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Kathy D. Sheehan
Western Washington University

Alumni, Foundation, and Public Information Offices, Western Washington University

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The Human Spirit:
Resilient to disaster, depression, declines in mental functioning

From the psychological impacts of the Sept. 11 attacks on America to the effects of aging on memory, Western's world-class faculty members are helping us understand the complex world in which we live.

This issue of Window on Western focuses on the recent research of faculty and how their investigations into the human condition show that the spirit is remarkably resourceful and resilient.

Faculty-student research finds students coping well after Sept. 11 attacks

By C. Nicki Krom

While people around the world watched in horror as the twin towers of the World Trade Center collapsed in New York on Sept. 11, 2001, there was a recognition that life was never going to be the same.

Shortly afterwards, David Sattler, an assistant professor of psychology at Western, designed a project to examine reactions to the tragic events. He was especially interested in finding out how people were pulling together.

He asked himself: What good could come from such an immense tragedy?

Surveying 1,282 college students in four areas of the nation, including 329 at WWU, Sattler was gratified to find that a strong majority of students are exhibiting positive signs of coping and resiliency.

Sattler, an expert on psychological responses to disasters who has been at Western since fall 2000, also found that although 70 percent of the students had grave concerns for their safety, most said they have new priorities about what is important in their lives.

"I wanted to document the resilience of the human spirit and community," Sattler said. "Ever since the attacks, we have heard wonderful stories of compassion, community and caring. Although the events of Sept. 11 were tragic and stressful, it is important to recognize a possibility for growth that can come from an overwhelmingly negative situation."

Assisted by recent WWU alumnus Amanda Marshall (BA '01), who is a master's candidate in psychology, and Leslie Croft (MA '01), Sattler said the survey results show that positive coping skills help lessen anxiety and reestablish feelings of control.

"The study shows the importance of strength in the community and of the American people," Sattler said of the survey responses. "It also shows resiliency. People are finding positive ways of coping with the tragedy and the threats by reexamining the importance of relationships, friendships, what it means to be an American, values and life's goals."

Dana Jack's research takes her to Nepal

By C. Nicki Krom

Fairhaven professor Dana Jack, who has performed extensive research on depression in women throughout the United States, recently took her work to Nepal.

While on a Fulbright, Jack spent her time teaching women's studies at Tribhuvan University and gathering data for her most recent study on depression in Nepal.

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Contributors:
Susan Bakse, Jo Collinge, Eric Crampecker, Mary Ann Harrington, Kathleen Howard, Butch Kamena, Jason Kivli, C. Nicki Krom, Drew Linth, Kristie Landstrom, Pam Maas, Paul Madison, Lynne Masland, Tanya Kerstiens Row and Kathy Sheehan

Western Washington University is committed to assuring that all programs and activities are readily accessible to all eligible people without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, Vietnam era or disabled veteran status.

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Kathy Dingge Sheehan

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Editorial Board:
Susan Bakse, Jo Collinge, Chit Goldsmith, Mary Ann Harrington, Kathleen Howard, Kristie Landstrom, Lynne Masland and Tanya Kerstiens Rowe

Students working on the Viking 32, expected to be complete in 2003.

VRF GETS $1 MILLION FOR ECO-FRIENDLY CAR
The Federal Highway Administration has awarded an $800,000 grant to the renowned Vehicle Research Institute on campus to build a safe, natural gas/electric hybrid car. With an additional $200,000 from WWU, funding for the Viking 32 totals $1 million. The two-door, four-seater with a carbon fiber body is expected to be completed in 2003.

HUXLEY COLLEGE HAS A NEW NAME
Huxley College of Environmental Studies is now Huxley College of the Environment. The Center for Environmental Science also has a new name: the department of environmental science.

TWO LEADERS IN DRUG PREVENTION AT WWU HONORED
University President Karen W. Morse and the head of Prevention and Wellness Services have received national service awards from the U.S. Department of Education. The national Network of Colleges and Universities Committed to the Elimination of Drug and Alcohol Abuse honored Morse with a Visionary Award and gave its Outstanding Service Award to Pat Fabiano, program director of Prevention and Wellness Services. Western has received national recognition since 1992 for programs that debunk the myth that “everybody drinks” in college.

FREEMAN DYSON LECTURE AND TALK SHOW ONLINE

Freeman Dyson, the physiologist, mathematician and humanist who opened the Distinguished Lecture Series at Western Oct. 11, also took part in an interactive Web talk show on campus the following day. An archived version of his hour-long Webcast as well as the text of his speech on technology and social justice can be found at http://www.wwu.edu/~lectures/speakers.html.

George Dyson, a son of Freeman Dyson who teaches at Fairhaven College, moderated the question and answer period following the lecture.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS SOUGHT FOR M.A. PROGRAM

To help ease the extreme shortage of K-12 administrators in schools serving Native American populations, Woodling College of Education is recruiting Native American teachers for a fully-funded master’s degree program for principals and school administrators. For information on the program, to begin this summer, go to: http://www.wwu.edu/~demmertw/.

