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Window: The Magazine of Western Washington University, 2013, Volume 06, Issue 01

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WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WINDOW

THE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER 2013

Pushing the Limits

Alaska by foot, paddle
and Viking grit

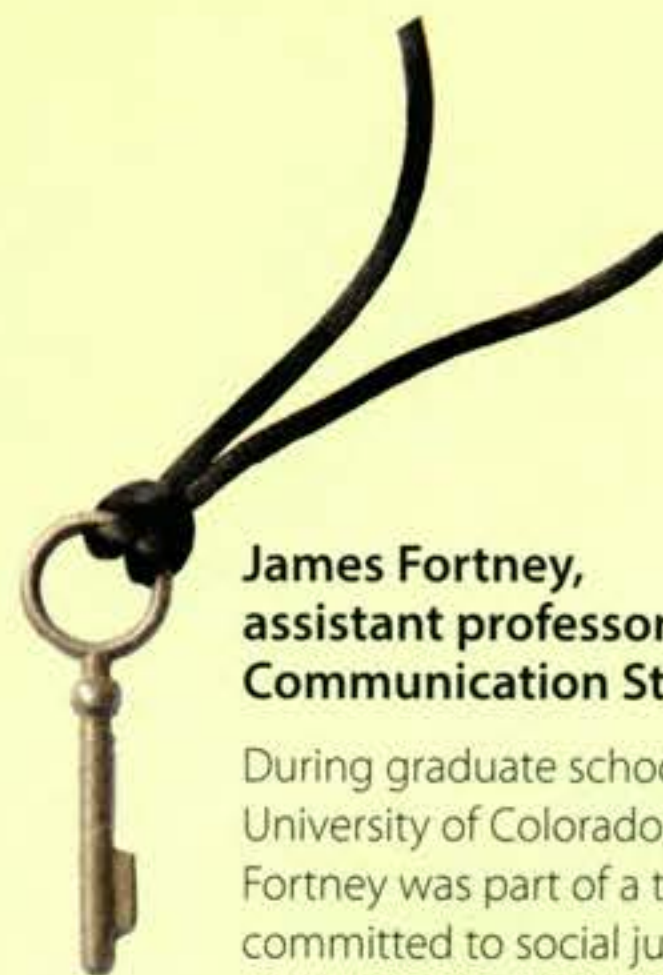
Pieces of
History
Stories of heirlooms

Inspirational objects

Western Washington University welcomed nearly 30 new tenured and tenure-track faculty members to campus this year.

Many of them moved to Bellingham from far away, making careful decisions about which items to bring along and what to leave behind.

Here are a few stories from faculty members about what was precious enough to bring to their new homes at Western.



James Fortney, assistant professor of Communication Studies

During graduate school at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Fortney was part of a theatre group committed to social justice issues. He received a symbolic key from the group when he graduated. "It reminds me of the important role communication plays in fostering a campus community that celebrates differences and works together to achieve greater inclusivity of those differences."

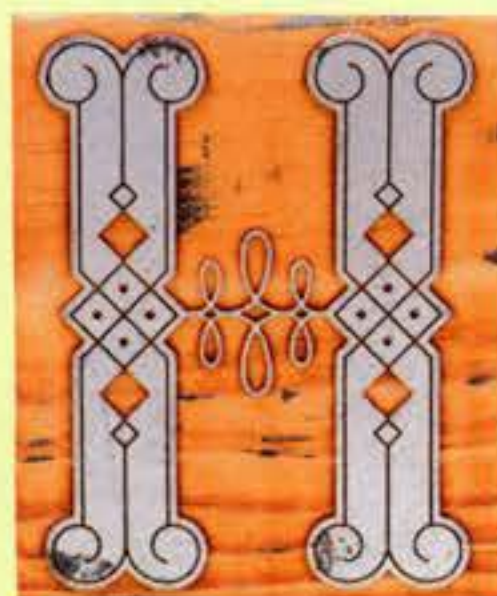
Lucy Lewis, assistant professor of Psychology

As a grad student, Lewis got this keychain at a Burmese water festival she attended with a high school student who was a Karen refugee. The experience sparked Lewis' dissertation research about how young refugees use Facebook to develop friendships and adjust to their new schools. "The flag reminds me of the importance of allowing opportunities for students to share their cultural heritage. It also challenges me, when training future school counselors, to identify ways to help create school environments that foster a sense of belonging."



Jun San Juan, assistant professor of Physical Education, Health and Recreation

Jun San Juan and his wife, Traci, share a love for anatomy – Jun's area of research includes biomechanics – and for the University of Oregon, where they met. Traci San Juan created this painting for her husband that incorporates all these themes, set in the U of O's world-renowned track and field stadium.

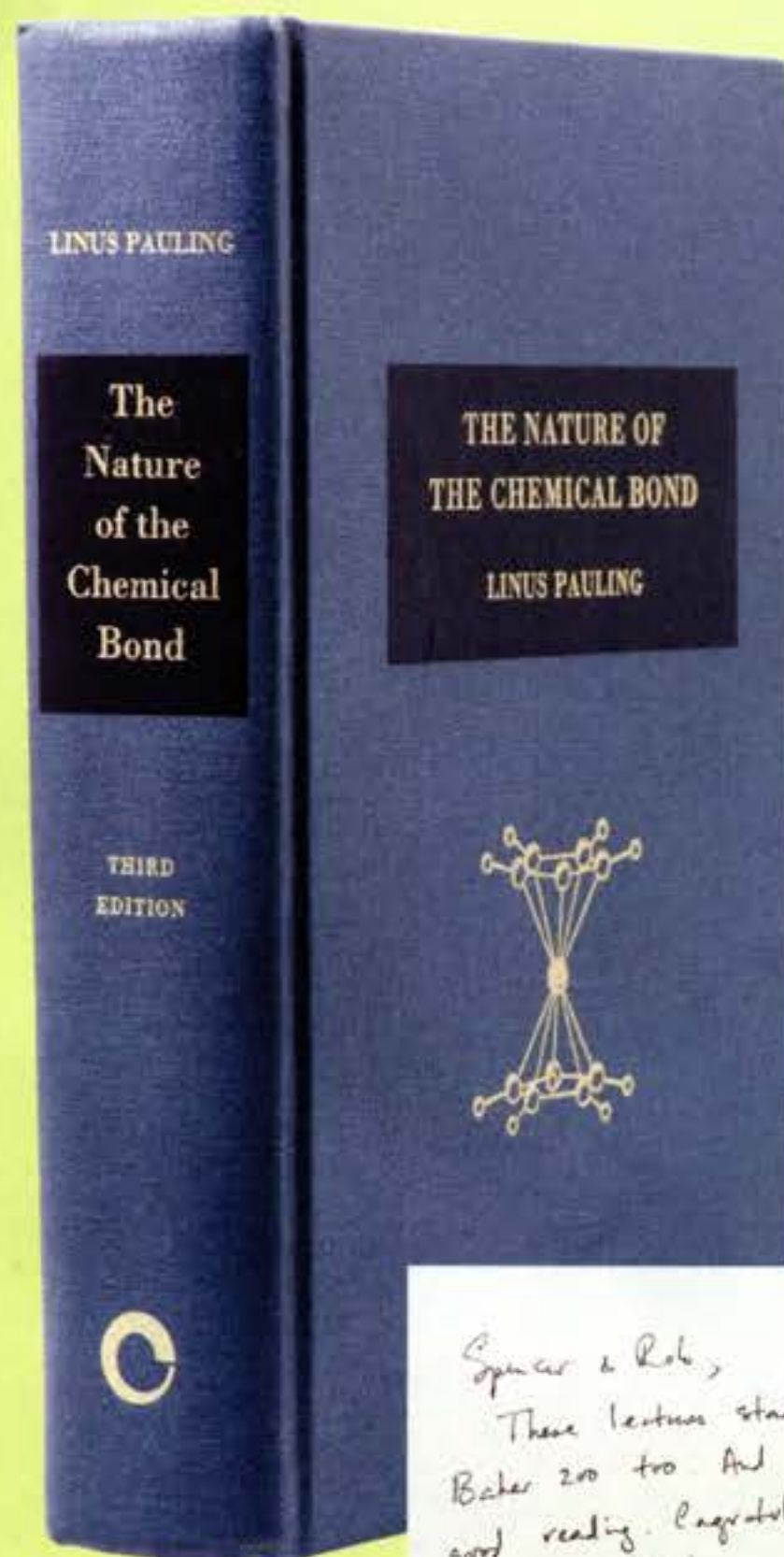


Brittany Schade, assistant professor of Design

Schade teaches interactive design for the web, mobile apps and motion. But the inspiration and starting point for her work derives from her passion for type. She created this wood type "H" to combine historical practices with contemporary type design. This piece has been exhibited as well as featured in publications.

Rob Berger, assistant professor of Chemistry

"The Nature of the Chemical Bond," a groundbreaking 1939 work by chemist Linus Pauling, was a wedding present from Berger's doctoral adviser. Berger and his wife, Spencer, met while studying at Cornell University, where Pauling had lectured and studied. "These lectures started in Baker 200, too," Berger's adviser wrote. Spencer Berger is now a Chemistry instructor at Western.



5/26/12
Spencer & Rob,
These lectures started in
Baker 200 too. And they make
good reading. Congratulations,
Styl



**Hope Corbin, assistant professor
of Human Services and Rehabilitation**

Corbin collected several pieces of hand-crafted jewelry in her work around the world studying global health promotion. The beaded red-ribbon pin was made by a group of Tanzanian women living with HIV and raising money for Women Against HIV and AIDS in Kilimanjaro, a group Corbin wrote about in her doctoral thesis.



**Veronica Velez,
assistant professor
of Secondary Education**

Before she ever dreamed of becoming a college professor, Velez was a community organizer in Southern California. She often worked with Spanish-speaking parents whose children attended public schools in Pasadena – and she watched the group evolve into a significant political voice advocating for improvements in public education.



Monica Hart, assistant professor of Theatre and Dance

This drawing is from one of Hart's dream assignments, designing costumes for a production of "Anything Goes" by the Bigfork Theatre Co. in Montana. Hart poured her lifelong love of musicals into the designs. "If enough young designers and actors can get so deeply into their designs and roles," Hart says, "then theatre has passion."



**Beth Leonard,
chair of the Department
of Theatre and Dance**

Leonard first met Aggie at a flea market in Iowa, unkempt, neglected and for sale. Leonard was smitten, but Aggie was not. After several months of making each other miserable, Leonard told Aggie that she would be happier in a new home. Aggie decided to stay, Leonard says, and the two have been inseparable ever since.



**Sondra Cuban,
professor of Human
Services and
Rehabilitation**

Cuban has devoted much of her work to her 2013 book, "Deskilling Migrant Women in the Global Care Industry." The cover artwork by Cuban artist Abel Barroso is a pinball machine illustrating the global inequalities and steep gamble economic migrants face for an opportunity to reach their dreams in a new country.



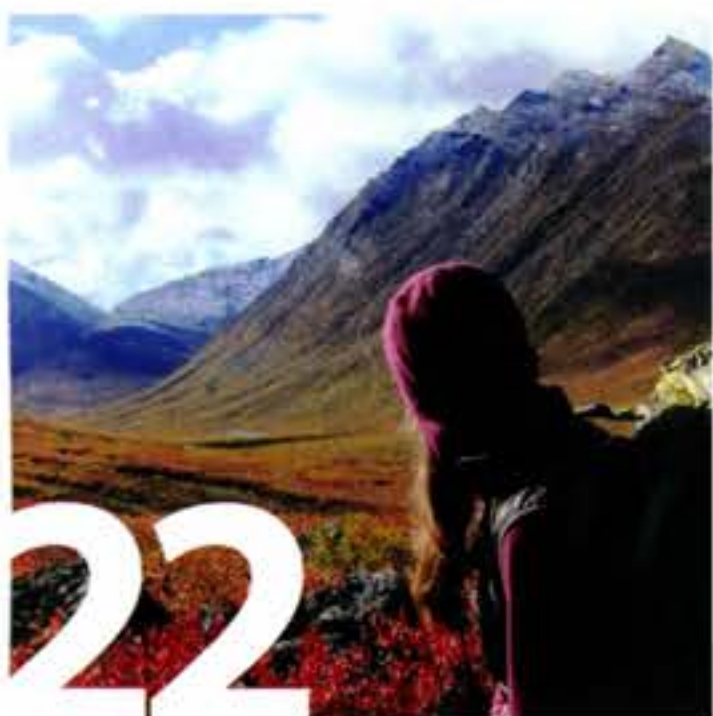
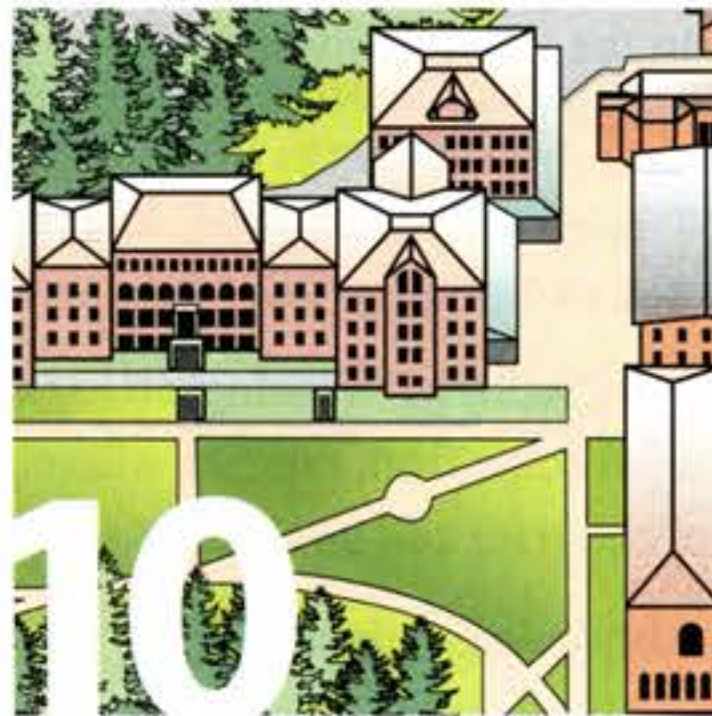
Casey Shillam, director of the Nursing Academic Program

As a nursing student, Shillam provided care to a patient who was dying. "She wished she could see her garden one last time," Shillam remembers. But the patient was transferred to the intensive care unit and could no longer keep her roses next to her bed. "I decided to break the rules, put one of her roses in my pocket, and went to visit her in the ICU. When I arrived in her room and held the rose beneath her nose, her eyes filled with tears. She inhaled the sweet scent of the rose, and asked for me to please take care of every patient I would ever have the way I just cared for her." The fragile roses now sit on Shillam's shelf in Miller Hall, in a vase she made herself.



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On the cover: Patrick Farrell ('04) scrambles over an icy boulder on his 4,000-mile trek – by foot, ski, packraft and determination – from Bellingham to northwest Alaska.



Message

from the President

Consider six crucial questions about Western's future

I've always found the beginning of the academic year to be a time of renewal. The carefree, active days of summer give way to a more introspective climate. We begin again the journey within to discover and reflect on the world, and our place in it.

In that spirit of reflection, I pose six critical questions about Western's future to form the basis of a campus conversation this year:

How must we respond to the changing demography of Washington high school graduates and transfers?

A majority of high school graduates will soon come from families where parents have not gone to college. How should Western support the needs of the state and its changing populations?

How do we keep affordable access to a quality college education?

Believe it or not, the cost of a Western education has been declining for the last 15 years, even though its price – tuition – has gone up due to a dramatic decline in state support. In five years, the state's share of the costs of instruction here at Western has gone from 60 percent to 32 percent. What can we do at Western to keep access to higher education affordable without compromising quality?

How do we ensure, in the years ahead, Western is not as white as it is today?

Of this year's entering freshman class, 25.4 percent are students of color, and the diversity of our new faculty and staff continues to surpass records every year. But we have a long way to go in ensuring that Western reflects the diversity in our state.

How do we best apply our strengths to meet Washington's needs, both on and off campus?

We recently made a commitment to meeting the needs of underserved populations on the Olympic Peninsula by partnering with Olympic College to deliver four-year degrees in Poulsbo. How else must we build on – and support – our campus-based efforts?

How is Western going to play in a future where leading universities must be globally engaged?

The U.S. is no longer the central "hub" of international education, but one of many nodes in a complex network. Any university wanting to stay at the cutting edge must be immersed in this international web – but how?

What are to be the roles of the liberal arts and sciences at Western?

The centrality of the liberal arts, an essential part of a Western education, is written in the accomplishments of our alumni who excel in all walks of professional life. While acknowledging the increasing importance of STEM fields and career preparation, what will this hallmark of a Western education look like in the future?

We will discuss these questions all year on campus, and I invite you to join the conversation. Watch or read my Opening Convocation remarks at www.wvu.edu/president/speeches/ and let me know your thoughts at President@wwu.edu. I'll provide updates on the campus conversation on Twitter @PresBruce.

I look forward to staying in touch, and to a great year ahead for Western.

Bruce Shepard





WINDOW

The magazine of Western Washington University

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Window supports Western's commitment to assuring that all programs and
activities are readily accessible to all eligible people without regard to race,
color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status,
sexual orientation or veteran's status.

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What do you think about WINDOW?

If something you read in Window sparks a memory, question, inspiration or critique, let us know! We'll run a sampling of your feedback in each edition. Send your thoughts to window@wwu.edu. Or, find us online at www.wwu.edu/window and on Facebook. You may also send a note to Window Magazine, Office of University Communications and Marketing, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA, 98225-9011.

Letter: Glad to reconnect after traveling abroad

I just wanted to write and say what a great magazine the last issue was. I recently returned from 13 months of traveling abroad and have been feeling a bit in a low (I call it post-long-term-travel depression), but your latest issue re-validated my confidence in my decision to travel and I am so proud to call myself an alumni of Western (Communications, '08) among many other talented people. Thanks for sharing such great stories and photos of the people who make Western such a great experience. Looking forward to many more!

Sandy Lam ('08)
Seattle

How do you want to receive your Window magazine?

No paper, please

- **It's accessible:** New-edition alerts come right to your email in-box and the links are easy to find.
- **It's versatile:** Readers can find Window online at www.wwu.edu/window on their mobile device wherever they are.
- **It's frugal:** Window's printing budget remains the same, but our mailing list continues to grow with new graduates each year.
- **It supports Western:** Find a story you want to share online? Click "share."
- **It's easy:** Email window@wwu.edu and we'll remove you from Window's paper mailing list and send you an email each time a new edition is ready.

