Winter 1999

Window on Western, 1998, Volume 05, Issue 02

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A '90s Perspective: Do Careers and Parenthood Mix?

Is American society waging an unconscious war against parents? Do today's social institutions allow individuals the freedom to be good parents and effective employees?

To continue the dialogue begun by distinguished lecturer Cornel West on Oct. 1, Window on Western contacted WWU graduates across the nation, asking how they handle the daily pressures of career and parenthood and whether they agree with West's premise that America's market-based culture values work more highly than family life.

We found that this is not simply a women's issue. The responses were as varied as the individuals who constitute our alumni base, and they came from parents as well as non-parents, and men as well as women, all of whom were eager to reflect on this underlying conflict which permeates our lives. Some distinctly feel a battle between the two. Others say they do not.

Many share the sentiments of Bruce Sharer ('78) of Cleveland, Ohio, who said, "In general, the 1990's corporate climate is not as 'kind and gentle' as it seemed to me when I entered the job market after college. With mergers, downsizings, intense domestic and foreign competition and the relentless struggle by CEOs to squeeze every dollar of profit for anxious boards and shareholders, there is ever increasing pressure on the employee to perform."

He believes, "the traditional 9 to 5 workday does not play well in this arena. Traditional two-parent families and single parents also are struggling with longer hours to appease the demands of corporate America and..."
Contents

Investments in Excellence .......................................................... 3
The Western Foundation provides an avenue for donors to make a difference at Western Washington University. Don’t miss your chance to be involved.

Campus Connections............................................................... 4-5
Homecoming was a big, big success, complete with a record-breaking game for the Vikings. Indoors and out, art exhibitions, new sculptures enhance campus.

Cover Story: Making Peace With Parenthood .......................... 6-7
Hear what Cornel West had to say as he opened Western’s 1998-99 Distinguished Lecture Series, and learn how Western grads in the trenches fight The War Against Parents.

Accent on Alumni ................................................................. 8-11
Western alumni have been honored for 95 years of Viking football, as well as for promoting peace throughout the world. Read interesting notes in the Grist of Goldsmith, and don’t miss this winter’s ski trip!

Class Notes & Memorials ...................................................... 10-11
Short notes and announcements about Western’s alumni, faculty, staff and friends.

Calendar of Events............................................................... 12

Alumni Board of Directors

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Chapter Contacts
Kathy Jolion, ’95, Alaska; Crystal Ngob, Anchorage, AK; Gene Langille or June Huerta, San Francisco Bay Area; Susan Neighbors, Santa Barbara, CA; Sam Porter, San Diego; Paul Schlichting or Dean Wilson, Los Angeles Area; Patricia Joffrion, Portland/Greater Vancouver; Denny Freeburn, Boise; Kristie Westland, Phoenix; Charles Odeff, Washington, D.C.; Marry Brown, New York; Laura May, Hawaii.

Regional Coordinators
Chet Ullens, ’84, Vancouver: Gwalt Biftcher, Raleigh, N.C.; Frank Williams, Australia; Patrick Lottill, Tokyo, Japan.

Briefly
Northwest Indian College and Western create innovative Environmental Management Program

Northwest Indian College, in concert with Western Washington University and Evergreen State College, launched an innovative tribal environmental and natural resource management program in September under a $775,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

“The primary goal of this two-year certificate program is to graduate qualified Indian students who will be able to either to get technical jobs in environmental protection and natural resource management or environmental economics and policy,” said program director Dan Banas. This is the first program of its kind and is meant as a national model. Faculty for the program are from both the NWIC campus on the Lummi Nation and Western’s Huxley College of Environmental Studies. Also cooperating with the program are Western’s Fairhaven College and the Evergreen State College, both noted for interdisciplinary approaches to curriculum.

On September 23, the first cohort of students started classes for the two-year program, which is targeted on tribal students from across the country.

Elizabeth Schoenfeld named Executive Assistant to Western President Karen W. Morse

President Karen W. Morse is pleased to welcome Elizabeth (“Buff”) Schoenfeld as her executive assistant. Schoenfeld succeeds Mary Marcy, who accepted a post at Antioch College in Seattle.

Previous to this position, Schoenfeld has served as assistant to the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Colleges and to the senior vice president for administration of the UWisconsin system. Experienced in the areas of legislative relations, strategic planning and coordination of institutional governance, she has also served as interim dean of the University of Wisconsin-Rock County and as a special assistant for development.

Gary Geddes to illuminate Canadian culture

Award-winning poet Gary Geddes is Western’s second Distinguished Professor of Canadian Culture. Described by Canadian historian George Woodcock as “Canada’s best political poet,” the internationally known editor and critic comes to Western from Concordia University in Montreal where he was an English professor. He has published 35 books and more than 200 reviews, articles, stories and poems in countries throughout the world. Along with teaching, Geddes’ role at Western will be to foster an awareness of Canadian culture, including ethnicity, art, literature, history and philosophy.