THE PLANET WINS MORE NATIONAL HONORS

The Associated College Press honored Huxley’s Magazine as one of the top eight college magazines in the nation at the annual National College Media Convention in November. The magazine received the 2000 National Magazine Pacemaker Award.

WWU IS GOVERNMENT EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

RESEARCHER’S BOOK EXPLORES CAPTIVE GORILLAS

A new book by Dawn Prince-Hughes, an adjunct professor in the anthropology department, focuses on more than a decade of unique observation and research on captive gorillas. Prince-Hughes conducted research for Gorilla Doctors by sitting on a wooden bench at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle for hours each day. She will read from her book Jan. 26 at Village Books in Bellingham.
Campus Connections

WWU student-athletes are tops in “cap and gown”

Western’s student-athletes aren’t just beating their opponents on the playing fields. They’re doing it in the classroom, too.

An NCAA report on graduation rates shows Western student-athletes graduate at a rate higher than those at other schools, sometimes much higher. They also rank slightly better in graduation rates than their peers on campus.

In addition, 24 Viking athletes were named Great Northwest Athletic Conference academic all-stars in four fall sports: football (8), women’s soccer (5), cross country (7) and volleyball (4). To be an academic all-star, student-athletes must have a 3.2 GPA or better and be in their second year of competition.

“We are proud of our student-athletes,” said University President Karen W. Morse, a member of the NCAA Division II President’s Council. “They perform well on the field and the court. But what’s even more important, they perform well in the classroom.”

“In our program, we try never to forget that the word ‘student’ precedes the word ‘athlete,’” said Athletics Director Lynda Goodrich (’66). “There is always room for improvement, but we are pleased that these figures show our program is a leader in academic achievement.”

The 2001 NCAA findings show 71 percent of Viking student-athletes receive their degrees in six years or less. That number is:

- 17 percentage points higher than the average for student-athletes in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (54%).
- 22 points higher than the national average for schools in NCAA Division II (49%), of which Western is a member.
- 13 points higher than the national NCAA I average (58%) and 29 points higher than the NCAA III average (42%).

Within Washington, WWU student-athletes graduated at the highest rate of any public institution, 17 points above Eastern and Central Washington (each at 54%), nine points above Washington State (62%) and seven points better than the University of Washington (64%).

“These in-state statistics are particularly impressive in relation to the Division I schools,” said Ron Riggins, dean of Fairhaven College and Western’s faculty athletic representative. “Division I schools typically have significant resources to commit to student-athlete support programs.”

Western student-athletes also scored seven points higher on graduation rates than the Western student body in general (71% to 64%). This compares favorably with national averages for NCAA Division II schools, where student-athletes edged students in general, 49% to 42%.

For details about Vikings on the four GNAC academic all-star teams, see: http://www.wwuvikings.com.

Football team wins GNAC title, narrowly misses playoffs

For the second straight year, Western’s football team came up just short in its bid to secure a berth in the NCAA Division II Championship field.

The Vikings, who finished 8-3 and won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference title for a school-record third straight year, were ranked No. 3 regionally before a 40-32 loss at UC Davis Nov. 10, their final game of the 2001 season.

“What makes this so difficult to swallow is that this two years is in a row now that we’ve been right there. Knowing that we were talented enough to compete with any team in the playoffs,” said Western head coach Rob Smith (13 years, 89-42-1).

In 2000, the Vikings were rated No. 5 regionally, only to have their post-season hopes dashed at the end of the season.

“I’m so proud of our team,” Smith said. “They battled, battled and battled. Considering our schedule, 8-3 was a heck of a year.”

Western graduates 15 seniors, among them quarterback Scott Mitchell (Kennewick/Kamiah) and strong safety Erik Totten (Maple Valley/Tahoma). Mitchell finished as the Vikings’ career record holder in total offense (7,877) and tied for most career touchdown passes (67). Totten set school career marks for return yardage of punts (1,242) and kickoffs (1,347).

The seniors came into a program coming off a pair of 5-5 seasons, and they really were the class that took us from a NAIA program to a solid NCAA II program,” Smith said. “This class will be remembered as the one that helped Western in that transition.”

Despite the setback, Smith already is looking forward to next season.

“We’ve got some of the best young talent in the program we’ve ever had,” he said. “We were able to redshirt every one of our freshmen, and I believe that’s the first time we’ve done that.”

University has special responsibilities to students during these difficult times

As we attempt to heal from the September attacks and their aftermath, it is appropriate to reaffirm the responsibilities of a university. America’s colleges and universities are the eyes of the world. They occupy a special place in our democracy where intellectual inquiry, free and open dialogue and energetic debate flourish.

Our campuses are beacons of liberty and hope, particularly today, when we are engulfed in sadness and face solving complex national problems.

In our words and actions, we must teach the values of democracy and freedom; teach the importance of citizenship and civic involvement; and teach the indispensible strength and richness of ethnic diversity and religious tolerance.

