriend
Director’s Assistant

Joan Vandersypen
Lab Supervisor

Janet Collins, Map Librarian

Janet continues in her 27th year at Western to enjoy the “cartographic medium” and the challenges of running the Map Library. She frequently visits Arizona to enjoy sunshine and open space. Other travel this year has included a self guided walking tour of southwestern Ireland, and drawing a permit to “run” (boat) a stretch of the Green River in Utah known as Desolation and Gray Canyons.

Who...

• provides weekly lunches to graduate students?
• provides Huxley with produce from the Huxley garden?
• coordinates Novemberfest potluck?
• keeps the labs supplied with essentials?

...Thanks Nancy Bonnickson!!

In pursuit of higher education...

Stefan Freelan completed his MS in Geography. His thesis: Developing a Quasi-Temporal GIS for Historical Data Derived from Archival Maps. He is teaching the new Introduction to GIS course and enjoying the pleasures of being the parent of a two-year-old.
Alumni News

This alumni information was gathered from your Alumni Reply Forms and other correspondence with Huxley College. This year we have included only "news", rather than a complete listing. If you have news you would like to share in future issues, please complete the Alumni Reply Form at the end of this newsletter and send it to us, or email us at HuxNews@cc.wvu.edu. We will happily print it in the next newsletter.

Thanks,
Huxley Horizon Staff

Susan Anderson
Appropriate Technology/Envr. Design 1985
~ Planning and Building Director, Chino Valley, Arizona

Chris Axling
Geography 2002
~ Land Stewardship Assistant, Scenic Hudson Inc. Land Trust

Adam Bailey
Geography 2002
~ Groundwater Sampling Technician, Environmental Resolutions Inc.

Elizabeth Barta
Envr. Studies/Economics 2002
~ Research Intern, Container Recycling Institute

Martha Bean
~ Self-employed consultant, lecturer at U of W, Ph.D. work at U of W College of Forest Resources

Nancy Bonnickson
M.S. Envr Science 1989

Thomas "Ty" Booth
Urban and Regional Planning 1992
~ Associate Planner, Pierce County Planning and Land Services

Scott Brennan
M.S. Envr. Science 1996
~ Lecturer, Huxley College, Western Washington University

Ned Buchman
Envr. Planning 1972
~ Senior Director, Dante Consulting. Current project: U.S. Treasury Department Cashlink II System

Jennifer Wickmen Campos
Planning & Envr. Policy 1997
~ Associate Transportation Planner, City of Vancouver, interested in pedestrian and bicycle planning

Alice Panny Cords
Envr. Science 1988
~ Hazardous Waste Specialist, City of Bellingham. Interested in hazardous waste management and education, non-point source pollution, household hazardous waste

Leonard D. Dixon
Planning & Envr. Policy 2002
~ Constitution Outreach Coordinator, Lummi Indian Business Council. Developing a process to rewrite the Lummi Constitution that entails community participation in the revision process — A true test of policy development and planning theory for community participation. I have been lecturing at Huxley in the 301/302 Core Classes each quarter, and will be lecturing in Rabel Burgess's SIA Course. I serve on two committees at Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, and the Lummi Cedar Project Board of Trustees (and currently under consideration for a position on the Northwest Indian College Board of Trustees.)

Marc Duboiski
Geography 1991
~ Project Manager, Intergovernmental Committee for Outdoor Recreational/Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Karen DuBose
Geography 2002
~ Water Quality Planner 1, King County Wastewater Treatment Department

Sherrie Duncan
Envr. Science 1993

Chris Eckley
Envr. Science 1997
~ Graduate student, Msc Watershed Ecosystems, Trent University, Ontario, Canada. Research project: Mercury methylation and demethylation in the water column of boreal lakes. Will start Ph.D. program at University of Toronto in September 2003 researching urban mercury cycling
Alumni News (continued)

WWU's Distinguished Alumnus of 2003

Huxley College of the Environment and the College of Business and Economics Center for Excellence in Management Education hosted a WWU presentation by Carlos Buhler, Friday, May 2, 2003, entitled “Ethics, Leadership and the Surrender of Authority.”

Carlos Buhler, who received WWU’s Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2003,” was the first North American to have climbed four of the world’s 14 peaks over 26,250 feet. He is also a motivational speaker who consults on organizational development and managerial expertise. Buhler was a member of Huxley’s class of 1978, and was named Superalpinist by The New York Times and Best of the Best by EverestNews.com.