Steve Inge retired in September 1998

Director of Corporate and Founders Relations for the Western Foundation and former Director of Alumni Relations, Steve Inge, completed 30 years of service to Western Washington University on Sept. 30. He will continue to be involved in planning the university’s 1999-2000 centennial celebration.

Elizabeth Joffrion welcomed as archivist at WWU’s Center for Pacific Northwest Studies

Elizabeth Joffrion, a former registrar for the Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art is welcomed by the Western community as the new archivist for the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies. Joffrion holds a Masters of Science from the University of Maryland and a Master of Arts from the University of New Orleans.

Fall enrollment reaches new record at 11,655

With 11,655 students enrolled for fall quarter, up 179 from the previous record of 11,476 in 1997, Western Washington University’s student population is growing at a “moderate” pace. This year’s fall class is the largest in the university’s 99-year history.

“Western is committed to meeting our state’s growing need for higher education,” said admissions director Karen Copetas, “but we are also striving to maintain the university’s academic excellence and retain the high-quality undergraduate experience that is part of the Western tradition.” A total of 2,194 new freshmen enrolled this fall with an average high school GPA of 3.47.

Write to us! Have a compliment, suggestion or idea? We want to hear from you. Address your letters to the editor, Window on Western, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9045. Or, contact the Alumni Office via e-mail at alumni@wwu.edu.
Investments in Excellence
Year-end Giving Opportunities Abound at Western

Across the country, charitable giving reaches its height each year in November and December. Many individuals, either because of the advantages of giving before the end of the tax year or the general philanthropic mood of the holidays, choose to support their favorite charities at this time.

Many alumni, parents and friends include Western in their year-end giving plans, sending cash or checks or contributing amounts to support their favorite college, department or project. Often, gifts are designated for the Campus Enrichment Fund to support any number of innovative and exciting campus projects. Wherever you choose to designate your gift, the full amount of your contribution benefits Western students and programs and makes a positive impact on teaching and learning at WWU.

To all of Western’s current donors, please accept our continued thanks for your belief in higher education at Western. You do make a difference, and each gift is appreciated. If you have not made a recent gift, or have never included Western in your giving, we encourage you to join the thousands of individuals who each year commit themselves to higher education.

What is the Campus Enrichment Fund?
Gifts to the Campus Enrichment Fund support numerous projects on the Western Campus. Unlike funds designated for a specific college, department or program, gifts to the Campus Enrichment Fund provide the flexibility to support exciting opportunities and innovative campus projects that arise throughout the year. Distributed by President Morse and the Foundation board of directors, in 1997-98 $200,000 was allocated for the third consecutive year to support five areas: campus technology, scholarships, community outreach programs, excellence in teaching awards and faculty enrichment.

Gifts from alumni and friends to the Campus Enrichment Fund make these grants possible, creating more opportunities for all who teach and learn at WWU.

Endowments Ensure Long-Term Support

The Western Foundation endowment program exists to provide a continuous source of financial support for WWU students and programs. Endowments serve a dual purpose by blending the vision of individual donors with the needs and objectives of the University. By working together, endowment donors and the Foundation create distinctive funding sources that reflect a common goal.

Named endowments may be initiated with a gift of $20,000 or more. However, it is possible to establish an endowment with less, provided the understanding that additional gifts will bring the fund’s value to $20,000 within five years. Awards are made when the endowment is fully funded. There are currently 227 permanent endowments benefiting Western — 185 for scholarship and 42 for program support.

The Western Foundation invests these funds carefully to ensure that the values of endowed gifts increase over time. By spending only a portion of the total investment return and reinvesting the rest, endowments continue to grow. Endowed funds held by The Western Foundation during this decade have grown from $730,000 in 1990 to $11.7 million as of June 30, 1998.

For additional information on establishing an endowment, please contact Jean Rahn, executive director of The Western Foundation, at 360-650-3027.

WWU and SeaFirst to Co-Host Seattle Business Forum

The second annual Seattle Business Forum, co-sponsored by Western Washington University and SeaFirst Bank, will be held at noon on Tuesday, March 2, 1999, in the Metropole Room of the Four Seasons Olympic Hotel in downtown Seattle.

The luncheon will feature a keynote address from John Warner, senior vice president and chief administrative officer at Boeing.

Organized by The Western Foundation Western-in-Seattle committee, the event brings together corporate leaders, alumni, parents and friends who are interested both in Western and current business trends. Last year, at the inaugural luncheon, retired Bank of America CEO Richard Rosenberg shared his views on management with a capacity audience.