As a university, we will strive to provide our students with the kind of thoughtful education that will enable them to address these issues.
Alumni House, MS-9011, WWU, Bellingham, WA 98225

1992 – Harriet Hertzog organizes a group, “Our Link to the Link” that has been fishing on the North Olympic Peninsula every week for the last 10 years.

1993 – Gerry Lantz-Friberg, an artist, painted a car with a chain-link fence, surrounded by tulips and butterflies for the 2002 Skagit Valley Tulip Festival poster.

1996 – Rick Asher retired from teaching in Montesano after having more than 900 fourth-grade students in his 28-year career.

1969 – Keith Barnett retired from teaching in Montesano after having more than 900 fourth-grade students in his 28-year career.

... Lawrence “Larry” Evans is the chairman of the board at Horticon Financial Corp. ... Ronald Lafayette (M.A. ‘71) became president of North Seattle Community College in 1994. ... Raye Rene retired in June after spending 26 years with the Skagit Valley School District. Rene’s travel plans include a cruise to the Panama Canal.

Robert Tarkle (B.A., B.A.Ed ’64, M.A. ’69) was elected president of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials for a two-year term. NAHRO is a professional association dedicated to improving the quality of housing and community services for low-income Americans.

2001 – Sara Patton (’01) of Longview was recently selected as one of three winners of the Association of African-American Journalists 2001 undergraduate essay contest.

Patten won for “The Social Implications of Citizenship in Washington: A Study of the 1921 Anderson and 1938 Randal Court Cases.” Her essay is a 40-page historical analysis of two early African American civil rights cases.

No previous scholars had given attention to these cases, making Patten’s research original and requiring her to travel all over Washington state in search of sources.

“This award is a recognition of Ms. Patten’s impressive abilities as an historical researcher and published author,” said history professor Chris Friday. “It is also a testament to the focus on excellence in undergraduate teaching here at Western.”

Patten is currently working on a master’s in education at the University of Washington.

Where do you wear your Western T-shirt?

Arvid Hokanson (’99), a producer for KOUS’s daily public affairs program, an assistant professor at the University of Washington, D.C., a few years ago. Producing Weekday for Seattle’s NPR station involves tracking news, compiling segments and building a bank of 10 hours of programming every week.

Send us a picture of yourself and/or other Western alumni in your Western gear. Send glossy-only photographs to Window on Western, MS-9011, WWU, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA, 98225-9011.

Sara Patton wins essay contest

2001 alumna wins essay contest

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Songs for the Brave
inspired by Camus

Writing under the pen name Ann J. Davidson, Marilyn Gall Bennett (71) has released Songs for the Brave, the first of a planned five volumes of illustrated poetry.

Inspired by the works of Nobel Laureate Albert Camus, her poems focus on the courage of the dispossessed—from slaves brought to North America to today's refugees. "At times of deprivation amid immense plenty," Davidson writes in her poem, "Toilstoy, Grass and Camus: Rules," "One turns to the wisest thinkers for consolation."

Legally blind herself, Davidson has taken special care to make her work accessible to the visually impaired. Songs for the Brave is also available on audiocassette.

Two European literary magazines, one in Rome and one in Athens, have published poems from her first volume. Her books and audiocassettes can be ordered direct from the publisher, scbwww@earthlink.net. Davidson can also be reached through this e-mail address.

IN MEMORIAM

Harold W. Winslow, 79, a graduate of The Normal School, May 25. ... Marie Pedersen, 94, a retired Stanton High School teacher, Sept. 5.

1928 — Mary E. Ball, 93, a retired teacher, Sept. 18.


1934 — Mildred Clark Fosness, 88, an accomplished musician and vocalist, Oct. 10. ... Martha Shudricht Leonard, 87, a retired teacher, Sept. 28.

1936 — Ruth J. Porterfield, 93, a retired teacher, Sept. 28.

1939 — Virginia Weston O'Conor, 82, June 9.

1948 — Donald Gooding, 82, a retired Bellingham Herald reporter, Aug. 9.

1952 — Paul Gillis, 73, a retired teacher, state advocate and poet, Aug. 29.


1956 — William Richardson Jr., 70, June 27.

1963 — Jan Zachau Dodd, a teacher at Bellingham High School, Aug. 12.


1971 — Sheila Huber, 51, a travel agent, Aug. 11.

1972 — John Wilson, 81, a retired teacher, June 7.


1979 — Laura Bassett, 44, Aug. 15. ... Robert Vreerek, 77, a former Milwaukee Road railroad supervisor and an ex-teacher in Alaska and at Grays Harbor College in Aberdeen, July 22.


1983 — Stephen Shannon Davis, 46, a teacher at CIT Technical School in Bothell, from injuries sustained in a car accident, Oct. 16.

1985 — Christine Gordon, 43, a teacher, Oct. 16.

1986 — Marilyn Sager, 71, a retired real estate agent who worked in Everett and Snohomish County, Aug. 28.

1987 — Florian "Yangie" Christensen, 62, whose investigation of a natural means of facilitating teacher training at Kojcha School in Laos made her works accessible to the visually impaired. ... Songs for the Brave is also available on audiocassette.