Stick with paper

- **It's accessible:** New editions come right to your mailbox and fit nicely on your coffee table.
- **It's versatile:** Paper magazines are recyclable, portable, lightweight, water-resistant and require no batteries.
- **It's frugal:** On a cost-per-issue basis, Window magazine is one of the least expensive university magazines around.
- **It supports Western:** Share the Viking love by passing along your copy. Leave it in the waiting room of your doctor's office for someone else to happily discover.
- **It's easy:** Sit tight and we'll continue to send your free copies of Window magazine.



Swirl of Humanity

New campus sculpture wins national award

Cause & Effect, Western's newest art installation, was named one of the top 50 public art projects last year in the nation by a leading arts advocacy group.

Americans for the Arts included Do Ho Suh's Cause & Effect in its 2013 Year in Review, recognizing the nation's innovative public art works from the previous year.

Cause & Effect, hanging from the ceiling of the Academic Instructional Center West, is made up of densely hung strands of thousands of tiny, human figures.

Do Ho Suh is an internationally acclaimed artist who uses memories of his childhood in Korea to address issues of interpersonal space, identity and the transitory qualities of existence in today's globalized society. Cause & Effect attempts to decipher the boundaries between a single identity and a larger group.

Western has a distinguished history of art in public places. The Outdoor Sculpture Collection is nationally recognized as an ex-

ample of artistic works amid the daily, living environment of a university community. The collection features major international, national and regional artists.

Three independent public art experts – John Carson, artist and head of Carnegie Mellon University School of Fine Art; Norie Sato, Seattle artist; and Justine Topfer, project manager, San Francisco Arts Commission and private curator – juried the 2013 Year in

Review. More than 350 projects were submitted for review and 50 finalists selected.

The American for the Arts is the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education.



© Do Ho Suh. Cause and Effect, 2012, acrylic and aluminum frame, approx. 16' high. Collection of Western Washington University in partnership with Public Art Program, Washington State Arts Commission.) Photos by Matthew Anderson ('06)

Putting air pollution data on the map

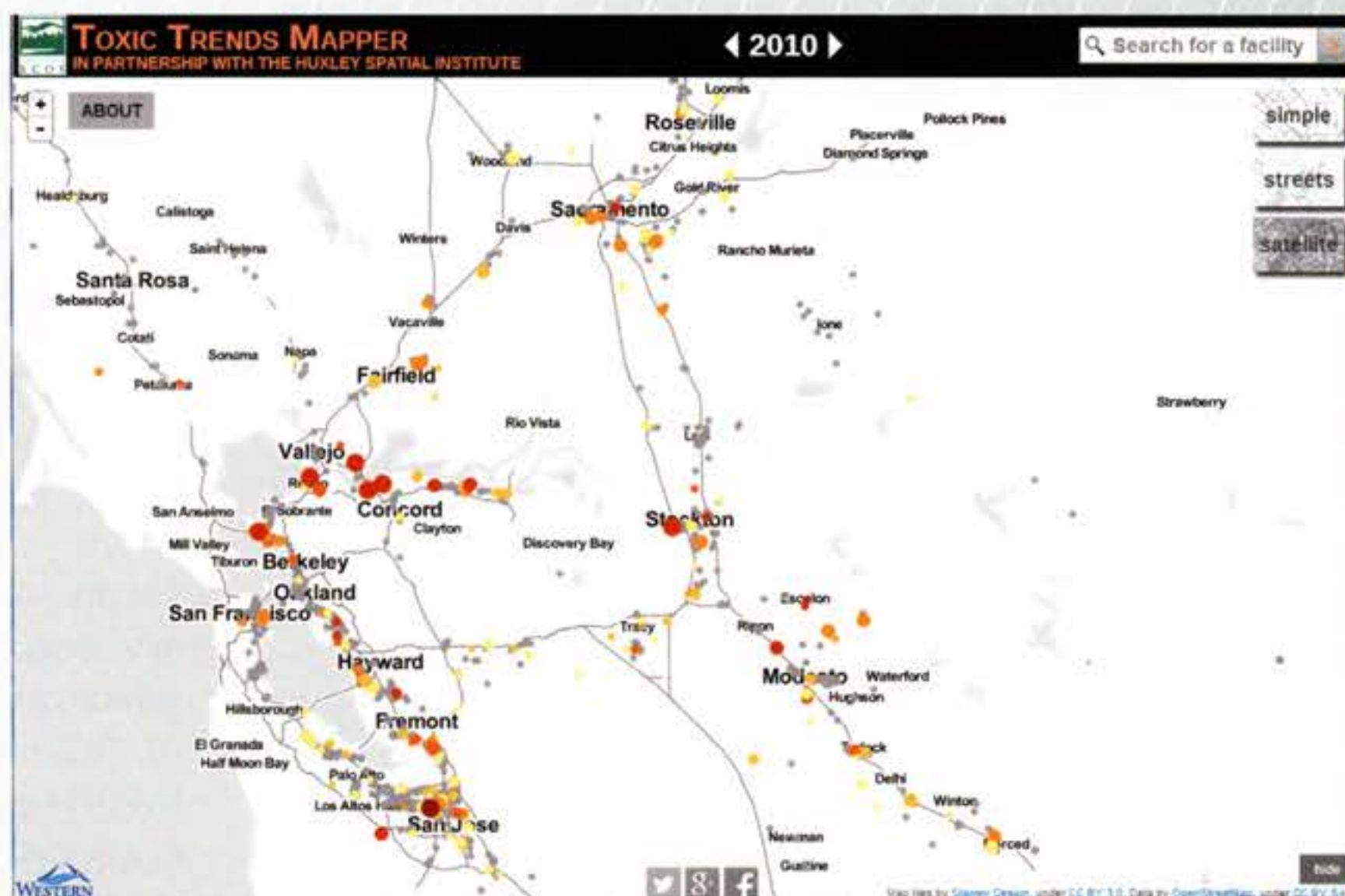
Want to figure out your neighborhood's relative potential risk from pollution? It's easy as going online, thanks to a new web-based data visualization project by graduate students and faculty at Huxley College of the Environment.

Toxic Trends, an interactive, color-coded map depicting air pollution sources throughout the United States, is the work of Troy Abel, associate professor of Environmental Studies, and Jacob Lesser and Ben Kane, graduate students in Huxley's Spatial Institute.

The trio worked with the Environmental Council of the States and used data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Toxics Release Inventory and the Risk Screening Environmental Indicators program.

The project grew out of Abel's work in his co-authored book, "Coming Clean: Information Disclosure and Environmental Performance." Abel says he hopes the web-based application helps bring about a productive dialogue between citizens and local industries about improving environmental performance.

Try it out at toxictrends.org.



Where's the dirt? The website toxictrends.org, produced by students and faculty from Huxley College of the Environment, is an interactive map that uses data from the EPA to illustrate local air pollution information over time.

Students produce 'Western Window' television show

"Western Window," a student-produced television program that features stories about students, faculty and programs around campus and the community, can now be viewed online and on cable systems from Vancouver, B.C. to Vancouver, Wash.

Recent story topics included student research in Siberia with the Polaris Project, a profile of the award-winning Vehicle Research Institute, and an interview with alumnus Will Braden,

creator of "Henri, le chat noir," a successful series of cat videos. Other stories depict alumni in professions such as clean energy, manufacturing, performing arts and television producing.

"Western Window" can be seen on Me-TV KVOS and on Western's YouTube page, www.youtube.com/wwu.



Alumni **Clara Lewis** ('13, Theatre) and **Chris Roselli** ('99, Communication), host the show while Suzanne Blais, an instructor at Western with two decades of experience in broadcasting, guides the student interns through the production process.

"I've had more than 200 students work on 'Western Window' since the start," Blais says. "It is their work every week. If you want to see what students are thinking and caring about, and how they view their own world ('Western Window' is) a good way to get insight into that."

Basketball teams plan for success in 2014

Men's and women's teams hope to keep racking up the regional and national titles

Western's men's basketball team is coming off two of its best years ever: a 2012 NCAA Division II National Championship and a 2013 trip to the national semifinals.

While most of the core of those teams is gone, Vikings hold high hopes that the remaining players and an exciting group of newcomers will sustain that level of success. Others are optimistic, too – Western is ranked No. 10 in the National Basketball Coaches Association Preseason Top 20 Poll.

"In the 15 years we've been in Division II, we've hosted the regional six times," says head coach **Tony Dominguez** ('94, Communication). "It creates a culture where winning is expected. Guys come in with a certain level of confidence."

Western hopes to become the first team since 1994 to win three straight West Regional titles.

Leading the returnees are senior guard Richard Woodworth of Bellevue and senior center Austin Bragg of Longview, pre-season all-Great Northwest Athletic Conference selections who both started all 34 games last season.

Meanwhile, women's basketball also hopes to continue its past

success; the team reached the NCAA Division II national semifinals last season.

Though the team has just two returning starters, it ranks No. 6 in the USA Today Sports Division II Top 25 women's basketball poll.

The two returning starters are 6-foot-3-inch senior center Sarah Hill of Richmond, Va., and 5-foot-9-inch junior guard Katie Colard of Elma.

Meanwhile, head coach **Carmen Dolfo** ('88, Physical Education, Recreation; '99, M.Ed. Student Personnel Administration) is 25 wins away from becoming the first women's coach in state history to reach 500 victories.



Photo by Brian Tirpak

Returning senior Richard Woodworth

Western strengthens Asian partnerships

President Bruce Shepard visited Japan and Korea over the summer to celebrate Western's 25-year relationship with Asia University in Japan and sign partnership agreements with five other Asian universities.

The two-week trip included a reunion in Japan with some of the thousands of Asia University students who have spent five months at Western learning English and immersing themselves in American culture – and perhaps taking in some snowboarding.

Shepard signed agreements with one Japanese university and four Korean universities interested in sending their students to Western. Programs like Western's Asia University America Program are hugely popular at Asian universities. Western, with its strong academic reputation and beautiful location, is a particularly popular option.



Shepard also visited with Western alumni who live in Japan and Korea.

Top administrators joining Shepard on the trip included Francisco Rios, dean of Woodring College of Education, Steven Hollenhorst, dean of Huxley College of the Environment, and Earl Gibbons, vice provost for Extended Education.

Strengthening STEM

New programs in sciences, technology meet state's needs

Engineering, Computer Science, Nursing and Energy Studies are among several new and expanding programs at Western Washington University meant to address the state's need for more highly trained graduates in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

"For years, many leaders in Washington have recognized that our state needed to address a widening deficit in science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills in our work force," says Western President Bruce Shepard.

As a result the state Legislature recently provided new funds to Western, as well as the University of Washington and Washington State University, to produce more engineering and computer science graduates.

At Western, the funds will help transform the successful Engineering Technology program into a full Engineering degree. Once the transition is complete, Western will have the only Electrical Engineering program in the state with a focus on embedded systems.

The other Engineering degrees will be distinctive, as well: Western's Plastics Engineering program will be the only such program west of Minnesota. And the Manufacturing Engineering program will be the only one in the state, and one



Western's Institute for Energy Studies is one of the first of its kind in the nation.

Photos by Chris Linder



Photo by Matthew Anderson

Casey Shillam, director of the Nursing Academic Program.

of just two in the Pacific Northwest.

New state funding will also boost Western's Computer Science program, more than doubling the number of computer science graduates.

Meanwhile, Western's Woodring College of Education is launching a program for nurses to complete their bachelor's degrees in nursing. Studies show patients fare better in facilities cared for with higher percentages of nurses with BSNs. But only about 50 percent of the state's nursing work force has a baccalaureate degree – and less than half in Whatcom, Skagit and Island counties.

Finally, Western's new Institute for Energy Studies, one of the first of its kind in the nation, recently received \$150,000 from Alaska Airlines and another \$100,000 from the Ingersoll Rand Foundation and Trane. The gifts will support the interdisciplinary program combining science, technology, business and policy to prepare leaders and entrepreneurs for the new energy economy.

Other new interdisciplinary programs at Western include:

- A bachelor's degree in Business and Sustainability, an interdisciplinary effort between the College of Business and Economics and Huxley College of the Environment. The pioneering program includes foundation courses in economic analysis, environmental science and policy, and business management.
- A minor in Education and Social Justice, a collaboration of Woodring and Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Each of the new programs is grounded in Western's strong academic core in liberal arts and sciences, Shepard says. "In an increasingly complex world," he says, "the value of a liberal arts education has never been more relevant."

Author's Map

Alumni novelists share how their memories of campus influence their work

Some alumni authors, like **Harley Tat** and **Laurie London**, choose Western's campus as a setting for their novels. Tat's "The New Boy" takes place at Western and the surrounding community, while London set a nighttime battle between vampires in the middle of Red Square.

Others, such as **Sarah Jio** and **Greg Cox**, say their experience at Western set them on their literary paths. Jio was a Biology student until an encounter with a previous Journalism professor encouraged her to return to writing. And Cox was inspired by the many science fiction and fantasy authors he met at the VikingCon gatherings he helped organize.

See how Western's campus has inspired other alumni authors.

WILSON LIBRARY

In between shifts working in the library at the Writing Center, **Urban Waite** ('04, M.A., English) sneaked a few minutes' reading time in a seat with a view of Bellingham Bay. "Many of my favorite books from that period were bought over at Village Books or from one of the used bookstores on Prospect Street downtown," Waite writes. "Every year I read the same worn, cloth-bound copy of Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises" that I found in one of those shops." The book remains on his writing desk today.

Books: "The Carrion Birds," (William Morrow, 2013), and "The Terror of Living," (Little Brown, 2011)

As an International Business student, **Clint Romag** ('97) finished writing "The Werewolf Manuscript" in Western's Library. It became his first published novel and the beginning of a five-part series. Now the author of several books featuring werewolves or sasquatches marauding the Pacific Northwest, Romag is planning a suspense novel set in Bellingham or Western's campus with monsters of some kind – possibly Bigfoot.

Books include: "War of the Sasquatch" and "Werewolf in Bigfoot Country" (Amazon Digital Services, 2013).

VIKING UNION

"Back in the early '80s," remembers **Greg Cox** ('82, Chemistry), "members of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Club hung out for hours at a time, discussing such burning issues as how exactly the Starship Enterprise's transporters worked, the Flash's love life, and whether or not Darth Vader was really Luke's father. We also organized VikingCon, an annual convention that brought acclaimed SF writers to campus. Meeting legendary writers like Poul Anderson and Theodore Sturgeon in the flesh drove home the idea that real people actually do this for a living, so maybe I could, too."

Books: Official movie novelizations of "Man of Steel," (Titan Books, 2013) and "The Dark Knight Rises" (Titan Books, 2012) and many books based on popular series such as "The Avengers," "C.S.I.," "Iron Man" and "Star Trek."

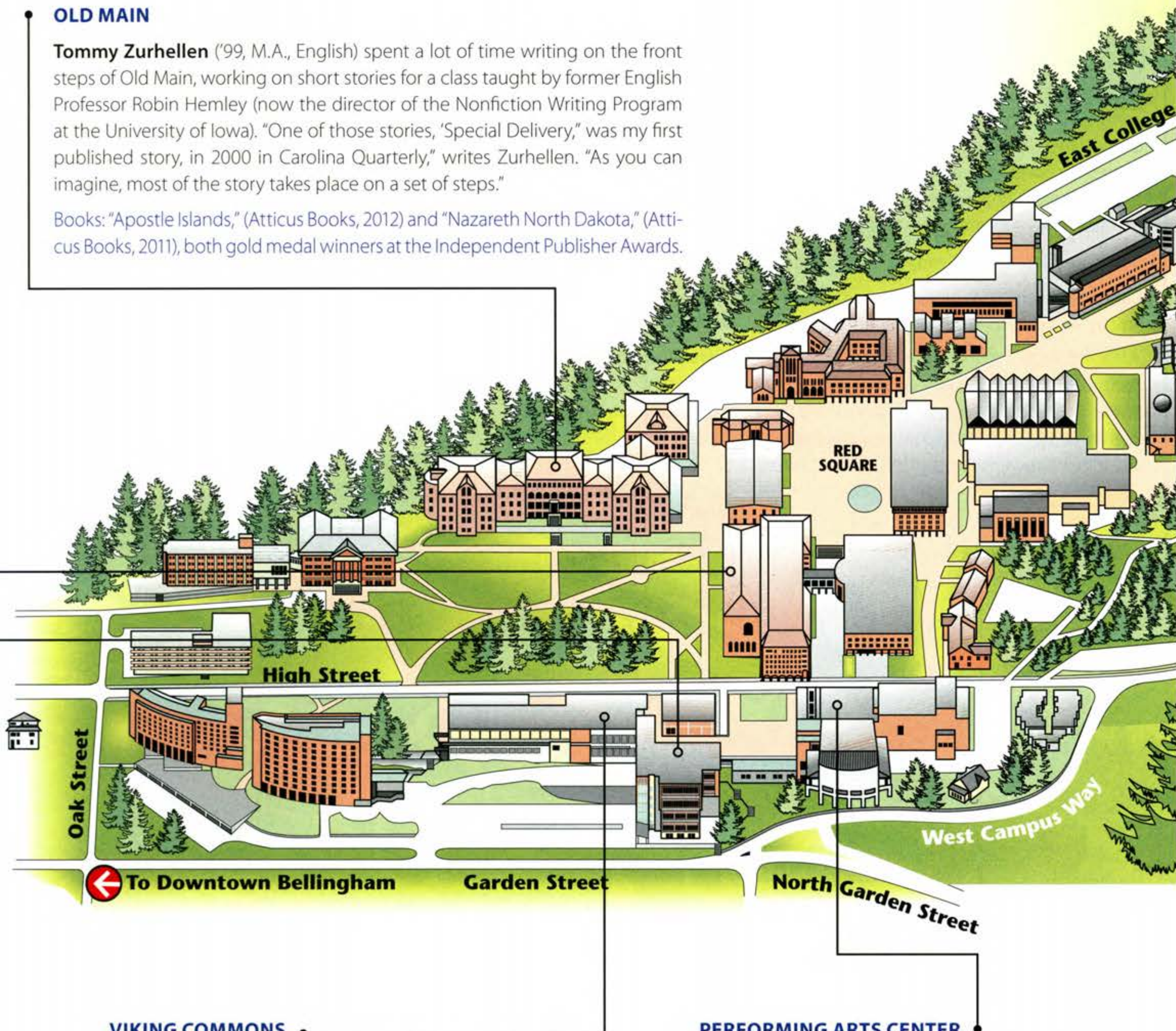
Amy Hatvany ('94, Sociology) honed her people-watching skills on Western's campus: "I watched people in Red Square, in the Viking Union, in the quiet study rooms of Wilson Library. Observing behavior, physical characteristics, sensing the minute facial tics that give away how a person might be smiling, but actually be on the verge of tears. When I think of my years at WWU, this is what I think of most: Capturing glimpses of peoples' internal worlds in the midst of the external one. How I began to really see and process the world through my own eyes, not clouded by anyone else's influence or ideas."