The forum provides an excellent venue for business leaders to highlight key issues that affect the entire Pacific Rim.

The Business Forum is open to the public. Cost to attend is $35 per person. To reserve a seat or to inquire about sponsoring a table for 10 guests, please contact the Western Office of Special Events at (360) 650-6825.
Vikings set new records

Quarterback Sam Hanson (Sr., Manson) completed 29 of 51 passes for school records of 480 yards and five touchdowns. Wide receiver Ben Clampitt (Jr., The Dalles, OR) set a Northwest small-college record with 295 receiving yards, leading Western Washington University to a 36-17 victory over Humboldt State University to celebrate Western’s Homecoming on Oct. 3.

Running back Scott Noteboom (Sr., Lynden), who had nine receptions for 95 yards and rushed for 73 yards on 22 carries, also tied a Western record with three touchdown receptions.

Western led 19-0 early in the second quarter, but the Lumberjacks rallied to make the score 19-11 at halftime and nearly tied the game in the third quarter. Running back Matt Dwane scored on a 53-yard touchdown pass from Travis Mari to close the margin to 19-17, but the ensuing two-point conversion failed.

The Vikings then broke the game open by scoring touchdowns on two of their next three possessions, as Hanson hit Noteboom for a 10-yard score on a swing pass, then found Clampitt for a 77-yard touchdown five minutes later.

Hanson, who was 18 of 31 for 306 yards with three touchdowns in the first half, became the first Western player to throw for 350 or more yards in two consecutive games. His 480 yards passing is the eighth best mark in Northwest small college history.

Clampitt’s yardage total eclipsed the former Northwest record of 266 yards set by Mike Wilson of Oregon Tech in 1991. He also had 10 receptions, one short of the school record.
Western's One Hundred Years: A Tradition of Academic Excellence, Service and a Recommitment to Diversity

On the eve of its Centennial year, Western welcomed more than 11,600 students this fall, the largest number in its history. While Western is continuing to grow at a record pace, we are constantly alert to retaining the high-quality undergraduate experience that is part of Western's tradition.

Efforts this year include: a strengthened GUR program, Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) in which seniors will lead small groups of freshmen enrolled in GUBs, and a renewed focus on writing.

Our students are continuing Western's tradition of service to others through community involvement. Last year 65 percent of the student body volunteered nearly 900,000 hours of service to the campus and community. As so many of you alumnae have experienced, the spirit of service continues beyond graduation. Western ranked 10th this year among 1,000 universities for the number of graduates who become Peace Corps volunteers. Currently Western alumni are performing public service in 35 countries throughout the world.

To help prepare our students to live and work in a global society, last December Western's Board of Trustees renewed its commitment to provide opportunities for diversity to thrive on campus. To me this commitment means recruiting and retaining a diverse student body, faculty and staff. It means providing forums for students and faculty to discuss their divergent concerns as well as their common ones. It means supporting faculty to develop courses that include appropriate opportunities to explore the roles and histories of minority peoples and cultures in American life. It means infusing a global perspective throughout the disciplines to prepare our graduates to participate in an international society and economy aware of the opportunities and challenges involved in a diverse world.

As we approach the beginning of our second century and our celebration of Western's legacy of academic excellence and service, we reaffirm our commitment to diversity of ethnic, social, economic and cultural backgrounds and perspectives - for our campus community and our alumni of the future.

Bruce Nauman’s Stadium Piece becomes 23rd Outdoor Sculpture

Preparatory work has begun on Western’s south campus for Stadium Piece by sculptor Bruce Nauman, who is hailed as “the essential American artist of the last quarter century.” The work, a series of poured concrete steps, tinted white, will be the 23rd contemporary piece in Western Washington University’s internationally renowned Outdoor Sculpture Collection. It is the sixth gift to the collection from the Virginia Wright Fund, founded in 1973 by the Seattle collector and arts patron.

Stadium Piece will be 25 feet wide, 50 feet long and just over 13 feet high. Footings are in place. Development of structural forms and the pouring of concrete will be under the supervision of the artist at critical intervals, and Nauman will again be on campus in mid-December to complete the work.

Nauman, 56, has said he intends the structure to be used “not only as a seating and meeting area, but also...by spectators for activities occurring around it” such as individual or group theatrical and musical performances as well as recreational sports.

Sarah Clark-Langager, curator of the collection and director of the Western Gallery, noted that people will interpret Nauman’s design in many ways. “For example,” she said, “it appears to be a series of steps but it also has qualities of a stadium or the-
Continued from page 1

...still find the time for their children. It is not an easy balancing act."