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

Audrey Brainard, 56, an adjunct faculty member at Woodring's off-campus sites, Nov. 21.

Cody E. Bryan Jr., 75, an assistant professor of accounting from 1977 to 1988. ... Myrtle Kirkman Huntley, 93, a retired food services employee, Aug. 20.

D. Peter Mazur, 77, who retired in 1990 as professor emeritus of sociology, Nov. 7.

Facility, Staff & Friends

Donations in memory of Sarah A. Wirth, who died April 25, may be made to the Sarah A. Wirth Scholarship Fund at the Western Foundation, MS-9034, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9034.

(http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni)

Alumni Web Site

Join the Alumni Club
Subscribe to an online newsletter
See photos from Commencement and Convocation
Find a former roommate

http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni
How does biology affect behavior?

Janet Finlay is one of three fairly new faculty members at Western who have, since 1999, created a strong biopsychology program within the psychology department.

As a result of their setting up new research labs and creating new courses examining how biology affects behavior, the maze of hallways in the basement of Miller Hall is now a buzz of activity.

"Unfortunately, I can't accommodate all the students who have voiced an interest" in working on their research, Finlay said. "It's been unbelievable."

Finlay, who joined the psychology department as an assistant professor in 1999, has been studying the neurobiology of mental illness since she received her first research grant as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pittsburgh's Center for the Study of Schizophrenia in 1990.

Today, she involves WWU students in two funded studies: she's conducting on whether changes in brain chemicals may contribute to brain abnormalities such as schizophrenia.

Finlay, who calls her work "translational research," takes a clinical problem such as schizophrenia and translates the problem into basic science studies that can have practical applications in clinical settings.

Her current study focuses on mesoprefrontal dopamine neurons, cells that communicate in the formation in the part of the brain known as the prefrontal cortex. A recent finding in her research, Finlay said, is "It's been unbelievable."

Finlay is married to colleague Mike Mana, who is married to colleague Mike Mana. She is seeking funding to continue her research on the prefrontal cortex and to translate the experiments back into basic science studies that can have practical applications in clinical settings.

The next step in her research is to translate the experiments back to a practical application: Is there a drug that will reverse these changes and positively affect behavior and brain function?

"It's exciting to have a basic science research program with clear clinical implications," she said.

Outside the lab, Finlay supports the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) and stimulates discussion in her classes about the causes and effects of depression and schizophrenia.

"Even in this day and age, we encounter people who think depression and schizophrenia are the result of such things as bad parenting or some sort of character defect," she said, although both diseases are no different than heart disease in that we now know they have a biological basis.

Her class on drugs and behavior also touches on real life examples that most students encounter or at least hear about.

"It's a fun area to teach undergrads about. Everybody relates to it and is interested in it," she says.

Finlay says she's thrilled that so many undergrads are interested in conducting serious research and going on to advanced degrees.

"It feels like an extended family. You feel like you have contributed to their growth and development in a significant way."

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Finlay is married to colleague Mike Mana.

Dana Jack finds perseverance in Nepalese women

Continued from page 1

"There is almost no work on depression in Nepal," Jack said. She hopes her study will change that.

Jack collected data from Patan Mental Hospital, the only mental hospital in Nepal, and from Tribhuvan University teaching hospital. Six Nepali interviewers working with her conducted one- to two-hour sessions with 110 outpatients diagnosed with depression.

The interviews, with both men and women even though Jack is primarily interested in depression in women, focused on asking the patients what they felt caused their condition.

"Women in Nepal are dealing with customs that oppress and restrict them," said Jack, whose research on women's psychology has resulted in three books, including the 1991 *Silencing the Self: Depression and Women. *"I'm interested in examining what factors cause women to succumb to major depression, and what factors allow them to resist an oppressive culture."

Nepali women are financially, culturally and educationally restricted in Nepal, she explained. Women are not allowed to inherit property, save for few exceptions, nor are they able to attend school without the permission of family or spouse.

"Despite their situation, the human spirit is very resilient." She is seeking funding so she can return to Nepal to complete a larger study and gather information about day-to-day life for women in Nepal.

"The data will take time to interpret, but I am excited at the possibility of understanding the picture of depression in a different culture," Jack said.

Silencing the Self has been translated into French, German, Italian and Chinese. A second book Jack wrote on the psychology of gender, *Behind the Mask: Destruction and Creativity in Women's Aggression,* has been translated into two different forms of Chinese for distribution in China and Japan.

Dana Jack attended a conference in Nepal where participants from India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh strategized ways to combat violence against women.

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**Why are older people forgetful?**

Assistant professor Mike Mana, a biopsychologist at Western who's studying aging-related changes in memory function, insists he did not forget about an appointment he had one Wednesday afternoon with the editor of Window on Western.

Instead, he says he missed the appointment because he and some of his students were absorbed in a research project in the basement of Miller Hall that went beyond the time he had scheduled.

It's quite understandable.