Books: "Heart Like Mine," (Washington Square Press, 2013) "Outside the Lines," Washington Square Press, 2012)

OLD MAIN

Tommy Zurhellen ('99, M.A., English) spent a lot of time writing on the front steps of Old Main, working on short stories for a class taught by former English Professor Robin Hemley (now the director of the Nonfiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa). "One of those stories, 'Special Delivery,' was my first published story, in 2000 in *Carolina Quarterly*," writes Zurhellen. "As you can imagine, most of the story takes place on a set of steps."

Books: "Apostle Islands," (Atticus Books, 2012) and "Nazareth North Dakota," (Atticus Books, 2011), both gold medal winners at the Independent Publisher Awards.



VIKING COMMONS

Harley Tat ('91, Broadcast Media Studies) found Western's campus to be the perfect setting for his murder mystery about a troubled college rugby player. For example, consider the Viking Commons dining room, which Tat argues is "one of the most beautifully appointed eating establishments on the West Coast. Floor-to-ceiling glass serves as high-test goggles, illuminating the white-dusted mountaintops and cold-brewed bay. It is one of the greatest views ever. However in the quiet of the early morning, when you haven't slept for days, and you don't trust yourself, that beauty is replaced by a stillness that can drive you mad."

Books: "The New Boy," (Berkshire Pop, 2012)

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Nick James ('06, English – Elementary) took several classes from English Professor Nancy Johnson, a nationally recognized expert in children's literature and organizer of Western's Children's Literature Conference. James helped out at the conference for several years, meeting children's lit superstars such as Avi, Lois Lowry, Deborah Wiles and Jon Agee. "A workshop with Wiles was particularly inspiring, including a poetry activity that I still use with kids today when I'm teaching."

Books: The Skyship Academy series, including "Strikeforce," (Flux, 2013).

RED SQUARE

James Brotherton ('97, M.A., English) gave a public reading in Miller Hall in 1997 from his collection of short stories, "Spontaneous Combustion." "Walking across campus after the reading, my shoes sending up a faint clomp on that red brick," he writes, "my thesis advisor congratulated me on a good reading and said, nonchalantly, 'The title story of that collection would make an interesting novel.'" So began a 12-year odyssey of rewrites that included a change of setting, two changes in the narrator and – sure enough – a new title.

Book: "Reclaiming the Dead," (CreateSpace, 2012)

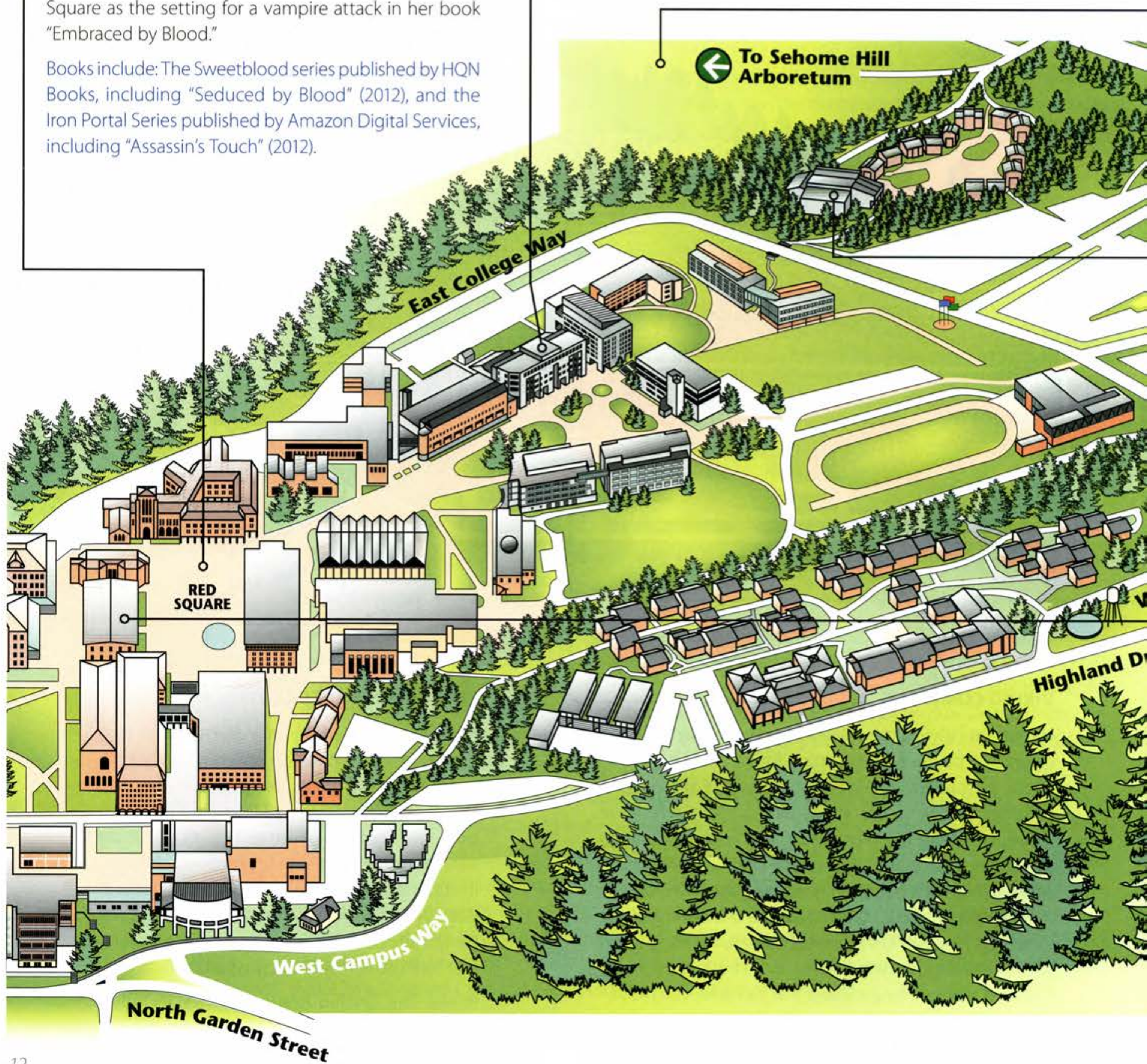
Laurie London ('86, Business Administration) chose Red Square as the setting for a vampire attack in her book "Embraced by Blood."

Books include: The Sweetblood series published by HQN Books, including "Seduced by Blood" (2012), and the Iron Portal Series published by Amazon Digital Services, including "Assassin's Touch" (2012).

ARTNZEN HALL

In the winter of 1997, the late Journalism Professor Pete Steffens stopped **Sarah (Mitchell) Jio** ('00, Journalism – Public Relations) outside of Artnzen Hall. "You're a great writer, Sarah," he told her. "You should come back to Journalism." Jio had switched her major to Biology, thinking about abandoning her love of writing for a career as a doctor. She switched back to Journalism and went on to contribute to major magazines and become a New York Times bestselling author of five novels published in 22 countries. "I hate to think about how my life might look had Pete Steffens been too busy to take the time to engage me," Jio says.

Books include: "The Last Camellia," (Penguin, 2013) "Blackberry Winter" (Penguin, 2012), "The Violets of March," (Penguin, 2013) a Library Journal Best Book of 2011, and "Morning Glory" (Penguin, expected 2013)

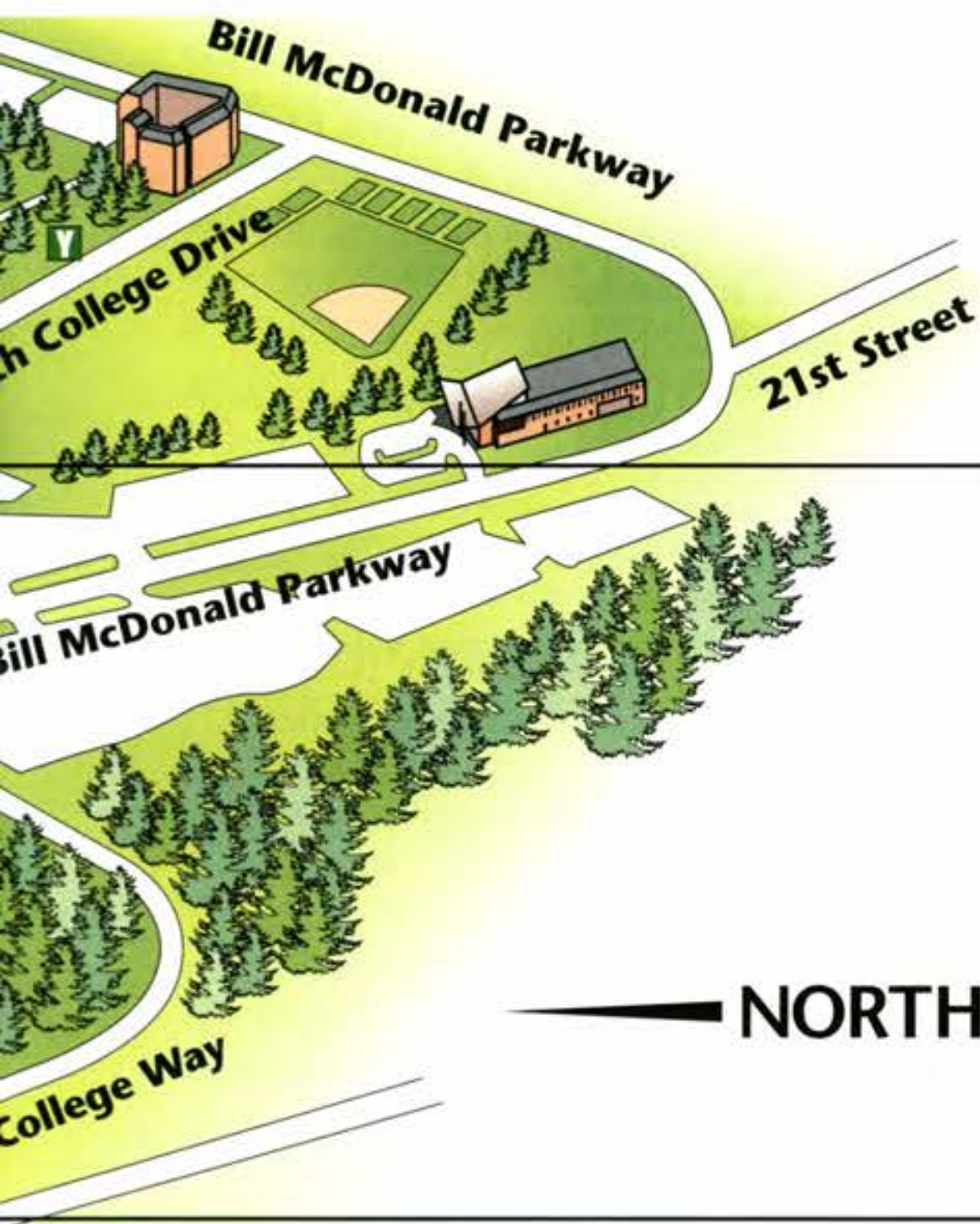


SEHOME ARBORETUM

When **Clete Smith** ('96, English – Secondary) can't think in front of his computer, he takes a hike. "I think it connects me to my childhood," he writes, "where I played in the forest every day – building forts and defending them from imaginary hordes of orcs with stick-swords and pine-cone grenades. Anyway, I still love to walk through campus, and then I usually end up on the trails behind Huxley/Fairhaven. As I walk through the forest I 'see' the story playing out like a movie in my head. So many of my aliens were born on that trail."

Books: "Aliens in Disguise" (Disney-Hyperion, 2013), "Alien on a Rampage," (Disney-Hyperion, 2012) and "Aliens on Vacation" (Disney-Hyperion, 2011)

Go to www.wvu.edu/window to read more about Western's campus from alumni authors Sarah Jio, Urban Waite, Harley Tat, Amy Hatvany, Nick James and James Brotherton.



FAIRHAVEN COLLEGE

William Dietrich ('73, Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration, Journalism) began his writing career as a Fairhaven College student. Professors Don McLeod and Bob Keller both were mentors and a source of encouragement in creative writing, Dietrich says. Dietrich went on to win the Pulitzer Prize for his work at the Seattle Times and later taught Environmental Journalism at Western – serving as a mentor for another generation of writers.

Books include: The Ethan Gage Adventure series, including "The Barbed Crown" (Harper, 2013) and "The Final Forest," (Penguin, 1993)

HUMANITIES BUILDING

Kirby Larson ('76, Broadcast Communication) put herself through school by working in the English Department for Professor Knute Skinner, a poet and editor of The Bellingham Review. "I spent many, many hours typing (yes typing!) his manuscripts and other documents. That was in the days of carbon copies, and razor blades and white-out for errors. I was so grateful when he got an IBM Selectric – a self-correcting typewriter!"

Books include: Newbery Honor Book "Hattie Big Sky," (Delacorte, 2006), "Hattie Ever After," (Delacorte, 2013) and "DUKE," (Scholastic, 2013)

Michael Norman ('69, History) spent most of his class time in the Humanities Building for his major in History and a minor in Political Science, and he left Western with a love of books. After a career in law enforcement and 25 years teaching criminal justice at Weber State University in Utah, Norman became a mystery writer in his mid-50s.

Books include: "The Commission," (Poisoned Pen Press, 2007) a Publisher's Weekly Best Book of 2007, "On Deadly Ground" (Poisoned Pen Press, 2008), "Silent Witness," (Poisoned Pen Press, 2010) and "Skeleton Picnic" (Poisoned Pen Press, 2012).

A SLICE OF

Pie Poet Kate Lebo's culinary and literary loves intertwine

Poetry



Photo by Christopher Nelson

Above: Kate Lebo's latest literary concoction is "A Commonplace Book of Pie."

Story by Claire Sykes ('81)

Start with fresh fruit and some words, a spoon and a pen. Blend the dough with your hands and the phrases with your head. Shape everything into a pie and a poem, then put one in the oven. When done, share with others and devour.

That's the recipe for **Kate Lebo's** passion in life. "I need to bake and cook as much as I need to write," she says. But her pies and poems aren't finished until she includes other people. Even if you avoid making pie or taking in poetry, Lebo ('05, English) dishes out both in a way that's hard to turn down. Meanwhile, one feeds the other for her when she's stirring up her creative juices.

Her latest concoction is "A Commonplace Book of Pie" (Chin Music Press, 2013). The 96-page book, with illustrations by **Jessica Lynn Bonin** ('03, Art – Painting), features Lebo's pie-related questions, advice and recipes; and "fantasy-zodiac" prose poems like "Pumpkin," which begins:

Contrary to popular opinion, pumpkin pie-lovers are adventurous, quizzical, good in bed and voluminously communicative. No need to ask a pumpkin pie-lover if he'll call ahead for reservations.

Says Lebo, "I wanted to make the book accessible, hoping that people who read the poems will want to read more somewhere else."

There's more of her poetry in her first and forthcoming cookbook, "Pie School: Lessons in Fruit, Flour and Butter" (Sasquatch Books, Fall 2014). Lebo, who lives in Seattle, teaches it all hands-on at her Pie School, held in people's homes and elsewhere. At her Pie Stand events around the country, she serves up slices while everyone talks pie, sometimes *à la mode* with readings, performances, and artistic collaborations. And Lebo's other public poetry readings often end with that home-made, fruit-filled pastry.

"She makes it fun, not only because there's going to be delicious pie there, but also because of the nature of her poems and personality. Kate makes me see things in a way I haven't seen before," says Elizabeth Austen, poet and poetry commentator at KUOW in Seattle, who has hosted Lebo.

Kate Lebo readings:

Dec. 6: Elliott Bay Book Co. in Seattle.

Dec. 12: Village Books in Bellingham.

Jan. 8: The Station in Seattle, with poet Erin Malone.

Jan. 23: University Bookstore, Seattle.

March 27: Northwind Arts Center, Port Townsend, with poet Kary Wayson.



Illustrations by Jessica Lynn Bonin ('03)

Lebo's writing has also appeared in "Best New Poets," *Gastronomica*, and *Poetry Northwest*, among others. She received a Nelson Bentley Fellowship, the Joan Grayston Poetry Prize, and a 4Culture grant. A longtime zine zealot, she is an editor for the hand-made literary journal, *Filter*. For many years she worked at Richard Hugo House, a writing center in Seattle, doing everything from running the volunteer program to planning fundraisers. And her pies? Lebo judged the Iowa State Fair Pie Contest, baked at the American Gothic House, and won Best in Show at the first annual Cake vs. Pie Competition.

She was 24 when she rolled out her first pie crust. Growing up in Vancouver, Wash., "I was always knitting and sewing, making things. Making pies was another way to satisfy that hunger. What you make in the kitchen can be art and should be valued," says Lebo, with a riot grrrl past, a penchant for vintage dresses, and an MFA in creative writing from the University of Washington. "I write at the kitchen table and cook at the stove, both at the same time. I have something to do while I'm writing, which keeps my butt in the chair."

Lebo learned all about discipline at Western, whose creative writing professors encouraged her to take graduate-level courses and taught her "to value the long way," she says, by revising and writing many drafts.

With both pies and poetry, she starts with the raw materials: seasonal fruits and "sound, image and love. I write what I see, hear or touch, building poems from what I perceive with my senses rather than what I'm judging in my head." For her pies, her eyes, nose and mouth take in the colors and textures, scents and flavors, "and then I base the recipe around that."

In "A Commonplace Book of Pie," Lebo insists on ice-cold lard and butter, and going easy on the sugar and spices. The tenth and last of her "Rules of Thumb" reads, "Pies can take four hours to make. Forgive the pie maker her tardiness." When she finally arrives, those poems of hers will taste pretty darn good, too.

Claire Sykes ('81, Community Services and the Arts) is a freelance writer based in Portland, Ore., who writes about the arts, wellness, business and other topics for publications in the U.S. and abroad. Her most recent story for Window was a profile of photographer Michael Christopher Brown ('00). Her favorite pie is strawberry-rhubarb.

See the book trailer for "A Commonplace Book of Pie" at www.wvu.edu/window

*With both pies and poetry,
Lebo starts with the raw
materials: seasonal fruits and
sound, image and love.*

BY MERI-JO BORZILLERI SHAMELESS PHOTOS BY RACHEL BAYNE

Sociologists Jen Lois and Joanna Gregson ('93) ask why romance writers don't get the literary credit they deserve

Jen Lois wasn't looking for love.