Paul R. Ehnat, Jr.
Geography/M.Ed., Geography
1969, 1974

Kate Exall
Geography 2002
~ GIS Technician, Office of Planning & Community Development, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Jeremy Fox
Envr. Education 2002
~ Traveling in New Zealand; full time employment with Forest Service will begin in May 2004

Stefan Freelan
MS Geography 2002
~ Specialist, Geographic Information Systems, Huxley College, Department of Environmental Studies, Western Washington University

Phillip Henry
Ecosystems Analysis
1977
– Fish & Wildlife Officer, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

Gwen Heisterkamp
Geography 2002
~ Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (Americorps/Washington Conservation Corps)

Carter Hoff
Geography/Social Studies 2002
Alumni News (continued)

John Jacobson  
Envr. Science 1993  
~ Watershed Steward, Snohomish County Surface Water Management. Interested in salmon habitat restoration. Multiple projects underway in the Stillaguamish watershed

Janet Christiansen Jorgenson  
Envr. Education 1976  
~ Botanist, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Interested in botany, tundra disturbance, and long-term ecological monitoring

Carmen Saele Kardokus  
Envr. Education 1997  
~ Sixth Grade Teacher, Folsom-Cordova Unified School District. Working in low income community; continue to implement as much environmental education in classroom as possible. Started gardening project; raising steelhead trout for release in a local river. Seeing students eat radishes for the first time which they had grown themselves tells me I’m on the right track.

Chad Kauppi  
Planning & Envr. Policy 2002  
~ Field Technician, Tetra Tech (Environmental Consulting Firm)

Gene Kemp  
Geography 1988  
~ Technical Manager, Intergraph Services Company. Currently mobilized Air Force reservist

Jessica A. Klinkert  
Envr. Science 1996  
~ Hazardous Waste Technician/Designator, Shop 90HM, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Current interests include local environmental issues and volunteer projects (area YMCAs, including Kitsap and Pierce Counties).

Steve Rowe-Krumdick  
MS Envr. Science 1991  
~ Earth Tech, Inc., environmental consultant. Taking one year assignment in Monterrey, Mexico, with my employer at their Monterrey office. Taking wife, Deena, and daughter, Victoria (7), and son, Graham (9), with me. Will be helping American companies with Mexican operations/plants with environmental compliance

Charlotte Larson  
Envr. Education 2002  
~ Grad Student (Teaching), City University, Tacoma, WA

Christi Lee  
Envr. Science 1991  
~ Stay-at-home mom for my two boys (6 and 2). Recently resigned from U.S. EPA office of Air Quality, where I was an Environmental Scientist/Air Coordinator for 11 years.

Lee Whitford and Darek Staab in the M.Ed. Environmental Education Residency program (in partnership with the North Cascades Institute), working on part of a succession study near the Cascade River, June 2003
Jena Lemke  
Enr. Science 2001  
~ Biological Technician II, ABR, Inc. (environmental consulting firm doing aquatic and avian research). I will start graduate school at Oregon State University in July, 2004, on a full research assistantship through the school and NOAA (MS in fisheries).

April Markiewicz  
M.S. Envr. Science 1994  
~ Assistant Director, Toxicologist II, Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Western Washington University

Sarah Masco  
~ U.S. Forest Service, Soils Technician studying carbon flux from soil in disturbed ecosystems

Lisa Williams McGarvie  
Geography 1993  
~ Disability Adjudicator, Department of Social and Health Services

John McKinnon  
Marine Resources 1980  
~ Teacher, Clover Park School District. Interested in math and science curriculum

Heather Noel  
Envr. Studies/Elementary Education 2000  
~ Third Grade Teacher, Mukilteo School District

Emma Spenner Norman  
M.S. Geography 2002  
~ working towards her Ph.D. at University of British Columbia in the Geography Department. Her research emphasis is on political borders and environmental management.

Elizabeth K. Sorensen Olsen  
Geography 1992  
~ Planner II, Whatcom County Planning Department. Interested in traveling

Lohna O’Rourke  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Research Scientist, Battelle Marine Sciences Laboratory

Andrea Penski  
Envr. Education 2002  
~ Environmental and Outdoor Educator, YMCA Camp Colman

Kevin Raymond  
Envr. Studies 1980  
~ Assistant City Attorney, City of Seattle. Member of WWU Board of Trustees

Environmental Education play performed during November 8, 2003, WWU Open House
Alumni News (continued)

Catey Ritchie  
Envr. Science 2001  
~ Stewardship Assistant, The Nature Conservancy of Vermont

Melissa Roberts  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Previously: Research Tech, Kachemak Bay Research Reserve. Currently traveling for 6 months, may return to previous position

Brian Rolf  
Envr. Science 1995  
~ Sales - Hazardous Materials, Waste Management, Inc. Interests include stream restoration and hiking/camping in the Cascade Mountains

Stuart Rosenberger  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Fisheries Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Maaren Sanderson  
Envr. Policy & Assessment 1996

Jessica Schwab  
Planning & Envr. Policy 2002  
~ Project Coordinator, Portland Energy Conservation Inc.