Sharer and her husband, Sue, both graduated from Western in the mid-1970s and now have two teenagers. "After our first child was born, my wife fully intended to go back to work. We did the babysitter routine for something like six to eight months. We enjoyed the material comfort that two incomes gave us. However, we quickly became uncomfortable with the situation," said Bruce.

The couple made a life decision they say they do not regret. Sue quit her job to stay home full time. Over the years she has worked seasonal part-time jobs, but only when Bruce was able to be home with the kids.

"This required changes in our lifestyle due to the loss of my wife's income," said Bruce. Yet, he added, "definitely for this family, having one parent home full time with our children was a good decision."

But staying home full-time is not always an option. Lori Boroughs (83 & 96) is a mother of three who has tried several career and parenthood combinations. "I have worked part-time since I had children, but for a period worked almost full time (30+ hours per week) and went to school full time," she explained.

She says, "I don't believe our society supports parents, or most importantly, children. When parents are overworked and stressed out, children suffer."

As a second grade teacher, she sees this first hand. As a mother, she appreciates finally finding a work environment where "kids and families are the top priority."

Having worked for corporations and for a newspaper, Boroughs says she hasn't always felt supported in that belief. She cites a need for better care, more parent education and better paying jobs to help families realistic options.

"A lot of corporations seem to be exploiting the two-worker family by not paying enough for one parent to stay home if desired," she said. "Maybe if some of the corporate presidents saw kids everyday and had to dry their tears when parents are laid off or they didn't see Mom that morning because she had to start work at 6 a.m., they might change their policies and learn to support families more.

Although Boroughs currently teaches only part-time, which she feels is the best choice for her family, she continues to struggle with self-perception and societal expectations. "I have received more recognition for the totally crazy times in my life, when I frankly was juggling too much," she admits. "There is a lot of pressure to constantly be building a resume. I'm a really driven person at times, but have really re-evaluated what is most important."

Continued from page 1

...first hand. As a mother. As a mother.

Crystal Nygard ('90) of Anchorage, Alaska, also sees external pressures as a major stumbling block in America. "A majority of the families today require both people to work because of debt and the 'demands' of living," she said. "I believe this choice between work and career has definitely affected the one person in a marriage that chooses not to work or work part-time after children (husband or wife). Our society does not encourage living a simple happy life, but rather a life based on judgment. That means making sure your kids have everything else that their friends have and your neighbors. No one goes without!"

Nygard has also traded in her full-time career for part-time work and parenthood. She says prior to having her first child she traveled 175 miles from home to work each week and "enjoyed the title, lunches, business trips and meetings. I looked at those who stayed home as boring and giving up their career. But holding that baby in my arms made my decision, I quit my job and stayed home. These are times I will never regret," she said.

"I tend to agree with West in the sense that our society has put work over families."

Crystal Nygard, Anchorage, AK

Non-parents recognize these struggles as well.

Signe Beck, ('84) a financial consultant in San Diego, Calif., is single and does not have children. "I think it is true that couples focus more on their careers now than any other time in history. There are several good reasons forcing them to do so," she said. "First, it now takes two incomes

Working on a graduate degree in special education at Western, Lori Boroughs was pleased to find faculty that was supportive of her situation as a mother. She often brought her daughter, Ellie, with her to meetings with thesis advisor Dr. Marcia Davidson.
West Draws Battle Lines
continued from page 1

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In her introduction of West, WWU president Karen Morse said, “I suggest that anyone who is a parent or hopes to be a parent should read this book.”

At Western, West spoke powerfully about issues of character, virtue and trust that he says can be instilled only by parents, while asserting that “most parents are overworked, underpaid and beleaguered across race and region in this country. He believes this unnoticed struggle is threatening the quality of our future, as the “voids of our young folk (created as the market consumes their parents) are filled in the market through in the forms of television, video games, films, fast-food, shopping malls and amusement parks. West went so far as to allude that even education can be market-centered if the end goal is achievement for self-higher wealth.”

“West and Hewlett use an uncommonly liberal perspective to argue that children don’t just need quality time, they need quantity. They contend that because of the growing power of capital, people are now required to spend a much larger part of their day in work than in family life, decreasing the amount of time that parents have to spend with their children.” In essence, they believe that America’s market culture has come to value work much more highly than family life.

No matter how materially successful a society is, if its system of parenting suffers then it will reap what it sows.

Cornel West

As stated in the book, “simply heaping blame on overburdened moms and dads will not solve our problems. Modern-day mothers and fathers, like those before them, struggle to put children at the center of their lives. But major impediments and obstacles stand in their way, undermining their most valid efforts. From early in the morning till late at night, America’s parents are battered by all kinds of pressures, most of which are not of their making.”