Then, through a neighbor, she discovered the "Twilight" series and fell hard.

Lois read all four books, then read them again. The WWU sociology professor fell in love with romance novels, where endings are always happily ever after.

But "Twilight" was just the beginning. Lois and **Joanna Gregson** ('93, Sociology), a sociology professor at Pacific Lutheran University, have teamed up to study the authors of the most popular and least respected of literary genres: romantic fiction.

Romance novels – dismissed by many as mindless, formulaic, popculture pulp – are a commercial gold mine, accounting for about half of all commercial paperback book revenue. Romance novels were responsible for \$1.44 billion in sales last year, according to a trade association.

To Lois and Gregson, this raises a fascinating question: Who is writing these books about love, all these stories with the power to shape our ideas about relationships and sexuality?

But in academic circles, the pair found romance a tough sell – at least at first.

Lois has studied such sub-cultures as mountain search-and-rescue volunteers and home-schooling mothers. But when she applied for a grant to study romance writers, she was initially denied because the topic was determined to have "dubious scientific merit."

Last year, Lois and Gregson first presented their findings at a conference. When they introduced their topic, "Sneers and Leers: Romance Writers and the Stigma of Sexual Shamelessness," the room of sociologists started laughing.

"We weren't surprised by this," Lois says. "We said, 'That's what we're going to talk about. So thank you for that response.'"

By the time they finished, they sensed a change in the room.

"When we get to talk in-depth about our findings and how it has sociological significance, other sociologists are pretty supportive," Lois says.

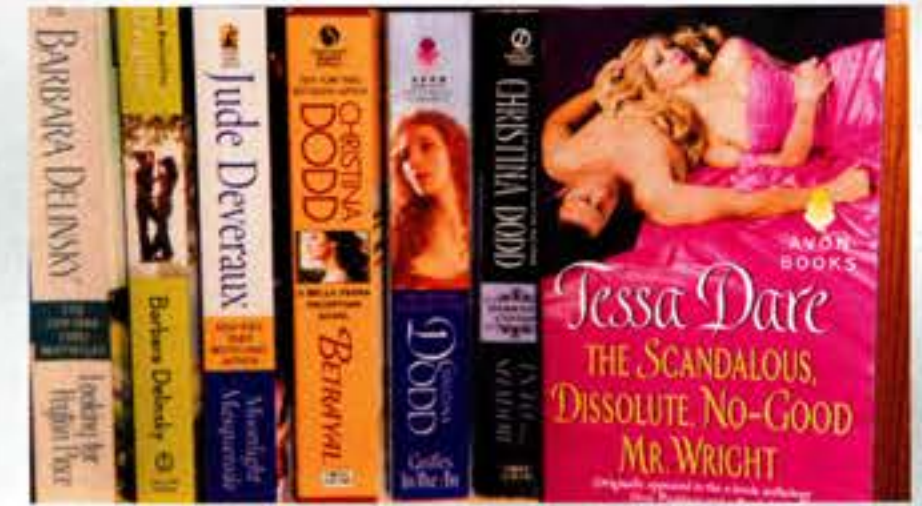
Romance, largely written by, for and about women (an estimated 95 percent of writers are female), carries a stigma with a basis in sexism, Lois and Gregson argue. Even romance superstars like Nora Roberts, Debbie Macomber and Judith McNaught, who have sold millions of books, get asked: When are you going to write a real book? Romance writers tell of insulting or leering questions, such as how they "researched" the sexual content in their books.

Lois and Gregson want to dispel the notion that "professionalism equals masculine," writes Lois.



Field research: Sociology professors Joanna Gregson ('93, Sociology) of Pacific Lutheran University and Jen Lois of Western, seen here at Third Place Books in Seattle, collaboratively study romance writers.

Keep track of Lois and Gregson's research at www.facebook.com/RomanceSociology and twitter.com/RomanceSoc



"(People) don't ask Stephen King how many fires he started with his telekinetic powers," Lois says. "Men don't get asked the same questions."

Studying romance is gathering steam and legitimacy in academia. The National Endowment for the Humanities recently contributed a \$900,000 grant toward the Popular Romance Project, which includes a web site and documentary. The Chronicle of Higher Education wrote a story about increasing scholarly interest.

And it doesn't hurt that "Fifty Shades of Grey," the explosive best-seller labeled "mommy porn" by some, has flung romance fiction into the pop culture spotlight.

"They hit it at just the right point in terms of romance crossing over some kind of barrier into (the) more popular ... area that people now know about and acknowledge more than they might have 10 years ago," said Mick Cunningham, chair of Western's Sociology Department.

Best friends since graduate school at the University of Colorado, where they bonded over jogging and "Beverly Hills 90210," Lois and Gregson started researching romance writers about three years ago.

They attended a local chapter of the 10,000-member Romance Writers of America, at first intending to write a romance novel. Both published authors in their field, they figured it would be easy.

But – plot twist! – they were wrong. Writing compelling fiction was hard, they found, but it was easy to like the women who wrote it. In their research, Lois and Gregson have met doctors, lawyers, stay-at-home moms, college professors, ranchers, Ph.D.s and Microsoft employees.

"It surprised and humbled us," Gregson says.

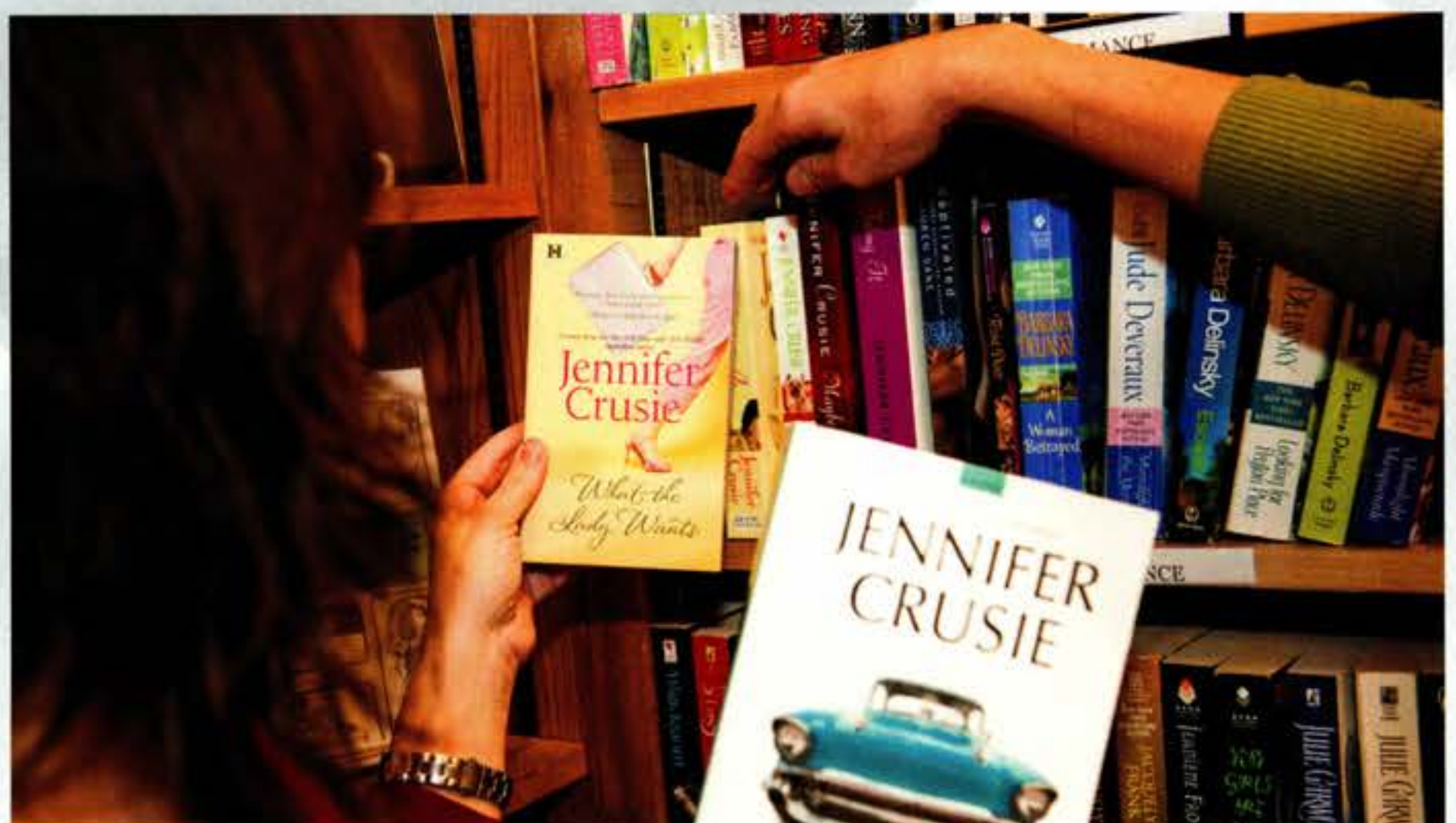
Marissa Berry ('08, English - Creative Writing) is an up-and-coming author with two books and two novellas published. Writing under the pen name Kinley Baker, she writes on weekends

'Romance writers tell of insulting or leering questions, such as how they "researched" the sexual content in their books.'

and during her lunch break from work at a Seattle bank. She can relate to the duo's research. Berry has a workaround to combat negative perceptions.

"Sometimes, if people are hesitant to read romance," she says, "give them a romance novel and don't tell them it's romance. They'll enjoy it."

Meri-Jo Borzilleri is a Bellingham freelance journalist whose work has appeared in USA Today, The Miami Herald, Seattle Metropolitan Magazine, The Penn Stater magazine, and others.





'As I became more and more engaged as an archivist, I realized I was helping people with their immediate needs.'

Power of Archives: History Professor Rand Jimerson, at the Goltz-Murray Archives Building at Western Washington University, is director of Western's master's program in Archives and Records Management.

Photo by Daniel Levine



PUTTING THE PIECES Back Together

By Hilary Parker ('95)

Decades before Randall Jimerson became director of Western's graduate program in archives management, his family treasured a piece of civil rights history

Families define themselves in myriad ways: by their faith, by their common likes, by their shared experiences. Sometimes one event becomes the thread that binds a family's story together, profoundly shaping the stories to come.

For Western History Professor Randall Jimerson's family, it all started with shards of stained glass.

The story of the stained glass

In September of 1963, less than three weeks after Martin Luther King's legendary "I Have a Dream" speech on the Capitol Mall in Washington D.C., white supremacists bombed the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., killing four girls attending Sunday school. Later that day, two black teenage boys were murdered in the aftermath of the bombing.

The Rev. Norman "Jim" Jimerson, a white civil rights worker and Rand Jimerson's father, visited the destroyed church that day to pay his respects and offer comfort. He had tried to rally the support of other white ministers to join him in meeting black clergymen to express their concern about the tragedy, but not one would.

On the debris-filled street, he picked up two large rosettes of stained glass, their lead frames twisted from the force of the blast. Jim Jimerson, director of the Alabama Council on Human Relations, may have already sensed that this shattered glass was an important piece of national history. He may not have realized that it would become part of his own family's history.

As the Jimerson family moved over the years, the glass moved with them. Jim Jimerson's wife, Melva Brooks Jimerson, often said the twisted metal was a reminder of the "twisted minds" that could feel such hate and conceive such a horrific act.



"It was a constant reminder of our connection to that event and the experiences we had in Alabama," says Rand Jimerson, who is also director of the Archives & Records Management program at Western.

As an archivist, Jimerson says he recognizes his father's decision to pick up the glass shards "was part of his desire to document and have evidence of that atrocity." The family carefully "archived" the glass over the years, always keeping it in a place of prominence on a

bringing its story full circle. The story of the Jimerson family will come full circle next year when Rand will release

"Shattered Glass in Birmingham: My Family's Fight for Civil Rights, 1961-1964" (LSU Press).

Life in the South
Told from
14-year-old Rand's
point of view, this

As a teenager, a time in life when it feels so important to fit in, Rand Jimerson kept his opinions on racial equality to himself.

"I had adopted, I just recently realized, a sort of 'don't ask, don't tell' policy where I wouldn't ask any of my classmates or friends what they thought about race relations," he says, "because if they gave the answer I expected most of them to give, it would be difficult for me to continue a friendship."

Once, he couldn't help but speak out

Jim Jimerson urged other white ministers to join him in expressing concern about the tragedy, but not one would.

hutch in the dining room. In 2002, Melva Jimerson donated part of the stained glass to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. The rest remained in the family's care.

Then a 2012 speech made by President Obama at the groundbreaking of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture made Rand Jimerson think it was time to share their piece of history. In his speech, the president said he would like his daughters to see artifacts from the civil rights era, such as "shards of glass" from the church bombing.

"This was valuable evidence," Rand Jimerson says, "important for people to see and appreciate and understand those events."

Rand Jimerson and three of his four siblings went to Washington, D.C., in September to donate the glass,

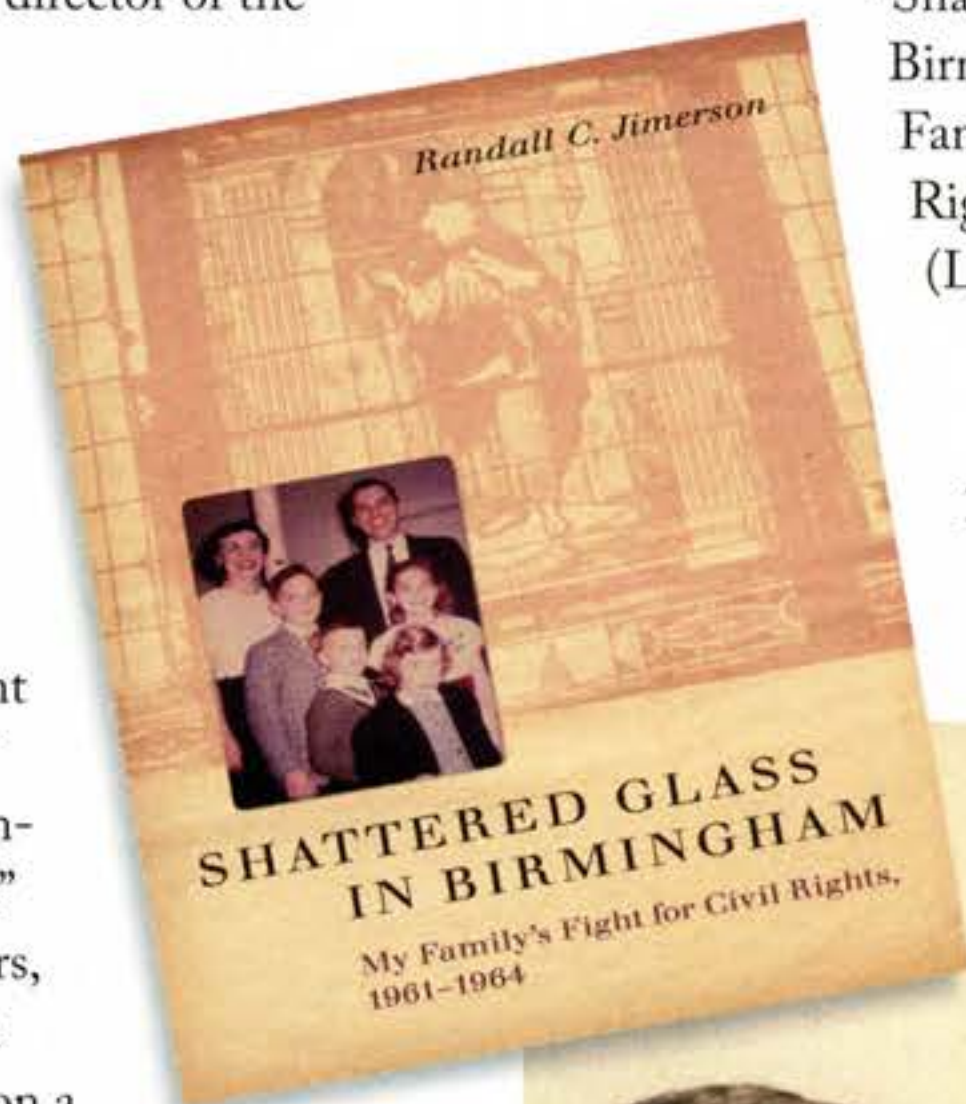
memoir sheds light on the civil rights movement from the point of view of the majority's minority: whites in the South who supported civil rights.

Rand Jimerson says his father was the only white person to attend every one of the funerals of the girls who died in the bombings and the two African-American boys who died in the violence on the same day as the blast. In the weeks following, the family received numerous anonymous death threats and harassing phone calls.

when his teacher said all civil rights activists were communists. Rand Jimerson says his teacher turned purple in the face hearing Rand's defense of the activists, which, of course, included his father.

A lifetime of social justice

Steeped in the history-making events in the South as a teen, Jimerson pursued a career in academics, first focusing on history and then taking an interest in archival work. He began to see a thread between his work and his belief in social justice he had inherited from his parents.



1963 Jimerson family photo: Rand Jimerson (left) with his siblings Ann, Paul and Sue. Mark, the baby, is in Ann's lap. Above, left: Jimerson's forthcoming memoir from LSU Press.

Melva Brooks Jimerson often said the twisted metal was a reminder of the “twisted minds” that could feel such hate and conceive such a horrific act.



Donation: Kinshasha Holman Conwill, left, deputy director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, shakes hands with Ann Jimerson at a ceremony to receive the Jimersons' donation of broken stained glass from the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. Jimerson siblings Randall, Mark and Sue look on.

Western's Archives & Records Management Graduate Program

Established in: 1972

Programs offered: Two-year master's degree, one-year post-graduate certificate.

Number of students: 30

Number of alumni: about 170

Curriculum: Emphasizes the disciplines of archives and records management in documenting and preserving essential evidence of modern organizations and individuals. As Jimerson explains, archival documents sometimes provide accountability that can serve as a basis for social justice.

Graduates are: Working in government, academia, museums, historical societies, religious organizations and private industry.

More:

www.wvu.edu/history/archivalstudies/

“As I became more and more engaged as an archivist,” Jimerson says, “I realized the work I was doing was helping people with their immediate needs.”

Jimerson explains that archival documents have supported social justice causes throughout the world, such as the fight against South African apartheid, documenting the brutality of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, and restoring valuables to Jewish families whose belongings were stolen by the Nazis. Archives' role on a smaller, yet no less important scale, has helped people to prove their birth date in order to receive Social Security, pension and insurance benefits.