Student and faculty research in the department's research labs have taken off in the last three years since Mana, Janet Finlay and Jeff Grimm joined forces with professor Merle Prim to strengthen the biopsychology program at Western.

Besides, Mana is only 41 years old, a good 20 years away from the age at which humans typically begin to see a decline in their memory skills.

The phenomenon of older people being forgetful is well known. What Mana and other scientists want to know is: Why?

To help answer that question, Mana and his students study 2-year-old lab rats, the equivalent of 80-something humans, to learn more about the relationship between changes in memory function and aging-related changes in neurons that release a chemical substance called norepinephrine.

Norepinephrine is a type of chemical signal released by neurons in the brain. It is the brain's equivalent of adrenaline, says Mana, who has also conducted research into the effects of stress on brain function. "Norepinephrine neurons are highly activated during times of stress or arousal and appear to be quite involved with vigilance and attentional processes in the brain," he says.

Mana and a handful of undergraduate and graduate psychology students are currently studying rats' performance in two different mazes in the basement of Miller Hall.

In addition, they are studying the electrical and chemical activity of norepinephrine neurons in the rats to see if there is a relationship between changes in brain function and the ability of these rats to make their way through the mazes.

They've already collected a year's worth of data. The long-term expectation is that their experiments will help answer some of the following questions:

- Is there a change in function of norepinephrine neurons during aging?
- Are these neural changes correlated to changes in memory function?
- Can you stimulate norepinephrine neurons and ameliorate some of the cognitive changes that accompany the aging process?

For instance many Western students reported almost identical feelings to their counterparts 3,000 miles away in New York. On some survey questions, there were only a few percentage points difference between the two groups.

"The findings show that this is an American response to an American tragedy," Sattler said. "People throughout the country were affected by the events that took place there."
**Accent on Alumni**

**New scholarship provided by alumni from San Diego**

The San Diego Alumni Association Chapter, one of the most active in the WWU chapter network, is seeing a year's planning come to fruition with a scholarship program that will benefit San Diego County residents interested in attending Western.

The one-year award of $1,000 for an entering student is for San Diego alumni to give back to WWU.

The chapter is the first to create a scholarship and it's well on its way to raising its goal of $40,000 for an endowment.

The scholarship is in addition to the 28 scholarships awarded through the Alumni Association, the Alumni Club and the Collegiate License Plate program each year.

"It will definitely be used as a model for our other WWU chapters who have been planning fund-raising or scholarship programs of their own," said Mary Ann Harrington, associate director of Alumni Relations.

The kick-off for the San Diego scholarship program was held at the chapter's fall event, a motor coach trip and tour of the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, Calif., followed by dinner in historic Old Town Pasadena.

Signe Beck ('84), a UBS/PaineWebber financial adviser in La Jolla and the chapter's scholarship coordinator and co-president, said she and Sam Porter, the other chapter co-president, are excited that alumni have already contributed to the scholarship fund in many ways.

WWU alumni can make one-time donations to the scholarship endowment or give a little bit every month, quarter or year, Beck said. "No matter how they wish to give, we can work with them," she said.

The first recipient, to be chosen in the spring, will receive $1,000 toward his/her out-of-state tuition and fees for the 2002-2003 academic year.

"When we reach our $40,000 goal, it will become a $2,000 scholarship," Beck said, $1,000 for each of the student's first two years.

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of residence in San Diego County, community activity and financial need. Preference will be given to children or other relatives of WWU alumni.

Contributions to the San Diego WWU Alumni Scholarship may be sent to The Western Foundation, WWU, MS-9034, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA, 98225-9034.

For more information contact Sonja Chorba at The Western Foundation (360) 650-3384; Sigh Beck in San Diego at (858)659-1848; or the Alumni Association at (800) 676-6885.

**WWU Student Alumni Association is growing strong**

Hello Western Alumni!

I am one of the many enthusiastic members of the Student Alumni Association, which is rapidly growing this year. This organization started two years ago and we have thousands of ideas.

Already, we have 15 members who hope to gain leadership skills, meet new people, and have a ton of fun.

During fall quarter, we set goals for the year and began to plan programs such as a comedy night, a retreat to Vilqueen Lodge on Sinclair Island and various community service projects. We'd also like to trade places with a Western faculty member for a day and sponsor a student team for Ski-to-Sea.

All of the members are especially excited to meet Western alumni.

Another goal is to set up a job-shadowing program with alumni. We hope to start this program small and just open it to SAA members. Later, we would love to open it up to the entire campus.

Working with Mary Ann Harrington and Kristie Lundstrom at Alumni House during the fall, we joined alumni at the Nov. 8 men's basketball game against UW and helped out on a week's worth of Homecoming events in October.

We had such a great time that we are making these alumni events a tradition in our own organization.

We also plan to attend department reunions and the Distinguished Alumni banquet in the spring.

If you are interested in learning more about the Student Alumni Association or would like to host a student for an internship, please feel free to contact me. My office phone number is (360) 650-2124. Or you can send e-mail to me at wwsasa@hotmail.com. We look forward to meeting each one of you.