In her introduction of West, WWU president Karen Morse said, “I suggest that anyone who is a parent or hopes to be a parent should read this book.” Morse was pleased to welcome West as an individual who speaks eloquently and powerfully about the intellectual issues of our time. She asserted that “this series is dedicated to inspiring a rich dialogue on our campus and in our community.”

to maintain. Especially if the child goes to home. An unsecure job security is parents. They has seven and it has to work at the drop of a hat.

Although there was with her career, she would adjust it to the one she does do the number of hours. This is the one and only her reason, said Jennifer.

The need for parents referred to by Dr. Marcia Davidson. “Ah, you are American parents.”

Is the American family raising children in ‘a good year’ and gaining Jimmy Byrnes. “We have the amount of pressure.”

But how can we maintain our wants and desires?

Berke and Hewlett are trying their career and business. So “we chose to be childless and this type of society has a lot of money and time we really need. We spent our time on our work and we have children in together. So we complete enjoy our money and balance.”

Julia Elzinga, a first-year student earning her Ph.D. in chemistry, said at the same time people are working as independent consultants, “co-managing a corporate and 100 gourmet wine.”

From all of this it seems we need to put families over careers, “she said. The marriage, home, kids they might go and learn more.”

“While our expectations. We are more recognized, we are more experienced. Frankly was always a kid,” she added. Of pressure parents are building the driven parents. We really require more and it is most important.

Non-parents recognize these struggles as well.

Sieg Beck, ’84 a financial counselor in San Diego, Calif., is single and does not have children. “I think it is true that couples focus more on their careers now than any other time in history. There are several good reasons forcing them to do so,” she said. “First, it now takes two incomes
Draws Battle Lines

As referred from page 1

thwarted by the omnipresence of market forces in American culture. The attack on parenthood is a "symptom and a symbol of the growing power of capital, people are now required to spend a lot of their day in work rather than in family life, decreasing the amount of time they have to spend with their children." In essence, they believe the market culture has come to value work much more highly than family life.

"I don't think most educated people want to make their career the first priority, but it sometimes becomes that way to survive." - Signe Beck, San Diego, CA

For many, adequate child care and education are major pieces of the puzzle.

"One other thing I see increasingly in the workplace, is that many companies are creating on-premises child care to lure and keep working parents," said Neighbors.

In response, Craig McDonald ('91) of Kansas City said, "Nice thought. In fact our company does have on-site child care. The problem is that the current waiting list is about two years long. The infant waiting list has more than 60 couples on it. These are people who just had a child, or will in the next nine months."

McDonald says he and his wife have decided that one will have to quit a job if they are to start a family. "The difference in the extra salary and the cost of child care just doesn't make the extra effort and time away from the children worthwhile," he said.

Some, such as Robert Wade ('63), say the issue of career vs. parenthood "has impacted my life only peripherally." He says he has made career decisions based on parenthood, yet he does not take a better position, but it sometimes becomes that way to survive.

"A degree of further education allows you flexibility," said Crystal Nygard. "My parents and in-laws never had to think about career vs. parenting. Then again, there were never computers in homes."

Throughout the nation, Western graduates appear to be dealing with the issues of career and parenthood in individual, yet similar ways as they strive to impact the future.

"My college experience at WWU certainly broadened my perspective on human ecology. Given a crisis we can adapt," said Randy Jackson ('85).

Bruce Sharer cites his college education as opening doors that were not available to all. "I took a management path in the years after our first child was born. That boosted my income level considerably. Without a degree, I would have had virtually no opportunity to do this," he said.

An advanced degree also opened new doors for Lori Brough, who says she feels "thankful that I have the education for a career that I truly enjoy, which also allows me to be home in the summers and have vacations with my kids."

"A degree or further education allows you flexibility," said Crystal Nygard. "My parents and in-laws never had to think about career vs. parenting. Then again, there were never computers in homes."

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Window on Western Has a New Editor

Former Window on Western editor Kathy Sheehan has left Western's Public Information Office to pursue a graduate degree and teach in Western's journalism department.

Replacing Sheehan is Annette Bagley a former Publisher's Editor and Media Relations Coordinator for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Tickets for the spring Distinguished Lecturer Series presentation by historian/biographer Doris Kearns Goodwin will be available beginning Feb. 1, 1999.

The lecture will take place on April 28, 1999 at 6 p.m. in Carver Gymnasium.
Ski Trip to take alumni north of border Feb. 12-14

Silver Star in Vernon, British Columbia is the destination for the 1999 Alumni Ski Trip.

On Friday, Feb. 12, at 5 p.m., board a deluxe motor coach from Western's campus and take a comfortable ride, complete with movies, snacks and beverages, to Silver Star, which is rated one of Western North America's ten best ski resorts.