“That [idea has] become an important part of how I talk to grad students,” Jimerson says. He sees it as a distinguishing feature of Western's Archives & Records Management program.

Revealing the emotional truth

Jimerson has written extensively about archivists' role in social justice, including a book titled, “Archives Power: Memory, Accountability, and Social Justice.” (Society of American Archivists). But in his most recent project, “Shattered Glass,” he takes on the role of memoirist.

Jimerson wrestled with how to tell his family's story, and he finally settled on a memoir told from his viewpoint as a teenager. His father has passed away and

his mother's health is frail, but each sibling contributed to the epilogue accounts of how those years shaped their lives.

Though the memoir is a departure from his academic writing, Jimerson still used research in compiling his story, traveling to Alabama for documents from his father's work to fill in details he didn't know. He also drew upon interviews he conducted with his father years ago.

“I'm a historian, and I'm used to doing research and historical analysis, but I tried not to do very much of that in the book's language,” Jimerson explains.

The academic in him wonders if some may take issue with his presentation of the story's facts. For example, in the book prologue Jimerson recounts the day of the bombing from his father's point of view, relying more on a son's inference than a scholar's documentation.

But Jimerson said this book is about more than hard facts: “I think it gets at what I think is the emotional truth of the experience, rather than the literal truth of direct quotations that historians are limited by,” Jimerson says. “As a historian, I follow those rules. But as a memoirist, I took some liberties to engage what I think of as the emotional truth of the experiences.”

Hilary Parker ('95, Journalism) is a freelance writer based in Bellingham. This is her first story for Window magazine.

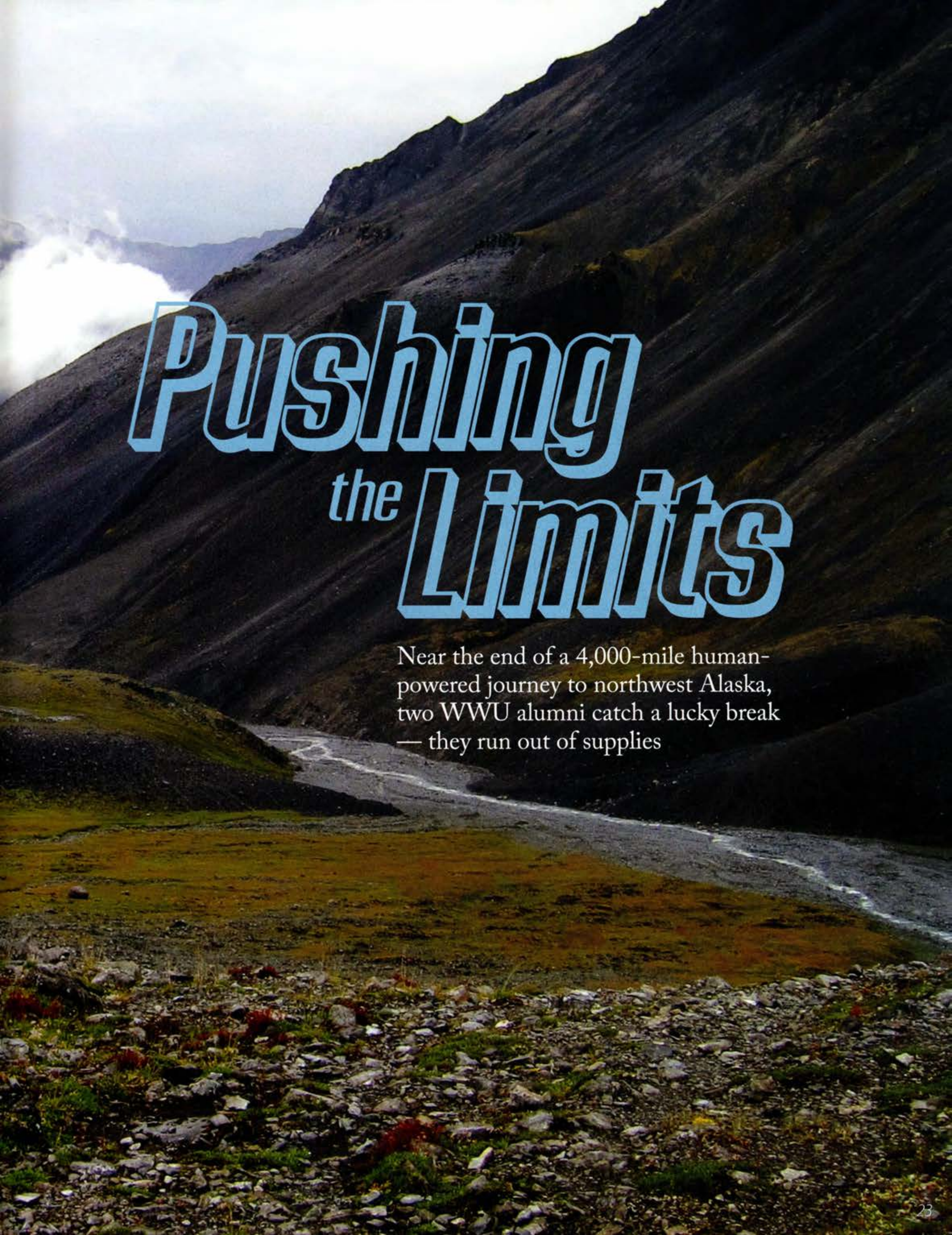


Story by Caroline Van Hemert

('05, M.A., Creative Writing)

Photos by Patrick Farrell

('04, Art – Sculpture)

The background of the page is a high-contrast photograph of a mountainous region. A steep, dark, and rocky mountain slope dominates the upper right portion of the frame. In the lower left, a small stream flows through a valley, its white water contrasting with the dark rocks. The foreground is a rocky, grassy slope. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds.

Pushing the Limits

Near the end of a 4,000-mile human-powered journey to northwest Alaska, two WWU alumni catch a lucky break — they run out of supplies



After a night of shivering, the morning arrives like a gift. As the sky begins to brighten I can make out Pat's form next to me, head buried under his sleeping bag, body curled into a tight ball. Anxious to shake the cold from my veins, I unzip the tent and reach for my shoes. They are frozen solid, laces encased in ice. I reach for my socks, hanging overhead, and frost shatters onto the tent floor. As I force one battered foot, and then the other, into the rigid wooden boxes that were once my shoes, I wince in pain.



Winter in the Arctic has advertised its impending arrival in no uncertain terms.

A week ago, a late August snowstorm on a critical mountain pass nearly signaled the end of our journey. As we retreated down the icy slope, squinting through a squall that had become a blizzard, I felt our shared dream slipping away.

But yesterday, we completed what had seemed impossible – an 80-mile detour through thick brush and flooded creeks. When we finally crested the last ridge, we whooped and hollered in triumph and then stared out at a sea of snow-covered talus. The north-facing slope below us held a jumble of refrigerator-

sized rocks covered by a thin layer of ice and several inches of snow. Beneath the haphazardly arranged boulders were holes that would swallow a leg or a torso, could snap a tibia like a twig. In a remote valley of the Western Brooks Range of northern Alaska, more than 100 miles from the nearest community, we had no margin for error.

"In single file they pass in front of us, so close that I am tempted to graze their flanks with my fingertips. Instead, I close my eyes and feel the steam rising from their bodies."

But we also had no other alternatives.

So, slowly, we began to descend, dancing like marionettes, bodies jerking wildly about as our feet slipped with every step. When we reached the heather below, bruised but amazingly unhurt, shadows began to darken the peaks and we pitched our tent by headlamp. I shut my eyes against the blackness and heard the characteristic quieting of rain turning to snow.



When I step out of the tent into the frosty morning, I blink at a scene so stunning that I momentarily forget my discomfort. Streams of water and ice cascade down towering granite slabs. The snow-covered pass shimmers in the bright morning light. Below, I gaze at a red-gold valley, painted in every shade of autumn.



A high-angle photograph of a person with long red hair, wearing a blue jacket, a maroon beanie, and tan pants, climbing a steep, rocky mountain. The person is carrying a large olive-green backpack with orange tubes protruding from the top. They are using their hands and feet to grip the dark, textured rock face. The scene is rugged and mountainous.

“Slowly, we began to descend,
dancing like marionettes
as our feet slipped
with every step.”



But what I see is more than a colorful landscape portrait, more than beauty itself. Because this is not just any valley. It is *the* valley, *our* valley. The Noatak Valley. For the rest of the day, my thoughts alternate between the toil of what has become an ordinary routine and the realization that, after nearly six months and more than 3,500 miles, we are nearing our goal. Once we retrieve our final resupply by bush plane and paddle down the Noatak River to the Chukchi Sea we will have completed a human-powered traverse from Bellingham, Wash., to the coast of northwestern Alaska.

But by the next morning, the sky has darkened to the same steely shade of gray we've scowled at for weeks, and rain showers blow through like flocks of angry birds. I call the pilot on the satellite phone only to hear what I already know. No flights until the weather improves. By evening, water is pooling on the floor of the tent and our shoes float in puddles inside the vestibule.

This is the only time on the entire trip when we have been dependent on outside support and our vulnerability suddenly seems acute. The recent detour around the mountains added several days of travel and forced us onto half rations. Now, our reserves are frighteningly low. I empty the meager contents of our last food bag – only five granola bars, less than what one of us would normally eat in an afternoon. We collect the few shriveled berries that remain on the adjacent hillsides, but they do little to assuage our aching bellies.

The Arctic is a land of extremes, and, now, after summer's warmth has departed, birds have headed south, and leaves wither and fall to the ground, there is little opportunity for foraging. As one impossible day stretches to three, I waver between moments of heart-thumping anxiety followed by the sort of acceptance that borders on defeat. "What if the plane doesn't come?" I ask for the 30th time. "It will," Pat says. "It has to."

The fourth morning greets us with more drizzle, another call to the pilot, another day of hateful waiting. Around noon, the tent's beige, mosquito-pocked fabric brightens and I shut my eyes against another round of false hope. The clouds have remained low and stationary all day, and the forecast is for more rain. But when a harsh yellow light probes my closed lids and refuses to go away, I sit up and unzip the tent fly.

Pat is alert now, too, looking at my face expectantly. For the first time in days, my cracked lips stretch into a smile. Pat smiles back.

Within minutes I've reached the pilot with a weather update. "Please come. NOW." I plead. "We can see all the way over the tops of the peaks, the sky is blue, the winds are light." When he promises that he is on his way, we sit outside and listen for the drone of a distant plane, willing insects, birds, anything that moves, to be the sound that will save us.

"What if the plane doesn't come?" I ask for the 30th time. 'It will,' Pat says. 'It has to.'"

But four hours pass and the sky remains silent. A few high cumulus clouds settle on the adjacent peaks and I feel as though I'm being suffocated. Only after the plane eventually comes into view and heads directly toward us do I jump up and begin to

tremble. The sudden motion draws a momentary blackness over my eyes and I stand quietly until I feel my pulse return again. As the plane circles and then lands on the slough, we are waiting to meet the pilot on the bank.

By the time we unload the boxes that contain extra food, warm clothes, and the foldable canoe that will carry us downstream, it has started to drizzle again. We inhale one dinner, and then another, before collapsing in the tent, our bellies satiated, our minds at rest. I wake in the early morning hours to a chorus of wolves; when I peer outside a nearly full moon rises from behind the clouds. Just before dawn, a skein of migrating snow geese passes overhead.



In the morning we tug the loaded canoe through standing reeds to the riverbank. I glance back at our campsite for a final time before the current carries us away. With the recent storms, the snowline has crept further down the hillsides, and the air temperature hovers just above freezing. The flooded river flushes us downstream with purpose; even under fierce headwinds, we cover almost 150 river miles in three days. We stop frequently on the bank to warm ourselves with jumping jacks and push-ups. Weary from the weather and the nagging cold, I focus most of my attention on the murky water as it swirls beneath the canoe – hood up, head down, and paddle.

As we round a bend in the river, I notice what appears to be a branch floating downstream. And then another. When Pat points to the bank nearby, my breath catches in my throat.

Dozens of caribou stand at the river's edge, poised to cross. Quickly, we search for an eddy and pull to the side. Within moments, we hear splashing. Cows and calves pair tightly in the swift current, floating head to tail, exchanging quiet grunts of reassurance. The bulls' antlers, fresh with the velvet of their new growth, protrude skyward. When they reach the other shore, the animals prance and shimmy, water flying in beads off their pale coats.

After the last caribou has crossed, we haul the canoe up the bank and walk over to the flurry of tracks that they have left in the sand. The trail leads up a small rise into the bushes. Here, we smell their musky barnyard odor and see hair and scat plastering the ground. As we stare down at the tiny tracks of a calf, a low ripple of sound approaches like wind across the water. Instinctively, we duck into a stand of willows and, within seconds, are surrounded by animals.



The tendons of their legs click audibly and their breath comes in huffs and throaty snorts. In single file they pass in front of us, so close that I am tempted to graze their flanks with my fingertips. Instead, I close my eyes and feel the steam rising from their bodies. A large bull steps gingerly over Pat's outstretched legs. A curious calf sniffs us, its face mere inches from ours.

Limbs frozen in place, Pat and I communicate with raised eyebrows and whispers. "This is the single most amazing thing that I have ever seen," Pat mouths to me. A dozen feet away, we hear the splash of one caribou, and then another and another, as they plunge off of the sheer, 6-foot bank into the current below. Their purpose is absolute—they must move.



For hours, we sit motionless, embedded in the intricacies of the herd's migration. Each time the bushes quiet for several minutes and it seems that there can't possibly be any more animals, another wave arrives. We lose count after the first several hundred, but thousands pass. Finally, our stomachs begin to protest in hunger and the sky darkens to dusk. On hands and knees we sneak back to the canoe. As we pitch our tent, make a fire, and eat dinner, the caribou continue to cross. When we can no longer make out the silhouettes of their antlers bobbing along the surface, we crawl into the tent. I lie in my sleeping bag and listen to the splashing and quiet grunts. Hours later, I wake in the dark and hear them crossing still.

By morning, they are gone. At the river's edge, caribou hair swishes in dense, floating mats. We sit quietly and strain to hear the thrumming of hooves or the sounds of bushes snapping. I scan the slopes carefully with my binoculars. But we are alone. The pulse of thousands of bodies moving as one has vanished.

Suddenly the snow and rain and hungry wait seem like strokes of perfect luck. For months we have traveled in the shadow of caribou. Their rutted tracks, extending like arteries across the landscape, have guided us over foothills and peaks of the Brooks Range, across hundreds of miles of Arctic vastness.

Again and again, they led us away from steep cliffs and treacherous slopes, showed us the way through terrain that seemed impenetrable. We learned to trust their wisdom over our own intuition. But never had we seen a herd in migration, nor witnessed tens of thousands of hooves trace an ancient route across the tundra.

Now, only days from the end, our journey, like the caribou's, feels complete.

Caroline Van Hemert is a wildlife biologist and Patrick Farrell owns a design-and-build company. The couple lives in Alaska and has climbed, skied, paddled, and explored together for more than 10 years.



FROM BELLINGHAM TO THE EDGE OF ALASKA

Miles traveled: **4,000**
 Roads crossed: **4**
 Bear encounters: **Dozens**
 Days with dry feet: **0**
 Calories per day: **4,400**
 Pairs of socks: **16**
 Caribou sighted: **Too many to count**







The Client

By Doug McInnis

Seattle attorney **James Pirtle** ('01) explains why his first human rights case was defending an accused Ugandan criminal – one of Kony's commanders

In the late summer of 2011, **James Pirtle** flew 8,700 miles from Seattle to the Ugandan capital of Kampala, a place he had never been and knew little about. Back in Seattle, he was a trial lawyer. But in Kampala, Pirtle became an unpaid human-rights attorney, part of a legal defense team trying to keep the state from executing Thomas Kwoyelo.

Ironically, Kwoyelo was himself accused of the most egregious human rights crimes – 53 counts of murder, kidnapping, and property destruction committed while serving as a soldier and commander in the Lord's Resistance Army, or LRA. The army terrorized northern Uganda for 20 years.

But Kwoyelo's case was not as simple as sounded. Kwoyelo says he was forced into the LRA after he was kidnapped while walking to school. He was 13 years old.

"He was nothing but a little boy trying to go to school," says Pirtle ('01, Philosophy). "We're talking about a 13-year-old. I can't get that out of my mind. I was 13 once. I remember walking to school."

But the Ugandan government failed to offer Kwoyelo amnesty, though it had done so for more than 26,000 former LRA fighters, including some of higher rank. "Of the first 26,000 to apply for amnesty, he was the only one to be rejected." Instead, he was imprisoned and tortured to obtain a confession, Pirtle says.

Pirtle learned of the case through Human Rights Watch after Ugandan attorneys put out a call for help. Intrigued, Pirtle volunteered. "I didn't think in a million years that they would pick me. I was just a trial lawyer from Seattle."

Pirtle wasn't picked for his experience in human rights law. He had none. But he did offer two things Kwoyelo's defense team needed: his legal perspective from outside the Commonwealth and his American citizenship. By having an American on the team, it would be harder for anyone to carry out



Answering the call:
James Pirtle first
learned of the case
through Human
Rights Watch.



Photo by REUTERS/Xavier Toya

The defendant: Thomas Kwoyelo, a former commander in Uganda's brutal Lord's Resistance Army, faces 53 counts of murder, kidnapping and destruction of property. But unlike 26,000 other former LRA soldiers and commanders, Kwoyelo was not offered amnesty by the Ugandan government.

Once he joined the team, he found another cause... the legislature's plan to make homosexual activity punishable by death.

ence in a high-profile case, experience that would help him make the transition from trial law to the human rights arena.

Next legal target: Ugandan anti-gay laws

Once he joined the team, he found yet another cause. One of his Ugandan legal partners told him of the Ugandan legislature's plan to make homosexual activity punishable by death on a second "offense." Ninety-six of Uganda's 100 legislators said they would vote for it. Pirtle signed up for the court battle to try to block the proposal from becoming law.

Legislators have since backed off the death penalty in favor of legislation that calls for life in prison. Nonetheless, says

reprisals against the Africans who made up the rest of the team. In return, Pirtle would gain invaluable experi-

Pirtle, "It's an affront to human dignity." Already, gay and lesbian Ugandans live in fear, he says. "They can't love who they want to love. They can't tell their family about their sexuality. They can't tell their friends."

So far, Pirtle hasn't made a dime on his human-rights work and has spent some \$15,000 of his own cash for travel and lengthy stays in Uganda. But then, he didn't take the case for the money. "I'm an idealist," he says.