Julie Krom, coordinator
Student Alumni Association
Associated Students

Anchors Away?

Interested in a three-day cruise around Puget Sound? Leaving from Seattle and visiting Vancouver and Victoria, B.C.? Alumni House is soliciting interest in a June 5-7 mini-cruise. Call Kristie Lundstrom, events coordinator, at (360) 650-3598 or (800) 676-6885 for more information.

**How is your WWU newsletter doing?**

Do you read Window on Western from cover to cover?

Would you like to see more feature stories on faculty research and campus changes or more space devoted to news about your fellow alumni and about chapter events?

What stories are we covering well? What types of stories would you like to see more of?

We'd like to hear your views.

As the Alumni Association and all of Western grows and changes, we hope to keep you informed and entertained.

Do you read the online edition of the newsletter? Or are you waiting until we debut a new glossy, full-color magazine?

Well, we're not sure how and when we'll grow and change with you, but a lot depends on the desires of you: our alumni and friends. Write us:

Window on Western
Alumni House, MS-9199
Western Washington University
516 High Street
Bellingham, WA 98225-9199
E-mail: alumni@wwu.edu
Andrew Linth (*01), who was called to active duty in the U.S. Coast Guard after the Sept. 11 attacks, was awarded his bachelor's degree in October instead of December. Staff at the Public Information Office, where he was interning, and Alumni House helped him into a cap and gown for this photo at Alumni House.

Reunion is June 21-23

Reunion Weekend, June 21-23, celebrates the return to campus of classes 1951, 1952 and 1953 with a full weekend of activities. Friday begins the weekend with a Welcome Back to Campus Reception. Saturday will hold a full day of activities with plenty of time to reminisce with faculty and fellow classmates. Sunday will be a special farewell coffee time and lunch at Lakewood. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this wonderful event.

Information concerning the reunion was mailed in December.

Are you interested in taking part as a Reunion Committee Member? It's fun, takes little time and is quite rewarding. If you would like to join the reunion team or did not receive the initial reunion information, please contact Kristie Lundstrom at Alumni House.

Homecoming contests

Red Square at high noon: For five days preceding Homecoming Weekend in October, students participated in pie-eating and bubble-blowing contests, trike races and other activities organized by Alumni House staff.
Campus Connections
CBE dean watching changeover to euro

Dennis Murphy, dean of the College of Business and Economics, says Americans traveling to Europe and U.S. businesses that export to more than one country in Europe will be the winners as of Jan. 1. By July 1, the domestic currency in those countries will be removed as legal tender, and coins and paper notes from those individual countries will become collector's items.

"We can stop worrying about whether you need thousands of these things or hundreds of those," says Murphy who travels frequently to "Euroland" to consult on business matters. "You change your currency once and that's it."

The changeover to euro coins and notes will be a boon to tourists in the 12 countries because it will reduce or eliminate the bank charges for each country. And so, "the life of a tourist will be so much simpler," Murphy says.

The changeover to the euro will also reduce or eliminate costs for converting computer systems, which will also be minimal, Murphy predicts, thanks to years of preparation by Europeans and others who do business in Europe.

France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Greece, Portugal, Ireland, Belgium, Finland, Austria, Luxembourg and the Netherlands were scheduled to make the switch Jan. 1. By July 1, the domestic currency in those countries will be removed as legal tender, and coins and paper notes from those individual countries will become collector's items.

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Similarly, costs will be reduced for American exporters who must calculate exchange rates for each of the countries with which they do business, Murphy says. Businesses incur costs just to track, calculate and hedge against the fluctuations in money values, he explains.

Murphy predicted a "very smooth final step" when the changeover occurs after years of planning. Citizens and merchants in the 12 countries, however, will need some time getting used to the new currency, particularly when you consider that national currency often captures a nation's identity, he says.

Although the 12 nations are surrendering autonomy with respect to monetary policy, they will retain at least quasi control of the fiscal policies in their respective countries, Murphy notes.

"They have spent an enormous amount of effort so smooth the transition, but it will still be fraught with a variety of emotions," Murphy says.

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What do people do with the "spare change" left over from previous trips to Europe?

"I am just going to keep them like other people," Murphy says. "They are souvenirs."

Will the changeover cause huge computer problems like the so-called Y2K bug?

"The changeover does raise some worries, Murphy said. But there already has been a huge effort to reprogram computer systems. And 'The system of accounts is well set up,'" he says.

Four join 93 others in WWU's Athletic Hall of Fame

Two all-star football players, a track star and a standout basketball player are the newest members of Western's Athletic Hall of Fame. They are track sprinter Hollie Roberts, basketball forward Anna Rabel and football offensive lineman Jack Frazier and Scott Stokes.

Roberts, who competed as Hollie Watson, owns school records in the 100 and 200 meters. She was an assistant track coach for six years at Bellingham and Squalicum high schools. She and husband Keith have two sons, Bo and Cole.