You'll stay on the mountain with two night's accommodations at the newly completed Silver Creek, a ski-in, ski-out hotel. Your two-day pass will allow you to ski all day Saturday and Sunday, returning that night to Bellingham at approximately 11 p.m. The package also includes a Saturday night alumni reception at the hotel.

Prices are based on occupancy; quads start at $160 US per person. To make your reservation, call the Alumni House at (800) 676-6885 or (360) 650-3353.

The Western motif village is complete with tube and toboggan area, ice skating, and colorful establishments such as the Sheriff's Café, Bugaboos Bakery, Silver Lode Inn, Clementines, Vance Creek Saloon and Doc Simmons Soak & Swim. You can't miss this trip, pardner!
Western grads are tops among Peace Corps recruits

By Norah West

Something about Western makes its graduates prime candidates for life-after-college opportunities in far-away countries as Peace Corps volunteers. In late September, Carl L. Swartz, national chief of operations for Peace Corps recruitment, visited campus to present Western with an award recognizing its consistent success in recruiting volunteers for overseas. He also came to find out what makes Western special.

Some, including President Karen W. Morse, say Western’s high number of volunteers – more than 550 in the 37-year history of the service organization – is due to “the culture of caring” instilled in its students. Morse told Swartz that in the 1996-97 academic year alone, Western students contributed 872,170 hours of service to the campus and local community.

Cira Endsley (’96), who is spending two years in the West African country of Senegal providing immunizations as a health-care worker, agrees with Morse. “It was really strongly communicated that my degree held a responsibility,” Endsley told the Bellingham Herald. “We know that with the privilege of attending school and getting an education, there was a responsibility to go out and be responsible members of any community we landed in.”

Whatever the reason, or combination of reasons, Western this year ranks 18th out of 1,000 colleges and universities providing graduates to the Peace Corps, according to the service organization’s Seattle spokesperson, Carla Semmler.

Peace Corps volunteers have found that their service abroad has opened doors to a variety of other opportunities.

Among other Western alumni who became Peace Corps volunteers is Howard Anderson (’71 and ’77), former national director of Peace Corps training and program support.

Current on-campus recruiter Jim Gunsolus (’75) and his wife, Susan Anderson (’77), served at the National Teacher Training College in Lesotho, Africa from 1977 to 1981 as super-vise-ors of student teachers. After Africa, the couple worked in Senegal, Paraguay, Ukraine, Estonia, and Vanuatu. They later turned to Bellingham, where they teach prospective volunteers about the “toughest job you’ll ever love.”

In unusual numbers, Western alumni respond favorably. Currently, 49 graduates are doing public service work in 35 countries.

Chris (’96) and Andrea (’95) Chorney currently are serving in Papua New Guinea in community services. They are a second-generation Peace Corps family: Chris’ parents served in the 1970s.

Like former A.S. president Shane O’Day (’98) in Uzbekistan, many are teaching English as far away as Estonia, Burkina Faso, The People’s Republic of China and Turkmenistan. Others teach environmental education in Thailand, Poland, Vanuatu, Paraguay, Ukraine and Bulgaria. Still more are in forestry projects from Kenya and The Gambia to Honduras.
1918 - Cicily Jolley celebrated her 100th birthday on September 15.

1959 - Joan Cresap retired with a 20-year career in education from the Stanwood School District. Jack Stark ('49 MEd) was unanimously voted into the Shelton-Mason County Sports Hall of Fame. Stark led the Chimacum High School track team for 25 years before retiring with State Hall of Fame distinction in 1994.

1960 - Bill Wright was honored at the Bill Wright WWU Alumni Golf Classic on August 21.

1965 - Dave Danubio retired with a 33-year career in education from the Stanwood School District. He worked in the Social Studies Office for 25 years before retiring with State Hall of Fame distinction.


1969 - Kenneth Martin manages a zinc exploration project in Togo, Ethiopia. Jack Rugga is the chief operating officer for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority in Washington, D.C. Barb Warberg is the principal at Holly HIll Elementary in the Northshore School District. Warberg has been a teacher and school administrator for 28 years.

1970 - Gerry Apple (MEd '75) was named the Shelton School District's spotlighted educator in February. Apple is the traffic-safety instructor and English teacher at Shelton High School.

1975 - Britt Bristow, a/ka/ Brent Young, works the 6-9 a.m. show at KBFW-AM 930 radio station in Bremerton. Brent delivers a downtown combination of current country hits and off-the-wall honesty.

1977 - S.K./Black/Dooban was named "The Professional Advisor of the Year" by the National Self Help for Hard of Hearing organization at their national convention in Boston, MA June 12-15. She is currently manager of Clinical Operations for Nova Care, Inc. and serves on a volunteer basis for the Kitsap County Self Help for Hard of Hearing Group.