Uganda may be just the place to test his values. The country gained independence from British colonial rule in 1962, but the new nation was a conglomeration of ethnic groups that could not come together to form a working government. In 1971, the dictatorial Idi Amin grabbed power and engineered the slaughter of 300,000 opponents. His successor left another 100,000 dead between 1980 and 1985.

Then most of the country settled down to stability and economic growth. But in late 1980s, warlord Joseph Kony and his Lord's Resistance Army began its two-decade campaign against the government in northern Uganda, a campaign marked by kidnappings and unspeakable brutality.

Kidnapped boys became soldiers. To indoctrinate them, the boys were often forced to kill family and friends. Kidnapped girls became sex slaves. When LRA members wanted to intimidate opponents or exact revenge, they simply hacked off limbs.

The LRA is now in disarray. Most of Kony's fighters have accepted amnesty and returned home to rebuild their lives. Kony and a few hundred supporters are believed to be hiding in remote jungles of central Africa. Earlier this year, the U.S. government offered a \$5 million reward for his capture.

Before law school, the Navy and Philosophy

Pirtle came to human rights law in a roundabout way. After graduating from a Nevada high school, where he played defensive back on his high-school football team, he spent a year at the University of Arizona and then joined the Navy. He served on an aerial reconnaissance crew, operating radar equipment and the infrared camera used to see at night. "We flew all over Asia and Australia," he says. "Most of the missions entailed flying around and seeing what was out there." In effect, his unit served like a city cop on patrol. "We found arms dealers and human smugglers," he recalls.

When his hitch was up, he enrolled in Western Washington University, majoring in Philosophy. He then earned his law degree from Seattle University's School of Law. Initially, he planned a career in environmental law. "I don't have a whole lot of aptitude for that," he recalls. "I did have an aptitude for trial work."

Fresh out of law school, he took the case of a friend who had gotten into a legal dispute with his former business partner. Pirtle filed a \$25,000 tactical lawsuit against the former partner to try to encourage her to settle. The strategy backfired.

She hired one of Seattle's top law firm's and countersued for \$250,000.

"I thought we had a strong case," says Pirtle. "Our greatest weakness was that I didn't have any experience. I was learning as I went along." To Pirtle's amazement, he won a judgment at the trial court level and won again when the verdict was appealed. "If we had lost, it would have ruined him."

Today, Pirtle's practice includes criminal defense and personal injury cases. But he wants to shift from local trial work to the international human-rights arena and is seeking to set up a foundation to help support the work. "The people we represent obviously can't pay," he says.

In the meantime, he's working for free because he believes in the cause. "He's very serious when it comes to the things he's passionate about," says his longtime friend **Greg Reilly** ('00, Economics) a lieutenant commander at the U.S. Coast Guard's Pacific Area Headquarters.

"Maybe it comes down to the fact that there are a couple of different sides of James. One side of him is a soldier. The other is that he has a very liberal justice-oriented outlook on life. So he's a soldier for things he really believes in."

And that commitment may have an impact that extends well beyond his work in Uganda. By taking human rights into the legal arena, Pirtle is helping to change the way human-rights cases are fought. "There's certainly a place for trial lawyers to effect change," says Philosophy Professor Ned Markosian, who had Pirtle as a student. "Not a lot of that is being done. The focus has been on trying to raise awareness of the issues. By bringing cases to court, he's filling an important niche."


So far, Kwoyelo's legal team has won in Uganda's Constitutional Court, which ruled he was wrongly denied amnesty and should be freed. But the government refused to let him go. Normally, Pirtle and his partners would have taken the case to Uganda's Supreme Court. But the court is currently short members and can't form a quorum.

So Kwoyelo's defense team has taken the matter to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, hoping for a ruling that he should be released. While the commission has no enforcement power, Pirtle says a favorable ruling could put political pressure on Uganda to free him.

Unanswered questions

Kwoyelo is now middle-aged. Since his first year as a teenager, he has spent his life at war or in prison. If the charges against him are true, Kwoyelo has committed acts that would violate the laws of any civilized society. The only issue left is what to do with him – further imprisonment, execution, or freedom.

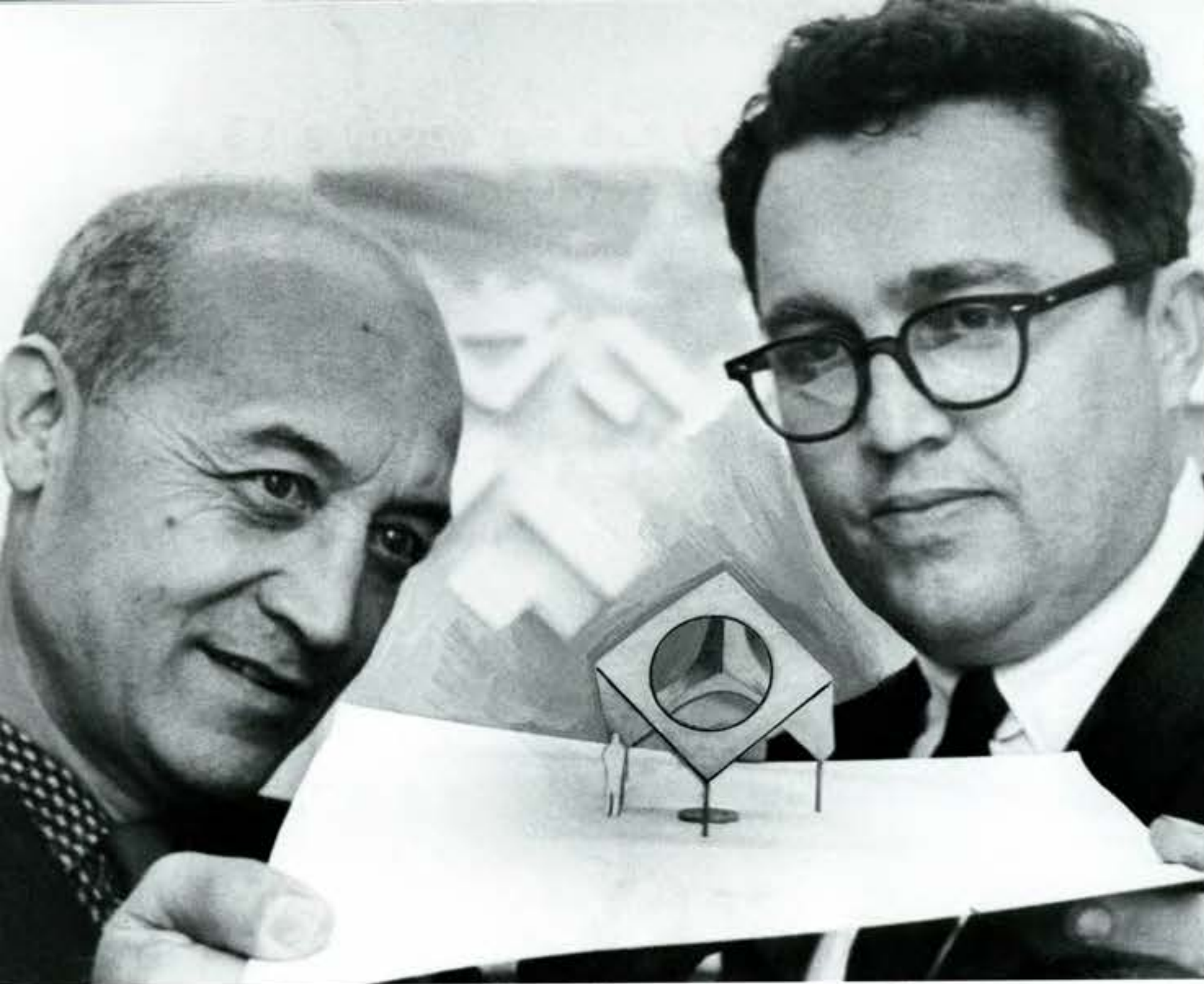
But Pirtle believes the case involves deeper, more complex issues. "Where does moral culpability begin?" he asks. "What happens to the psychology of a child who is kidnapped and forced to be a soldier?"



'We're talking about a 13-year-old. I can't get that out of my mind. I was 13 once.'

"I can't answer that. But I know the consequences would be devastating," he says. "If this had happened to any of us, what would we be like?"

*Doug McInnis is a freelance journalist who has written for the New York Times, Popular Science and many university magazines. His most recent story for Window was about **Eric Dinerstein** ('75), chief scientist of the World Wildlife Fund.*



Clockwise from top:

Tiny Skyview: Sculptor Isamu Noguchi, left, holds a model of his Skyviewing Sculpture with Western President Charles "Jerry" Flora before the sculpture's installment in 1969.

Post-war veterans: Jack Krause ('49), a senior, hits the books at his kitchen table surrounded by his family in campus housing for married veterans May 2, 1949.

Football flight: Carver loved to photograph Western athletes, including these four football players caught mid-lunge in fall of 1957.





Homecoming 1953: Jack Carver smiles as he's kissed on the cheek by Carolyn Crook, Western's Homecoming Queen, Sigrid XVI, on Oct. 15, 1953.

A photographic legacy

Jack Carver's camera captured Western's growing-up years

Jack Carver, whose photographs captured more than three decades of growth and change at Western Washington University and the rest of Whatcom County, died July 13 at age 95.

John Coston "Jack" Carver ('40) was a Bellingham Herald photographer from 1945 to 1981 and left behind more than 57,000 photographs that now reside in the Whatcom Museum's photo collection.

When Carver started in 1945, Western Washington College of Education had just 612 students, including a growing number of veterans returning from World War II. Carver and his camera documented life at Western during the booming growth of the '50s and '60s: students sporting beanie caps on the first days of class, faculty members posing with treasures from their travels abroad, and students gathering at a Peace Vigil in downtown Bellingham.

When Carver retired in 1981, Western's student population had topped 10,000. By then, he had also photographed more than a few long-haired hippies and at least one campus computer the size of a large filing cabinet.

Carver's own roots at Western run deep. His uncle Sam Carver, for whom Carver Gymnasium was named, was Western's first director of Athletics. Jack Carver also attended Western before joining the Army Air Corps in 1942 and serving in England during World War II.

In addition to his photographic legacy, Carver established the Sam Carver Memorial Scholarship Fund for Western Athletics.



Heading outdoors: A student tries on a backpack in Western's Outdoor Recreation Room in the Viking Union on Aug. 10, 1978.



Graduation day: Mary Hillaire ('56, Elementary Education; '67, M.Ed., Elementary Education) poses for a photograph by Irene Parr ('57, Art – Elementary) on June 5, 1956. Hillaire, the first member of the Lummi Indian Nation to graduate with a bachelor's degree from Western, went on to join the faculty at The Evergreen State College and establish its Native American Studies Program.

Starting tips: Jesse Owens, four-time Olympic gold medalist in track & field, shows four Western student interviewers how to start a race during his visit to campus Jan. 14, 1958.



Alumni Conversations



By Deborah DeWees

Executive Director
Western Alumni Association



Western is a small world after all

We often hear what Vikings remember most about their time at Western is the sense of community they felt both on and off campus while living in Bellingham. Western alums take that feeling as they go on to build lives and careers all over the world.

Whether you moved away, stayed in Whatcom County or landed in the greater Seattle area, your WWU community is closer than you might think.



While the vast majority of Western graduates (84 percent) live in the state of Washington, WWU alumni are coming together in every corner of the U.S. and around the globe. As part of our ongoing effort to stay engaged with alumni, parents and donors – or as we like to refer to them, “the Western family” – no matter where they live, we have developed regional networks near Tokyo, Phoenix, Washington, D.C., Minneapolis, San Francisco, San Diego and Los Angeles, and Portland, Ore. Many more are planned. These networks are led by volunteer alumni excited to support each other and brought together by their love for Western and support of students. They work with Western staff to help plan networking opportunities and fun, engaging activities in their area for folks who can’t make it to Bellingham or the Puget Sound region as frequently.

Western communities as far away as Washington, D.C. and Tokyo gathered this year to welcome President Bruce Shepard for dinner receptions, events and discussions about the future of the university and higher education.

WWU alumni are coming together in every corner of the U.S. and around the globe.

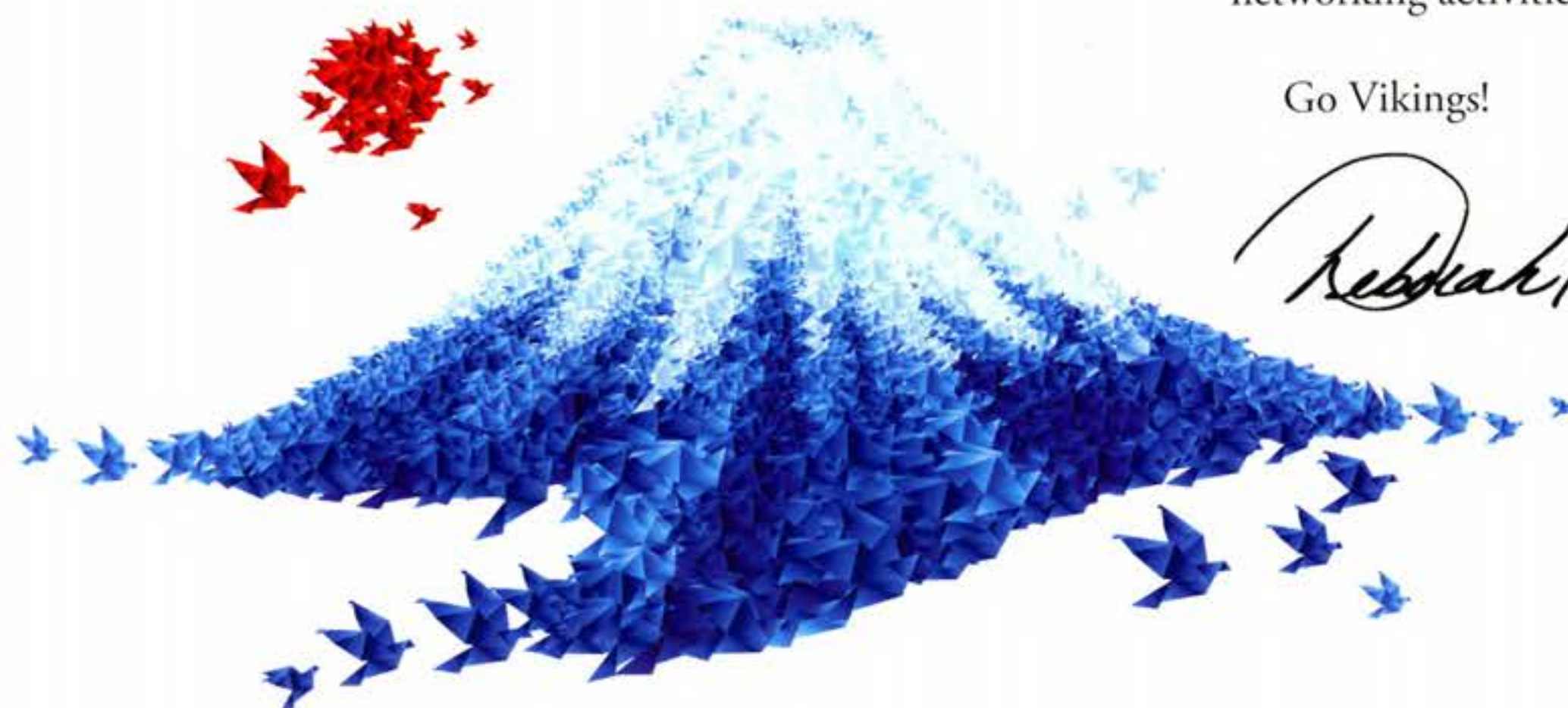
Keeping our Western family connected in their workplace is another way we are helping you feel supported and informed as a member of our Viking community. We recently launched targeted newsletters and activities in corporations where there is a concentration of WWU grads, such as our Western@Microsoft and Western@Boeing efforts. We are expanding the Western@‘corporation’ programs to additional organizations this year.

Having fellow Western alums nearby not only provides an opportunity to reminisce about dodging puddles across the bricks in Red Square, but it also expands your local network to include those people who understand what a Western experience means.

Be sure to check out our WWU Alumni Events on wwualumni.com and look for announcements of networking activities happening in your area.

Go Vikings!

P.S. Interested in getting involved? Get in touch with us at alumni@wwu.edu.



Class Notes

1943 – Buffe Antilla (Elementary Education) is a retired teacher in Longview, where she remains in touch with many of her former students.

1957 – Dennis Duncan (General Science) is a retired teacher who still volunteers as a storyteller, visiting dozens of classrooms a year.

1962 – Bob Purvis (General Science; '64, M.Ed., Science Education) was recently appointed to Alaska's State Vocational Rehabilitation Committee. A retired professor of the University of Alaska Southeast, Purvis owns a technology training company for low-vision people.

1969 – Valerie MacKinnon-Okorochoa (Sociology, Anthropology) retired from 21 years in Los Angeles County teaching special education students who are emotionally disturbed. She has two sons who are defense attorneys in Southern California. **Bob Knipe** (Special Education, English) recently retired as the dean of Learning Technologies at Genesee Community College in Batavia, N.Y. **Howard Chermak** (Speech Pathology & Audiology) is president of Chermak Construction in Edmonds.

1970 – Scott Brooks (Business Administration) became chief executive officer of Regenesys Biomedical Inc., a medical technology company based in Arizona focused on tissue regeneration.

1971 – Mike McMahon (Economics) is the senior manager of rates, economics and energy risk management for the Snohomish County Public Utility District in Everett. **Ray Smythe** (History – Secondary Education) has written and published two books, "So You Decided to Teach: A Handbook for First Year Teachers" and "One Card at a Time: Stories of Inspiration." Both books are

Scott Brooks
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company focused
on tissue
regeneration.

full of inspirational stories and strategies not only for teachers but for anyone who needs a lift," writes Smythe, who taught for 39 years in Oregon, Washington and California and retired in 2010. **Steve Anderson** (Education) retired after 38 years of teaching. He

Mark Mitsui
became a
deputy assistant
secretary at the
U.S. Department of
Education.

taught P.E. and special education in the South Kitsap and North Mason school districts, including 16 years at Mission Creek Youth Camp. He also coached high school sports and will continue to coach football at North Mason High School.