Janet Senior  
Envr. Science 1982  
~ City of Portland, Bureau of Water Works

Kerry Sinnott  
Planning and Envr. Policy 2001  
~ LSA Associates, Inc., Environmental Analyst, working with EIRs in Chico and Martinez, California (initial study in Cupertino)

Craig Smith  
Geography 2000  
~ Fisheries Biologist Contractor,

Nisqually Indian Tribe. Interests include salmon habitat restoration and getting better data on effect of hatchery raised on native spawned salmon

Christa H. Strickwerda  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Marine Educator, Washington Conservation Corp./Department of Ecology, Mount Vernon

Melissa M. Sutton  
Envr. Science 2000  
~ Environmental Health Specialist, Cowlitz County (onsite sewage program, wellhead protection, RV park program, solid waste programs)

Joan Vandersypen  
MS Envr. Science 1993  
~ Research Technologist Supervisor, Institute of Watershed Studies, Western Washington University

Staryn Wagner  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Installation Supervisor, Ion Art

Brendan Ward  
Envr. Science 2002  
~ Research Assistant, Department of Forest Ecology and Management, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Rob White  
Urban & Regional Planning 1997  
~ Senior Planner, City of Gig Harbor. Current interest is planning and economic development (design review and downtown revitalization)

Jim Wiggins  
MS Envr. Science 1992  
~ President/Biologist, ATSI

Kymberly Wilson  
Envr. Science 2000  
~ Graduate student, Kansas State University, interested in stream ecology and stream metabolism

Marnie Jo Zirbel  
MS Envr. Science 1992  
~ Research Technician, Plankton Ecology Lab, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography

Craig Zora  
Marine Resources 1979  
~ Aquatic Land Manager, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Huxley Gear

T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Nalgene Bottles, Mugs, and Plates

Sweatshirts: Black, Green, Navy
Short Sleeve T's: Stonewashed Blue, Stonewashed Green, Navy, Forest Green
Short Sleeve 100% Organic Cotton T’s: Natural
Long Sleeve T's: Forest Green, Navy
Sizes: S, M, L, XL (some XXL)
Size and color subject to availability

**New Item!! Nalgene Water Bottles:** 32 oz. wide mouth in a variety of colors (Huxley logo sticker included)

Prices (all proceeds go to Huxley’s annual graduation celebration):

- Nalgene Water Bottle ............................................ $12.00
- Mug/Plate ............................................................ $3.00
- Short Sleeve T-Shirt (ST) ....................................... $15.00
- Organic Short Sleeve T-Shirt (OT) ......................... $16.50
- Long Sleeve T-Shirt (LT) ..................................... $18.00
- Hooded Sweatshirt (HS) ........................................ $30.00
- Hooded Sweatshirt w/Flowers (HSF) ...................... $32.00
- Zippered Hooded Sweatshirt (ZS) ......................... $33.00
- Zippered Hooded Sweatshirt w/Flowers (ZSF) ....... $35.00

Please use shirt codes (in parentheses) on order form.

Clip and mail or fax this form to:

**WWU, Huxley College ~ ES 539 ~ Mary Moores ~ 516 High Street ~ Bellingham, WA 98225**
Fax: 360-650-2748 ~ Phone: 360-650-3748 (please call if you have questions)

~ Please make checks payable to: Western Foundation ~

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Shipping:
- $3.50 for one
- $5.00 for 2 to 4
- 5 or more call 360-650-3748
- $15 for international

~-------------------------------------~

Huxley Gear Logo designed by Huxley Graduate, Karsten Carlson

To purchase, complete the order form below and mail or fax to Huxley College.
For orders placed after June 15, 2004, please call or email Mary Moores prior to ordering:
360-650-3748 or mary.moores@wwu.edu

~-------------------------------------~
Alumni Reply Form

Date:

Name:

Maiden Name:

Address:

Is this a new address? YES NO

Email Address:

Web Site:

Would you like the above information published in the newsletter? YES NO

Year Graduated: Degree & Major:

Present Employer and Position:

Areas of Interest and Current Projects:

Comments About the Newsletter:

If you would like to contribute a short article or letter to the Editor for our next newsletter, please list the topic here:

We will include articles and letters as we have space.

Mail, Fax or Email your completed Alumni Reply form to:

Huxley College Alumni Newsletter
516 High Street - Mail Stop 9079
Western Washington University
Bellingham, WA 98225

Email: huxley@cc.wwu.edu
Fax: 360-650-2842

The Huxley Horizon

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Teresa LaFreniere, Assistant Editor
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Karsten Carlson, Logo Artist

http://www.ac.wwu.edu/~huxley

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516 High Street
Western Washington University
Bellingham, WA 98226
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