1979 - Dr. Virginia Gardner Troy joined the Berry College (Georgia) faculty as assistant professor of history.

1980 - Karen Carpenter was named the director of nursing at Sunnyvale Community Hospital in Sunnyvale, WA. Joe Mays is working for Seatac: Occupational Skills Center as the computer technical networking service instructor. William Ryberg is the president of the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Symphony Orchestra.

1982 - Robin Sylvan finished his PhD in religious studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

1984 - Chris Breunsingler was installed as pastor of the Pine Lake Covenant Church in Issaquah. Pamela Childs was promoted to domestic paper sales representative for the Port Townsend Paper Corporation.

1985 - Scott Stommer is the Mount Vernon Rotary Teacher of the Year. Stommer teaches social studies at Mount Vernon High School. Michael Thomas was promoted to vice president, information services for Gulf States Paper Corporation. Thomas was the company's national headquarters in Tuscaloosa, AL. Wendy Wall was accepted into the Seattle University School of Law.

1986 - Carolyn Coyle works for Subaru of America in New Jersey in corporate communications. Robyn Goodwin is the principal at Morton and Mineral Elementary School in Morton, WA. Bob Sampson ('79 MEd) is the administrator of Bethel High School.

1987 - Bobbie (Monroe) Beckman is the Speech-Language Pathologist at William Howard Taft Elementary School in Boise, ID. David Donohue serves on the Bell- ingham Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission.

1988 - Joe Dockery teaches at Chief Kamiah Middle School in Fall City, WA. Dockery was honored by the Seattle Times as one of the "Ten Teachers Who Really Care." Dockery and his students produce a daily videotape of news and announcements that is broadcast throughout the school.

1989 - Karl Murphy (Davis) owns "Al- bums in the Attic," a scrapbook supply business, teaches aerobics at Tumwater Valley Athletic Club, and is the mother of three boys. Murphy can be reached at her office phone: 253-300-4300.

1990 - Jenene Gibbs was elected president and chief executive of the South Snohomish Chamber of Commerce. Gibbs was also named as the executive director of the South Snohomish Chamber of Commerce. Brinton Scott is an attorney with China Lawyers in Beijing.

1991 - Ismael Vivasco is the curriculum consultant for the North Central Educational Service District in Wenatchee.

1992 - Michael Dumas is the Assistant General Manager of the Roy Oak Hills Village Golf Course. He is the owner of the golf course. Brinton Scott is the traffic-school administrator for 28 years.

1993 - Michael Dumas is the Assistant General Manager of the Roy Oak Hills Village Golf Course. He is the owner of the golf course. Brinton Scott is the traffic-school administrator for 28 years.


Dr. Don Olcott, a former administrator and faculty member, as well as a graduate of WWU’s Woodring College of Education was the 1998 recipient of the Charles Wedeney Outstanding Distance Education Practitioner in North America. This prestigious award is given every two years by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and recognizes outstanding leadership and professional contributions to the field of continuing and distance education in North America.

Olcott is currently the associate dean for Extended University at the University of Arizona.

Mary A. Thompson, (’45) was honored with a Metro International 1998 Fulbright Award for Lifetime Service at the United Nations for her efforts in furthering the cause of international education. She began her career in Washington, teaching elementary school in Clear Lake and Enumclaw, then moved to New York to attend Columbia University and live at New York City’s International House, launching a lifetime career in international education. Although she retired in 1998, she has continued to remain involved in the field.

William Ryberg, (’80) an accomplished opera singer, has left his successful post as executive director of the Bellingham Festival of Music to become president of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra in Michigan. He will oversee an organization with a $4.5 million budget, employing 41 salaried and 60 part-time musicians.

Myrl Beck, Jr., who recently retired from Western’s Geology department after 29 years of teaching and research, will be honored for his contributions to the field of geological research at the American Geo­physical Union’s annual meeting Dec. 6-10 in San Francisco.

Twenty-six years ago, Beck and his colleague, Linda Noson, submitted a letter to the journal Nature that introduced a new way of looking at the geologic history of the Pacific Northwest. They proposed that the mountainous region which now stretches from Alaska, through Canada to Seattle was once as far south as Baja California. These findings are still being debated today, with recent studies by the University of Washington and Geological Survey of Canada lending support.

Several prominent scientists will present papers related to, or inspired by Beck’s research, with studies from the Cascades to the Andes.

Nearly four decades before Tiger Woods became the darling of the PGA gallery, Western Washington University senior Bill Wright was the first African American to win a U.S. Golf Association event.