1972 – Beth Roberson (M.Ed., Remedial Reading) became a watercolorist after retiring from teaching and is past president of the Whatcom Art Guild. She and four other artists recently collaborated to open Studio Five, a working studio and art gallery in Bellingham. Former Harlem Globetrotter **Rudy Thomas** (Recreation) was recently inducted into the Western Athletic Hall of Fame. Thomas served as program coordinator at Crossroads Community Center in Bellevue for 25 years. **Stephen Hagen** ('72, Urban and Regional Planning) and **Vicki (Dussault) Hagen** ('72, Elementary Education), retired in the summer of 2012, almost 40 years to the date of their graduations from Western. Steve retired from HDR Engineering, where he was a consultant in real estate at Sound Transit, and Vicki retired from the Highline School District where she taught kindergarten at Marvista Elementary. They started retirement with a 2 ½-month trip to Europe and plan to do more traveling in the future.

1973 – Esther Helfgott ('81, M.A., History) recently published "Dear Alzheimer's: A Caregiver's Diary & Poems," a poet's chronology of caregiving for her spouse who struggled with Alzheimer's.

1974 – Suzanne Hartman (Biology) became communications manager

for the Chelan County Public Utility District. **Chuck Keeley** (Sociology, Anthropology) recently retired from the MillerCoors Brewing Co. after 25 years as a senior specialist in the tech department. **Elaine Hanson** (Special Education, Mathematics) was recently named Volunteer of the Month by the city of Marysville for her work leading the Marysville Sorooptimists' efforts to combat local sex trafficking.

1976 – Mary Hebert (Education; '81, M.Ed., Reading) became interim principal for Dry Creek Elementary School in Port Angeles. She had retired as assistant superintendent of the Port Angeles School District in 2010. Gary **Rondeau** (Physics, Mathematics) commutes by bicycle 10 miles a day to his job as technical director of Applied Scientific Instrumentation in Eugene, Ore. He's also an avid organic gardener and founder of Oregon Sustainable Beekeepers. His blog, squashpractice.wordpress.com, covers many of his pursuits, including the construction of a two-seater tricycle he calls the DateTrike. **Dan Raley** (Journalism) works for MSN.com and writes books about Seattle's history. His latest, "The Brandon Roy Story," was published by Old Seattle Press.

1977 – Linda Grinter (English – Secondary) recently retired from teaching middle school in Edwardsville, Ill.

1978 – Jeffrey A. Pontius (Geology) is the chief executive officer and director of Corvus Gold Inc. **Linda Morey** (Education) recently retired from a 34-year career teaching elementary school in Lacey.

1979 – William F. Johnston (M.A., Political Science) and **Kristine A. Johnston** ('98, Education Certificate) just celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary in Kailua-Kona in Hawaii. Bill is a retired union representative and Kris is retired from the Tacoma School District. **Glenn Olson** (Sociology; '86, M.A., Sociology) became the chief administrative officer for Kitsap County. Most recently, he was deputy chief administrative officer for Clark County. **Judith Dawe** (Art History) is retired and volunteers for the Whatcom Humane Society and the Assistance League of Bellingham.

1980 – Mark Mitsui (P.E. – Exercise and Sport Science, Psychology) became the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges at the U.S. Department of Education. Most recently, Mitsui was president of North Seattle Community College. **Bill Gorman** (Art, Industrial Design) became interim president of the Whatcom County Chamber of Commerce.

1982 – Leslie Drury (Elementary Education; '93, M.Ed., Education) became a language arts teacher in the Blaine School District's Home Connection program.

1983 – Author John Michael Greer (Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration) is the Grand Archdruid of the Ancient Order of Druids in America, a modern Druid order inspired by the Druid Revival of the 18th and 19th centuries. He has also written many books on nature spirituality, ecology and esoteric traditions. **Sara Greer** (Art History) is an author and the order's Archdruid of Water. **Deb Sandar** (Economics) is a financial advisor for Wells Fargo in Anchorage. **Chuck Lennox** (Environmental Education) completed two missions to Morocco in spring and summer 2013 for the U.S. Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program, working on signage and communication issues in the kingdom's national parks and protected areas.

1984 – Mark Davies (Business Administration, Accounting) became chief financial officer Vivint, the largest

David Cuillier
is president of the
Society of Professional
Journalists.

home automation services company in North America.

1985 – Fr. Arthur Gramaje (Business Administration) recently became pastor of Holy Cross-Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in the Back of the Yards neighborhood on the south side of Chicago. **Vien Bui** (Computer Science) recently published "Mom, Happy Father's Day," the story of his mother in law who raised five daughters after losing her husband during the Fall of Saigon in 1975. **Kerry L. Krueger** (Psychology) became a partner in the Stockton, Calif., law firm of Kroloff, Belcher, Smart, Perry & Christopherson.

1986 – Lori deKubber (Community Health; '93, M.Ed., Physical Education), is a clinical athletics trainer for Campus Recreation at Western. The former three-time NAIA District 1 all-star was recently inducted into Western's

Athletic Hall of Fame. **Roxan Kraft** (Chemistry/Biology) is general manager of the Shell Chemical Plant in Geismar, La.

1987 – Cy Hundley (Exercise and Sport Science) is an artist in Chelan, specializing in pet portraits. He ships his paintings and drawings all over the world. **Pat Carboneau** (Accounting/Computer Science) and his team, the Seahammers, competed in the U.S. National Underwater Hockey Championships

1989 – Billie Otto (Accounting) is senior vice president and CIO of TrueBlue Inc., a blue-collar staffing firm. **Kyle House** (Geography, Environmental Geography), a research geologist with the U.S. Geologic Service's Geology, Minerals, Energy and Geophysics Science Center, was the lead author on a study of the lower Colorado River which won the Kirk Bryan Award for Research Excellence from the Geological Society of America. **Greg Johnson** (Applied Environmental Geology) is the president and chief executive officer of Prophecy Platinum. **James Johnston** (Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration) became associate head coach of the University of Central Arkansas men's basketball team. **Jami Lund** (M.A., Political Science) is a senior education policy analyst for the Freedom Foundation in Olympia. Previously, he was an education policy analyst for the State House of Representatives, Republican Caucus. **Drue Robinson** (Theatre, Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration), founder of Bellingham

Children's Theatre and Viewpoints Theatre Ensemble, is directing "The Wutcraker," a parody of the famous Chrtistmastime ballet, featuring several Bellingham area community members in December.

1990 – David Cuillier (Journalism) recently became president of the Society of Professional Journalists. He is director and associate professor at the University of Arizona School of Journalism. **Donna Main** (P.E. – Exercise and Sport Science) became police sergeant of the Port Orchard Police Department. She became a police officer in 2010 after working as an account representative for ConAgra Foods for 15 years. **Crystal Nygard** (Communication) was recently appointed to the board of directors for the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority and the Alaska Energy Authority. She's the co-founder and CEO of the Mat-Su Business Alliance and owner of Managing Recruiters of Palmer, Alaska. **Ann Buswell** (M.Ed., School Administration) was named Washington State Assistant Principal of the Year by the Association of Washington Middle Level Principals. Buswell has been assistant principal at Whatcom Middle School since 1997.

1991 – Teresa Baker (Electronic Engineering Technology) recently opened her second restaurant, Kelly's Café and Espresso in Port Orchard. She opened Kelly's in Gig Harbor in 2006.

1992 – William Anderson, Jr. (M.B.A.; '96, B.A., Accounting) became the chief executive officer of Ahtna Netiyé

Inc., an Alaskan Native Regional Corporation that manages subsidiaries in construction, environmental remediation, forestry, food services and more. Stryker-Indigo Media Group recently published a book by **Darril Fosty** (History) and his brother George, "Where Brave Men Fall: The Battle of Dieppe and the Espionage War Against Hitler, 1939-1942." **Kurt William Dunbar** (History; '97, M.A., History) recently earned tenure at Skagit Valley College, where he teaches history and political science. He also lectures as a naturalist on cruise ships. **Patrick Mazzuca** (Political Science; '94, M.A., Political Science) is CEO of Blu Tigres, which manufactures a single-serve coffee brewing machine, the Suncana, that uses biodegradable pods containing premium coffee.

1993 – Chad Goller-Sojourner (Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration) recently debuted his solo play, "Riding in Cars with Black People and Other Newly Dangerous Acts: A Memoir in Vanishing Whiteness" in Seattle. The play tells Goller-Sojourner's "funny, biting and somber" story of an African-American boy raised by white parents, who "ages out" of honorary white and suburban privilege." **Tamara DePorter** (Communication) is vice president of the board of The Chris Elliott Fund, which provides access to advanced cancer treatment for brain tumor patients. She was recently nominated for the Integral Fellows Awards of the Microsoft Alumni Foundation. **Michael**

Amkreutz (Business Administration – Marketing) became executive vice president of Merchandising for the Systemax North American Technology Products Group, which includes TigerDirect, CompUSA and Circuit City.

1994 – Brandi Stevenson (Sociology; '10, M.Ed., Continuing and College Education) is a maintenance technical writer at BP Cherry Point Refinery and an adjunct faculty member at Western

Ann Buswell
was named
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working toward her doctoral degree at the University of Glasgow, Scotland. A former track star, she was recently inducted into Western's Athletic Hall of Fame. **Mitch Baker** (Business Administration – Finance) became managing partner of the Portland, Ore., office of Fisher & Phillips LLP, a national law firm specializing in labor and employment law.

1995 – Robert Gary (M.Ed., School Administration – Secondary) became



interim principal of Madison Middle School in Seattle. Previously, he was principal of Rainier Beach High School. **Shannon Stanton** (Child Development) became principal of Alki Elementary School in West Seattle. Most recently, she was principal of Pine Tree Elementary in the Kent School District.

1996 – Army Warrant Officer 1 James R. Buckley (East Asian Studies) graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School at Fort Rucker, Ala. **Thyra (Pearson) McKelvie** (Communication) is founder and lead strategist of Rendezvous Strategies, a boutique marketing agency in Seattle that specializes in website, social media and business development. Her agency has won two Interactive Media Awards for their social media campaigns. **Tami Anderson** (Art – Graphic Design) is a graphic designer for Peoples Bank in Whatcom County. She also recently served as event chair for Relay for Life of North Whatcom County, which raised over \$142,000 for the American Cancer Society.

1997 – Darin Detwiler (History) received the Governor's Award for Teaching History in Washington State by the Washington State Historical Society Board of Trustees. He's a teacher at Redmond Middle School. Fantasy author **Clint Romag** (International Business) recently published "Titanus Seven," a collection of short stories. **Alice Clark** (Art), who has led Bellingham's Pickford Film Center since 2001, will step down as executive director Dec. 31. Clark says she's turning her attention to her pie business, organizing other community events and to traveling. **Kristine Young** (Biology – Human) is a board-certified physician assistant and joined the Augusta Health Primary Care office in Fishersville, Va.

Send us your Class Notes

Got a promotion? Published your novel? Making a difference in your community? Share your news with other alumni in Class Notes. We collect information from published accounts, press releases and alumni themselves. Notes are edited for style, clarity and length and are published as space allows. For more information, or to submit your own information for Class Notes, email Mary.Gallagher@wwu.edu.

1998 – Bryan Champ (Communication) is the research supervisor for Comcast Spotlight in Portland, Ore. **Kelly Janice Angeley** (Art – Painting) teaches beading out of her home studio in Florence, Ore., and sells her work in galleries and boutiques along the West Coast. **Kelly Liske** (Accounting) became executive

Katie Brown is Washington's 2014 Teacher of the Year.

vice president and chief banking officer for First Federal bank in Port Angeles. **Becky Lee** (Child Development) became principal of Seven Oaks Elementary School in Lacey.

1999 – Scot Swanson (Business Administration – Marketing) is an attorney at the Belcher Swanson Law Firm in Bellingham. A former soccer star, Swanson was recently inducted into the Western Athletic Hall of Fame. **Jamie Herlich** (Music – Performance) became a fundraising director for the Seattle Repertory Theatre. She also serves on the board of the New Century Theatre Company.

2000 – Katie Brown (Anthropology) was named Washington's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Brown is an English Language Learner specialist at Shuksan Middle School in Bellingham. **Julien Loh** (Political Science) became district director of U.S. Rep. Susan Delbene's Washington state office. **Dan Ferguson** (M.Ed., Student Personnel Administration) is director of college activities for Linfield College in Oregon. He recently joined the board of directors of the National Association for Campus Activities. **Leanne (Fletcher) Davis** (Business Administration – Human Resource Management) worked in construction management for several years and now writes full time. Her most recent book is "Poison," a romantic suspense novel set in Washington state.

2001 – Kathleen Larese (Chemistry) became director of laboratories for OSO BioPharmaceuticals Manufacturing in Albuquerque, N.M. **Josh Feyen** (English) became an agent for RE/MAX Whatcom County. **Kamyar Monsef** (Communication, Business Administration) became manager

of the Bank of the Pacific's Seaside, Ore., branch. **Mark Osborne** (English – Secondary) became assistant director of Clark County Skills Center. **Travis Silvers** (Music – Performance) is an adjunct music instructor at the University of the Pacific, San Joaquin Delta College and Modesto Junior College. **Christine Schellin** (M.A., Speech Pathology/Audiology) is an audiologist and owns Silver State Hearing & Balance in Reno, Nev. **Dwight Seferos** (Chemistry) is an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Toronto and was recently named an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow. **Brad Tuininga** (Huxley Student/Faculty Designed Major; '05, M.Ed., Science Education) became the resource development director of the North Cascades Institute in Sedro-Woolley. Most recently, he was development director for the Bellingham Technical College Foundation. **Jeff Broome** (Political Science/Social Studies) became principal of Tumwater High School.

2002 – Katie Clark (Cellular and Molecular Biology) is an assistant professor of Biology at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore. **Lesley Davies** (Political Science) blogs about cool-sounding restaurants and bars for Seattlite.com. **Ben Lazowski** (Business Administration) recently opened Valley Shine Distillery in the Skagit Valley, producing high-quality spirits and liqueurs. **Tyler Rourke** (Industrial Technology) led a car-free Ski to Sea team at this year's race – quite a feat for a seven-leg, 93-mile relay race. **Matthew Koenigs** (Business Administration) traveled to London in September where he won a silver medal in the World Aquathlon Championship, which is a 1,000-meter swim followed by a 5-kilometer run. He also competed in the Age Group World Sprint Triathlon Championship and placed 35th overall – seventh in his age group. **Ian Bivens** (Theatre) is a theatre artist involved with Northwest Passage Theatre Collective in Bellingham. **Abbie Anderson** (General Studies) is a yoga instructor in the Modesto, Calif., area. **Nadia Krilanovich** (Art – Drawing) recently performed with her musical group, The Lady Crooners, in Ashland, Ore. Their album, "The Surface," was released in 2012. **Sarkis Garabedian** (Business Administration; '04, M.B.A.) became senior vice president of Ziegler Investment Banking.

2003 – Jolyn Gardner Campbell (Law and Diversity) is an attorney and artist in Seattle. She and a fellow artist created a mixed-media art quilt to take to Ghana in October with Artists 2 Africa. **Trisha Wilkie** (Geology) recently received a Doctorate of Physical Therapy from

Pacific University. **Jeanette Brizendine** (Economics, Chemistry), recycling project manager for the city of Federal Way, was named Individual Recycler of the Year by the Washington State Recycling Association. People in Federal Way call her the Queen of Styrofoam.

2004 – Colin McDonald (Environmental Studies/Journalism), the water and environment reporter at the San Antonio Express-News, is one of five 2013-14 Ted Scripps Fellows in Environmental Journalism at the University of Colorado, Boulder. **Peter Tomaszewski** (Music – Performance) recently performed with the Palm Beach Opera in Florida. The bass-baritone recently earned a master's degree in Vocal Performance from the Peabody Conservatory and will return to the Palm Beach Opera as a Young Artist for their 2014 season. **Kristie Metcalf** (Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration) is an up-and-coming fashion designer who was selected to be a contestant on "Styled to Rock," a Bravo reality series executive produced by Rihanna. The winner will get a chance to join Rihanna's design team and win \$100,000 and a fashion spread in Glamour magazine.

2005 – Adam Fung (Art), who received an MFA from the University of

Dwight Seferos is an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow at the University of Toronto.

Notre Dame, is in Chicago and was included in Art Matter, an exhibition featuring Chicago-area artists, at the Design Cloud Gallery. **Anya Samawicz** (Environmental Education) is a seasonal interpretive ranger at Olympic National Park. **Joni Och** (M.B.A.) is director of Quality for PeaceHealth Northwest Network as well as director of the Center for Healthcare Improvement at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham. She recently became a member of the board of examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, which recognizes performance excellence in U.S. organizations. **Britton Braswell** (Business Administration) became the general manager of the Best Western Plus Heritage Inn.

Daniel Yun

Junior

Shoreline resident

Former volunteer firefighter

Kinesiology major

WWU Phonathon caller

Favorite campus spot: Haskell Plaza, with its berms shaped like the San Juan Islands and lines in the bricks to represent the currents. It's a gorgeous place to study or to see your friends between classes.

Club that changed my life: My freshman year I became president of Kappa Hall, which really got me involved with Western. I eventually joined the phona-thon and now I'm a student ambassador at events hosted by President Shepard and the Western Foundation.

Favorite Phonathon conversations: I just love those calls where the only thing you have in common is Western. You spend time just learning about their experience and having a genuine conversation.

Why he hopes you'll answer the call and make a gift: The result of our work at the Phonathon is very tangible. We call alumni, parents and friends of Western and have great conversations. We thank our donors, we raise more money for WWU, and at the end of the day I can see the results of our efforts.

Biggest night on the phones: The first week in October we raised over \$15,000 on a Tuesday night. That's a lot of scholarships for students.