Frazier, 74, earned all-Evergreen Conference honors in 1948 as a center and linebacker, then took a year off before returning in 1950 to lead Western to a 7-2-1 record, one of the best in school history.

Stokes, who is in her 11th year as a teacher at Roosevelt Elementary School in Bellingham, and she was an assistant track coach for six years at Bellingham and Squalicum high schools. She and husband Keith have two sons, Bo and Cole.

Rabel, 35, was a third-team NAIA and second-team American Women's Sports Federation All-American in 1988-89 as she led Western to its only 30-win season in 1988-89. Frazier played a key role on a 1950 gridiron squad that was one of the best in school history, and Stokes helped the Vikings to the NAIA Division I football title in 1976.

The quartet, which brings the total membership to 97, were also honored at halftime of Western's football game with New Mexico State University.

Scott Stokes
Jack Frazier

Frazier, now retired, worked 41 years as manager of the Westford Athletic Hall of Fame.

Stokes was an assistant coach at Marysville-Pilchuck for eight years and is currently in his third season as the freshman coach.

Stokes and his wife, Nancy, have two sons, Matthew and Daniel.

Frazier, 74, earned all-Evergreen Conference honors in 1948 as a center and linebacker, then took a year off before returning in 1950 to lead Western to a 7-2-1 record, one of the best in school history.

Named to the Vikings' All-Century (1900-99) football team, he was a three-sport athlete at Bellingham High School.

Frazier, now retired, worked 41 years as manager of the Westford Funeral Home. He also served many years as secretary-treasurer of the Washington State Senior Golf Association, which has been a major financial contributor to Western's golf program. Frazier and wife Louise raised five children.

Women's volleyball has outstanding 2001 season

One of the finest campaigns in school history ended as the women's volleyball team swept UC San Diego in the Pacific Regional of the NCAA Division II National Women's Volleyball Tournament Nov. 16 in San Bernardino, Calif.

Despite the tournament loss, the No.3-seeded Vikings captured the first outright league title in school history, taking the Great Northwest Athletic Conference crown with a perfect 18-0 record.
Dance Makers bring movement, growth, partnership into public schools

By Erin Crumpacker and Drew Linth

Western’s Dance Makers program is entering its third year of introducing the art of dance to public schools in Whatcom and Skagit counties.

The program, led by dance director Nolan Dennett and facilitated by Pam Morrison, a lecturer in dance, takes Western dance students into the schools for energetic lectures/demonstrations.

The 50-minute program introduces kids to building blocks of movement exploration and concludes with a rollicking, hands-on performance. Later, the WWU performers work with kids and teachers in the classroom.

Jane Colson, principal of Ten Mile Creek Elementary School in the Meridian School District north of Bellingham, said Dance Makers has enriched the school’s physical education curriculum.

“One of the major takeaways to me is the kinesthetic standpoint,” he added.

Both Zaferatos and Dennett agree that children benefit from the non-competitive approach dance brings to physical exploration.

“Movement precedes the acquisition of language and is as significant as story telling in the preservation and understanding of culture,” Dennett said.

“Counts could be said that the purpose of teaching creative movement is to nurture noble minds and to inspire an artistic sensibility in the young. This is accomplished by looking at structure, sequence and relationships from a kinesthetic standpoint,” he added.

“If children can command their own bodies without competition or judgment they will take the first steps toward understanding the world they find themselves living in,” WWU’s Dance Makers program has received funding from Whatcom Community Foundation, the Parent Teacher Association and The Western Foundation.

Dance program offers teaching endorsement

Western now offers a teaching endorsement for dance through Woodring College of Education and the dance program in the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

The state of Washington recently created guidelines for the endorsement, which follow national standards and prepares future educators who wish to teach dance in the public schools.

“Dance Makers is a central component of the endorsement,” said WWU dance director Nolan Dennett.

The endorsement program is the only one in Washington offered within the confines of an arts college, Dennett said.

“Our workshops and school performances are built around the Essential Academic Learning Requirements for dance arts,” Dennett added, “and have become a vital and vibrant training ground for pre-service teachers who are able to gain first-hand experience in teaching creative movement and in using dance as a tool in the traditional classroom.”

To support Dance Makers, send your contribution to:

The Western Foundation
Dance Makers/Dance Works
516 High Street
Bellingham, WA 98225-9034

Mariners’ Lincoln will speak at Seattle Business Forum

The Western Foundation is pleased to announce that Howard Lincoln, chairman and CEO of the Seattle Mariners, will present the 2002 address at the Seattle Business Forum in April.

Lincoln retired as chairman of Nintendo of America, Inc. in February 2000.

The luncheon forum will be held at the Westin Hotel in Seattle at noon, April 22.

Doors open at 11:15 a.m.

Tables can be reserved at the following sponsorship levels:

- $1,500 Platinum Table (priority table placement and private reception with honored guests preceding the luncheon)
- $1,000 Gold Table (1st tier table placement)
- $500 Silver Table (2nd tier table placement)
- $350 White Table (3rd tier table placement).