Now a teaching pro in Los Angeles, Wright returned to Seattle’s Jefferson Park public course on Beacon Hill in August, where as a younger he learned to play golf with his mother and father. There he shared with young golfers of color lessons from a lifelong love of the game — and from his struggle against racial discrimina­tion in the sport.

His visit was sponsored by the WWU Alumni Association which honored Wright by renaming its annual golf tournament for him. As a Western student, Wright won the U.S. Amateur Public Links title in 1959, a USGA sanctioned event, making him the first African American with a USGA win. The following year, Wright won the NAIA national golf championship, the first individual NAIA championship in the school’s history.

But championship play did not open the gates of many golf clubs to the African American. When Wright was growing up in Seattle, even public courses were affiliated with private clubs which denied membership based on race.

Determined not to let the past repeat itself, Wright, now a Los Angeles resident, returned to the Northwest to accept honors from his alma mater and to inspire another generation of golfers at Jefferson Park.

1937 – Jennie Berg Werner, 88, an artist, died on Aug. 3.
1938 – Evelyn Egenes, a retired teacher, died on May 31.
1942 – Clara Jeanette Peterson, 79, a retired teacher, accountant and business owner, died on July 7.
1949 – Thomas Straka, 71, a retired educator, died on July 3.
1953 – Mary Lou Morrow, 91, a retired teacher, died on Aug. 22.
1954 – Robert Feagan, 69, a retired educator and head coach at Chief Sealth High School, died on June 23.
1955 – Helen Sundeen, 88, died on Sept. 9.
1959 – Bernard Tippen, 63, a retired teacher, died on June 26.
1963 – Ronald Seckel, 62, who retired from the insurance industry, died on Aug. 12.
1973 – Earl C. Moore, 51, a juvenile rehabilitation counselor, died on Aug. 22.
1975 – James Gillette, 69, (MED 77), died on July 11.
1977 – Marlen Cole, 62, a special education teacher, died on Sept. 19.
1978 – Anne Borden, 64, died suddenly in Abilene, Texas on June 27.
1979 – B. Dawn Ferguson Evon, 68, died on Aug. 11.
1984 – Michael Boyd, 37, a Port of Bellingham employee, died on Aug. 25.
1996 – Shannan Brouhala, 24, died while attending grad school at the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana on Mar. 3.
1997 – Marie Norman, 30, died July 14.
1998 – Aaron Requa, 25, a substitute teacher, died July 31.
## Calendar

### JANUARY

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<td>College of Business and Economics dinner honoring &quot;The 3Ms&quot; (Mayer, Mischaikow and Mitchell), at the Bell Harbor International Conference Center in Seattle.</td>
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<td>Turning Points Series: Electronic Meetings for the Next Century: Any Time/Any Place, by Floyd Lewis, Joseph Garcia and Kenneth Keleman, 6 p.m., Science Lecture Hall. Free.</td>
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<td>WWU Women's Fastpitch vs. Simon Fraser University, 2 p.m., Bellingham.</td>
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<td>Alumni Lunch at the Mariners spring training game in Peoria, AZ.</td>
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<td>WWU Women's Fastpitch vs. Saint Martin's College, 2 p.m., Bellingham.</td>
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<td>PAC Concert Series: Russian pianist Yakof Kasman, the 1997 Van Cliburn silver medalist, 3 p.m., PAC Concert Hall.</td>
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<td>Distinguished Lecture Series presents historian/biographer Doris Kearns Goodwin with Private Lives of Public Figures: The Art of Biography, 6 p.m., Carver Gym. Tickets are required and free from the PAC box office, Village Books or via mail with a SASE to: PAC Box Office, Bellingham, WA 98225-9109.</td>
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<td>Western Gallery presents Artist/Author II: International Focus, further showcasing the book format as a contemporary artistic medium. Show runs through May 28.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>WWU Women's Fastpitch vs. Central Washington University, 2 p.m., Bellingham.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Turning Points Series: Marie Eaton... Unplugged, a musical presentation, 7 p.m., PAC Concert Hall. Free.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Reflections and Reactions to Doris Kearns Goodwin's Distinguished Lecture Series presentation, 6 p.m., Fraser Lecture Hall 4. Free.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>PAC Concert Series: The Second City, a comedy by The Second City National Touring Company, 7:30 p.m., PAC Mainstage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Turning Points Series: Policing the Frontier, Some North American Comparisons, by Larry DeLorme, 6 p.m., Fraser Lecture Hall 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>Western Showtime Family Weekend.</td>
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### Alumni events: (800) 676-6685
- Athletics: (360) 650-3109
- Performing Arts: (360) 650-6146
- Western Gallery: (360) 650-3963

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**Tickets and Information:**

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**Western University**

Bellingham, WA 98225 - 9030

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