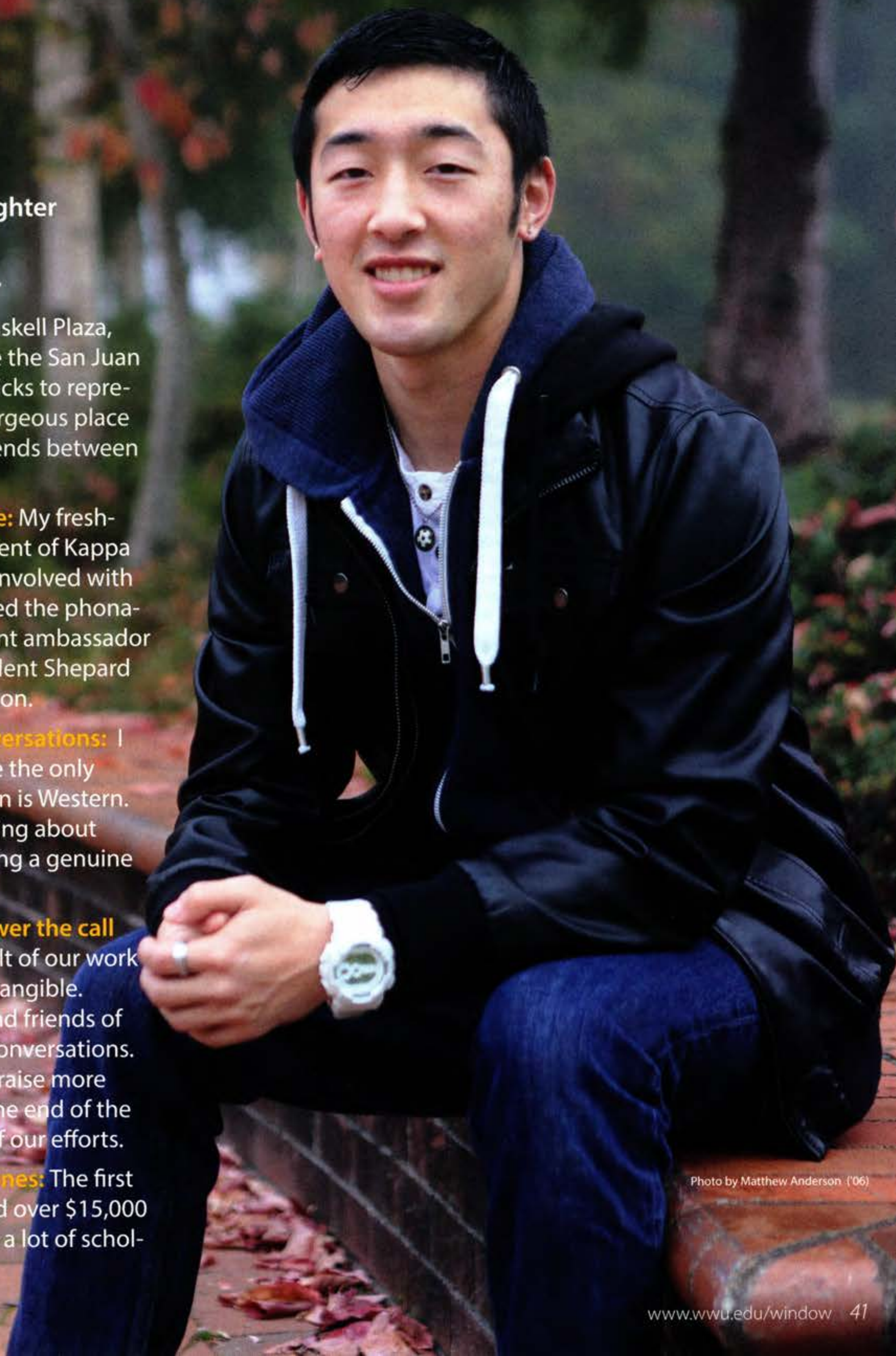


Photo by Matthew Anderson ('06)

2006 – Katrina Anderson (Business Administration – International) is a fourth-generation tug boat captain in the Cook Inlet near Anchorage, Alaska. **Michael-Paul Gurulé** (Music Composition; '11, M.Mus., Music) is director of bands at Lynden Christian School and conducts the choir at First Presbyterian Church in Bellingham. His jazz trio, Nuages, plays regularly at Skylark's Hidden Café in Fairhaven.

2007 – Ryler Dustin (English – Creative Writing) earned a master's degree from the University of Houston, where he won a \$10,000 student poetry competition. He recently returned to Bellingham and taught a teen writer's conference at Village Books. **Douglas Bosley** (Art – Painting; '09, BFA, Art) won first place in the National Visual Arts Competition in Printmaking; the competition is sponsored by the National Society of Arts and Letters. Bosley received his MFA from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 2012. **Joseph P. Gallagher** (M.B.A.), director of Commercial Truck and Rail at Phillips 66, recently received the W.L. "Bill" James Outstanding Member Award by the National Association of Purchasing Management.

2008 – Amanda Clanton (Business Administration – Finance) is a private client specialist with Fidelity

Christian Molliter
became
vice president
of the Liberian
International Ship
& Corporate Registry.

Investments in Newport Beach, Calif. She also volunteers each year for the Partners for Youth campaign with the Spokane YMCA. **Patrick Harlin** (Music – Composition) was the first recipient of the Hermitage Prize, an eight-week fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival and School. **Xavier Bruehler** (Environmental Geology) recently served as a volunteer at Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument in New Mexico, where he gave geology tours. **Mark R. Scoville** (Political Science) joined the Givens Purlsey law firm in Boise, Idaho. He earned his law degree from the University of Michigan. **Mathew H. Hammons** (Physical Education – Pre-Physical Therapy), a physician's

assistant, joined Mercy Urgent Care in Springfield, Mo. **Michael Harthorne** (Journalism) is a crime news reporter for KOMO News. **Lisa Wilson** (Human Services) is a human resources representative at Bio-Rad Laboratories. **Sandy Lam** (Communication) recently returned to the U.S. after traveling abroad. She spent nine months volunteering at a winery in Italy, a month in Turkey volunteering at a cave hotel, a month in India volunteering with Tibetan refugees and another couple of months in England and Thailand.

2009 – Mandy Chomos (Biology – Marine Emphasis) is a marine mammal trainer at Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium in Tacoma. **Chris Betz** (Communication) is an industry representative at ChemPoint in Bellevue. **Hanna Brooks Olsen** (English – Literature) is an arts and entertainment reporter for KOMONews.com. **Kerry Salazar** (Early Childhood Education P-3) was profiled in "American Teachers: Heroes in the Classroom," by Katrina Fried (Welcome Books). Salazar teaches at the Opal Charter School at the Portland Children's Museum in Oregon.

2010 – Austin Jenckes (Communication) was a contestant on NBC's "The Voice." Right before Window went to press, Jenckes made it into the show's Top 10. Air Force Airman **Nathaniel V. Espe** (Economics/Mathematics) graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. **Zoie Gaidos** (Environmental Science) works at an organic farm in Everson and helps organize Bellingham's Naked Bike Ride each June, a playful annual event to emphasize the importance of a bicycle-friendly culture. **James Andrews** (English – Creative Writing, Environmental Studies/Journalism) recently won awards from the Washington Press Association for his work at Food Safety News. **Anthony Wiederkehr** (Communication; '12, M.B.A.) is the finance manager for Aero Mac Inc., an aerospace company in Everett. **Chaya Glass** (Teaching Certificate) became drama director of Bothell High School. **Mason Fidino** (Environmental Science – Terrestrial Ecology) is an urban wildlife specialist for the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago. He recently helped conduct an extensive survey of birds in the vicinity of the zoo. **Alexandra Niedzialkowski** (Communication) is a singer and songwriter whose indie-pop band, Cumulus, recently released its first full-length album, "I Never Meant It to Be Like This," and will head out on a national tour this fall.

2011 – AmeriCorps member Iris Craig (English – Creative Writing) worked with Tattered Cover Press to produce a literary journal filled with poetry and stories by students at John Amesse Elementary School students in Denver. **Bennett Grimes** (Communication, Psychology) came in second at the Fairhaven Runners Waterfront 15K in Bellingham in September, beating the course record. **Jimmy McCurry** (Kinesiology) is a personal trainer in Edmonds and

Austin Jenckes
was a Top-10
contestant
on "The Voice"
as a member
of country star
Blake Shelton's team.

competes in strongman competitions. For the Kings of Krush in Sequim, he flipped a 750-pound tire and hefted rocks weighing 240 to 350 pounds. **Mike Duty** (General Studies) played professional basketball in Australia in the Queensland Basketball League, then traveled to Spain to suit up for the Obila Basketball Club in central Spain. **Emily Sallee** (M.B.A.) is a product manager at NBC News (formerly MSNBC) in Seattle, specializing in native advertising on iVillage, TODAY.com, NBCNews.com, msnbc.com and CNBC. **Amber House-Burling** (Special Education) became a life skills teacher for Blaine High School. **Alex Haley** ('11, Business Administration – Marketing) recently produced the Wenatchee Comedy Competition,

part of the Wenatchee Apple Blossom Festival. **Celeste Erickson** (Journalism) became a reporter, photographer and page designer for the South Whidbey Record.

2012 – Julia Dykers (Human Services) recently graduated from the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps after completing 10 months of full-time service in communities throughout the country. **Andrew Martonik** (Economics) writes for the online community Android Central. **Kevin Hettick** (Accounting, Philosophy) became a staff accountant at Gene Bell & Associates in Bellingham. **Joana Houplin** (Kinesiology) joined The Philippines' national women's soccer team, which hopes to qualify for the Olympic Games. Houplin is also a graduate assistant coach at Western. **Femi Abebefe** (Journalism – Public Relations) became a reporter/producer for KTVZ News in Bend, Ore. **Sara Rosso** (Political Science) leads literacy activities with kids at the Blaine Boys & Girls Club. **Clint Hensley** (M.Ed., Environmental Education) joined the customer service staff at Nikwax North America. **Becca Taber** (Environmental Policy) became a program assistant with Sustainable Connections in Bellingham.

2013 – Kristina Raezer (Human Services) became engagement coordinator for United Way of Snohomish County. **Christian Molliter** (M.B.A.) became vice president of the Liberian International Ship & Corporate Registry. **Lacey Nagel** (Design) became the creative director for The Woods Coffee Co. She also owns and runs the Charles Street Bow Tie Co. **James Rogers** (Huxley Student/Faculty Designed Major) is an editorial intern at Sierra Magazine. **Jamie Arthurs** (Kinesiology) is an assistant coach for the Whatcom FC Rangers. **Ginger Dunham** (Behavioral Neuroscience) recently underwent training to be an instructor at the Northwest Therapeutic Riding Center in Whatcom County. **Laura Tangeman** (Communication Sciences

Tell us a good Viking love story

Share your wedding announcement in Window

If you recently got married or entered into a domestic partnership, share your news with your fellow alumni in "Marriages and Unions."

Email your news, including your names, class years, and the date and place of your marriage or union to mary.gallagher@wwu.edu.

and Disorders) became a speech language pathologist assistant at the Yakima Valley Hearing and Speech Center.

Marriages and Unions

Shelly Nagata ('01, Sociology) and **Brandon Shaw** ('01, English) on June 27, 2013, in Fairfax, Va.

Abbie Anderson ('02, General Studies) and **Travis Silvers** ('01, Music - Performance) on June 1, 2013, near Santa Cruz, Calif.

Kacie McKinney, ('08, Journalism - Public Relations) and **Ryan Leacy** ('08, History/Social Studies) on Oct. 19, 2013, in Enumclaw.

Erin Flinn ('10, Political Science/Social Studies) and **Brandon Gimper** ('11, Environmental Science) on May 25, 2013, in Troutdale, Ore.

Sarah Boe ('11, Psychology) and **Joshua Jackson** ('11, Business Administration - Marketing) on Oct. 20, 2012, in Bothell.

Elena Dominguez ('11, Fairhaven Interdisciplinary Concentration) and **Bart Patitucci** ('11, Geography/Social Studies) on July 26, 2013, at Ruby Beach on the Olympic Peninsula.

Obituaries

1935 - Charles X. Larrabee, 90, retired public relations director for North Carolina's Research Triangle Institute, on June 12, 2013, in Durham, N.C.

1936 - Lillian Amelia Elizabeth Jones Dickerson, 96, a retired teacher, on April 24, 2013.

1939 - Doris Campbell, 94, a retired elementary school teacher in Sedro-Woolley, on June 10, 2013, in Sedro-Woolley.

1940 - Jack Carver, 95, a longtime photographer for The Bellingham Herald, on July 13, 2013, in Bellingham. **Frederick A. Weihe**, 93, a retired teacher, principal, insurance agent and employment agency partner, on July 27, 2013, in Sun City West, Ariz.

1941 - Cecelia Ann (Closson) DeGrave, 95, a retired teacher in Whatcom County, Germany Japan and Vancouver, Wash., on Aug. 2, 2013.

1943 - Mary Jean Bushnell, 91, a retired teacher and community volunteer, on April 5, 2013.

1947 - Edward R. "Bob" Nolte, 86, a

retired elementary school teacher, on July 14, 2013, in Seattle.

1951 - Bruce Nelson Gillett, 85, a talented musician and retired elementary school teacher in Mount Vernon, on Aug. 4, 2013. **Leland Stanford Larrick**, 85, a retired principal, on May 11, 2013, in Bothell. **Eugene Matson**, 86, a retired counselor for the Oregon State Employment Department, on Aug. 16, 2013. **Scott Smith**, 88, a retired teacher and football coach, on April 23, 2013, in Everett.

1952 - Iver R. Heinrich, 86, who taught in 14 countries with the Department of Defense Overseas schools, on May 24, 2013.

1956 - Elizabeth (Carlson) Coward, 78, a retired teacher and librarian and longtime violinist with the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra, on April 2, 2013. **James W. Easter**, 76, a retired high school teacher, on May 16, 2013, in Bremerton.

1957 - Robert Lewis Post, 83, a retired teacher, principal and administrator in the Tigard School District in Oregon, on April 5, 2013.

1958 - Marilyn Jo Werner, 85, a former kindergarten teacher, Peace Corps volunteer in Fiji, and college faculty member in Australia, on June 1, 2013, in Aptos, Calif.

1959 - Gene Owen Higgins, 81, a retired teacher in Mount Vernon and fisherman, on April 7, 2013, in Seattle. **Daniel Rasar**, 80, who with a partner developed 25 Shakey's pizza parlors from Washington to Alaska, on June 24, 2013, in Bellingham.

1960 - Larry L. Willison, 70, a commercial fisherman, on Aug. 15, 2013.

1961 - Richard Duguay, 76, a retired teacher and guidance counselor, on May 12, 2013, in Olympia. **Elmer W. Ostrander**, 82, on July 22, 2013.

1963 - Frederick H. Knapp, 73, on May 24, 2013, in Lynden.

1964 - Hans Gordon Wold, 88, a retired journalist and teacher, on May 15, 2013, in Mukilteo.

1965 - Hans Dahl, 82, a retired teacher who also worked in real estate, on June 18, 2013. **Solveig Anne Vinje**, 70, a retired teacher in Alaska, Mukilteo and Snohomish, on April 27, 2013.

1966 - Christine Merriwether Ware, 69, on March 12, 2013, in Bellingham.

1967 - Walter Edwin Achamire, 72, a retired teacher in Alaska and Omak, on March 31, 2013. **William Ronald Barber**, 80, a retired middle school teacher, on May 7, 2013, in Bellingham.

1968 - Marilyn Eisiminger, a former

nun Catholic school teacher and principal who later taught in Germany with the Department of Defense School System, on June 11, 2013.

1969 - Steven E. Dent, 65, who worked 43 years in the banking industry, on March 23, 2013.

1970 - Dana McTavish Rust, a retired fishing boat captain, sports writer and entrepreneur, on March 12, 2013, in Edison. **Cynthia (Radonich) Walters**, 63, a retired English, drama and debate teacher, on June 6, 2013.

1971 - Loren Gilbertson, 64, on April 18, 2013, in Bellingham.

1972 - Michael William Altenburg, 65, a gallery owner, on May 14, 2013, in Redmond. **Thomas Edward Deebach**, 79, a retired teacher in the Everett School District, on May 31, 2013, in Washington, Utah.

1973 - Janice Clemonce Jackson, 61, a retired teacher in Seattle and Norfolk, Va., on Aug. 19, 2013. **Michael McKinnon**, 66, on May 2, 2013, in Arizona. **Bob Sutter**, 66, a longtime high school coach in several sports, on July 12, 2013, in Ocean Shores.

1974 - Robert Andrew Baloga, 64, a former mill worker and high school teacher, on June 23, 2013, in Idaho. **Ruth Helen Felver**, 62, retired from Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., on Aug. 21, 2013, in Portland, Ore.

1975 - Loren Larry Libadia, 66, a retired elementary school teacher, on July 4, 2013.

1976 - Celia Corrine Casper, 61, on May 13, 2013. **Jenny Ann Hall Steelquist**, 60, an accomplished singer and retired art teacher at Port Angeles High School, on April 2, 2013.

1977 - Glen A. Bocock, 61, an American Sign Language instructor, on July 25, 2013.

1978 - David E. Given-Seymour, 61, a community activist and consultant to non-profit organizations, on June 11, 2013, in Bellingham.

1981 - Donald Beadle, 56, on July 7, 2013.

1982 - Steven K. Paddock, 60, a former teacher and operator of a tutoring business, on Aug. 5, 2013, in Bellingham.

1983 - Leonard Fitzgerald, 93, a peace activist, on May 4, 2013, in Bellingham. **Elizabeth "Betsy" Ann Palmer**, 54, an associate professor of Education at Montana State University, on May 20, 2013, in Nepal.

1985 - Dianne Keyes, 59, an accountant, on March 20, 2013, in Bellingham.

1987 - Kim Leslie Mayer, 55, on May 1,

2013, in SeaTac.

1989 - Maureen Ann (Doherty) Serna, 50, a longtime high school English teacher who led the effort to expand the shared leave program for state employees, on June 22, 2013.

1990 - Charlotte Lynne Grubb, 72, on April 28, 2013, in Alberta, Canada.

1991 - Kristian Carl Strinsky, 51, a professional mariner in the small ship cruise industry, on July 28, 2013.

1996 - Richard Leon Hansen, 40, on May 27, 2013. **Ola Mae Jackson**, 85, a retired nurse and community volunteer, on May 11, 2013, in Renton.

2005 - Gregory Carroll, 35, an award-winning opera singer, on July 2, 2013, in Seattle. Mr. Carroll had performed at the Lyric Opera in Chicago and recently made is international opera debut in Oslo.

2008 - Nikolajs Benjamin Blukis, 28, on Aug. 3, 2013, in Seattle.

Faculty and Staff

Richard "Dick" Bowman, 82, former assistant professor of Physical Education and coach of the men's cross country and track & field teams, on June 27, 2013. Bowman also invented and patented a starting block for track runners that was produced by Western's Technology Department.

Kathleen Stephens Kernan, 86, former associate professor and science reference librarian at Western, on July 4, 2013. Mrs. Kernan graduated from Western in 1969.

Golden Lavon Larsen, 91, former chair of Western's English Department and English professor at Western from 1956 until his retirement in 1992, on Aug. 22, 2013.

Arthur Reynolds, 78, who worked 22 years in Western's Physical Plant, on July 8, 2013, in Westport.

Mark Richards, 63, a senior instructor of History for 15 years, on April 9, 2013.

Otis Monroe Walter, 92, on June 13, 2013.

Campus School

1928 - William B. Hussey, 97, a retired diplomat, foreign affairs consultant and skilled tennis player, on May 25, 2013, in Laguna Hills, Calif.



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Photo by Daniel Berman ('12)

The Client

One lawyer alum's surprising first human rights case



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