All sponsorship levels include distinct table signage, listing in the event program and nine seats at the table for your invited guests. The tenth seat will be reserved for a distinguished WWU faculty member, scholarship student or key university administrator.

Individual tickets also are available at $35 per person. To reserve a table or for more information, call (360) 650-6825.

Alpha Technologies has challenge for President’s Club members

Alpha Technologies of Bellingham has provided a $25,000 challenge grant to all President’s Club members to encourage increased annual gifts from current members.

The grant will match all President’s Club-level gifts that are increased by at least $250 over last year’s gift.

For example, if a member increases his or her annual gift from $1,000 to $1,250, the additional $250 will qualify for the match.

While donors can designate their gift to a fund of their choice, the match will benefit the Campus Enrichment Fund, which meets the most pressing needs of the campus and supports priority programs.

For more information on the matching gift and/or the President’s Club, call Mark Bagley at (360) 650-3612.
2002 Calendar

January

7-31 Faculty Review/Preview at the Western Gallery

17 Distinguished Lecture Series presents Helen Thomas, 6:30 p.m. at PAC Mainstage, $4

18-20 Alumni Association Annual Ski Trip to Sun Peaks, B.C.

19 Alumni Chapter: Snohomish County hosts reunion and Peter Farish at the Village Theater, Everett Martin Luther King Day

21-31 Theatre Arts presents Indepedence, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23-26, Jan. 30-Feb. 2 and at 2 p.m. Jan. 27, Underground Theatre $4

31 Alumni Chapter: Whatcom County hosts "tailgate" party on campus before the WWU vs. Central basketball game

February

1-2 Theatre Arts presents Independence, 7:30 p.m. Underground Theatre, $4

2 Board of Trustees meets 8:30 a.m., Old Main 340

11- Western Gallery: Pressure Points, an exhibit of contemporary prints by artists focusing on identity and the conceptual arrangement of visual clues. Through March 22, free PAC Series: Susan McKeown & Chanting House, Celtic folk rock and global rhythms, 7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall. $10-$16

9 Alumni Association, Board of Directors meets, Seattle

8 Alumni Chapter: Seattle reception/speaker, Chinese Room, Smith Tower, Seattle

12 Music Department: Wind Symphony, 8 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, free

March

1-22 Western Gallery: Pressure Points, an exhibit of contemporary prints by artists focusing on identity and the conceptual arrangement of visual clues, free

1 Sleeping Over with Science: Hands-on activities and an overnight science show in the Science Learning Resource Center for grades 3-8, $45

1 Alumni Chapter: Whatcom and San Juan host one-day ski trip to Whistler, B.C.

2 PAC Series: Peterson Quartet, 7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, $10-$16

April

6 PAC Series: Live Sax Acts, an evening of dazzling physical performance, 7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, $12-$18

6 Alumni Chapter: South Puget Sound hosts dinner and Hair at the Capital Playhouse in Olympia Theatre Arts presents Keely and Du, 7:30 p.m., April 10-13 and 17-20 and at 2 p.m., April 21, $4

11 Board of Trustees meets, 8:30 a.m., Old Main 340

13 Western Preview 2002: Newly admitted freshmen and their families explore campus

16 Turning Points Faculty Speaker: Fairhalfen professor Kathryn Anderson on Women in Politics, 5:15 p.m., SMATE 150, free

May

1 Alumni Chapter: New York Steering Committee meets

3 Alumni Chapter: New York event

4 Alumni Chapter: Washington, D.C., hosts four-hour dinner cruise aboard Nina’s Dandy on the Potomac.

4 Alumni Reunion: Engineering Technology Department presents dinner and a movie at the Boeing IMAX Theater in Seattle.

5 Woodring College Awards for Professional Excellence, annual luncheon, noon-2:30 p.m., Best Western Lakebay Inn.

5 Alumni Chapter: Washington, D.C., Steering Committee meets Western Showtime Family Weekend

10-12 Alumni Chapter: Seattle hosts reception and Seattle Symphony Concert, Benaroya Hall

11 PAC Series: Oliver Mokodu & The Black Spirits, 7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, $15-$22

17 Sleepy Over with Science: Hands-on activities and a science show in the Science Learning Resource Center for grades 3-8, $45

18 Alumni Chapter: Whatcom Chapter hosts Science Adventure day trip to Whistler, B.C.

25-26 Alumni Chapter: Seattle hosts reception and Seattle Symphony Concert, Benaroya Hall

Tickets & Information

Adventures in Science and Art Camps .................................. (360) 650-6822
Alumni events ................................................................... (360) 650-6885
Athletics ............................................................................ (360) 650-3199
Box Office, PAC/Theatre Arts ........................................... (360) 650-6146
Distinguished Lecture Series/Turning Points .................. (360) 650-7545
Special Events .................................................................. (360) 650-6825
Theatre Arts .................................................................... (360) 650-3879
Western Gallery Info Line ................................................ (360) 650-3900
Willson Library Hours (recorded) .................................... (360) 650-3049

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