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Astronaut lands in WWU center to seek education reform

By Kathy Sheehan
PUBLIC INFORMATION

George "Pinky" Nelson, a former astronaut who has logged more than 400 hours of space travel, has launched a new career at Western as director of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Program.

Nelson, who arrived in January, says he came to WWU to continue his lifelong pursuit of education reform to ensure that all Americans are literate in science, math and technology.

That means one of the nation's leading teacher education programs will be getting even better. Nelson hopes to increase connections and partnerships between future teachers and experienced teachers in local schools; assist current WWU faculty in modeling new kinds of instruction techniques for future teachers; and conduct research into effective teaching methods.

"Western is already hands-down the premier institution" for teacher education, said Nelson, who flew space shuttle missions in 1984, 1986 and 1988. The 1988 spaceship Discovery flight was the first NASA mission following the Challenger accident.

Nelson, nicknamed Pinky at birth in 1950 for his healthy skin tone and red hair, was a NASA astronaut from 1978 to 1989 and has conducted astronomical research at several research centers in the United States and abroad. He has since held several academic and administrative posts at the University of Washington and was an American Council on Education fellow at Western during fall quarter 1992, studying higher education administration with former WWU President Kenneth P. Mortimer.

More recently, Nelson served for three years as director of Project 2061 a massive science literacy initiative for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. (Project 2061 is named for the year that humans will next see Halley's Comet.)

"He brings a national stature and an intense commitment to enhancing science, math and technology knowledge to students at all levels," said Ronald A. Klein-knecht, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Although Nelson spent nearly two decades in the "hard" sciences (He has a B.S. in physics and an M.S. and Ph.D. in astronomy), he calls education his "true career." He expects his work here will take him deep into the social sciences.

CONTINUED on page 7

Nelson suits up on the morning of the launch of the orbiter Discovery in 1988. Photo courtesy of NASA.
SBDC sets new record for aid to local business

In a uniquely challenging 2001, the Small Business Development Center set a new record for assisting local businesses, surpassing its last two record-breaking years by a wide margin. The SBDC, a service of the College of Business and Economics, counseled 449 businesses, 90 of which were impacted by the Georgia-Pacific layoffs and 280 of which were first-time clients. The SBDC also launched an innovative project in January that links small business owners with experienced mentors in their fields.

Student-Parents gain assistance for child care

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Associated Students Child Development Center a $202,000 grant to establish an endowment to assist low-income student-parents obtain child care. "It's going to help our students tremendously," said Jules McLeland, CDC program manager said. "Child care as is such a percentage in their budget as college tuition."

Professor's memoir wins NEA award for 2001

English professor Suzanne Paola, whose memoir Body Toxic: An Environmental Memoir was named a New York Times Notable Book of 2001, has received $20,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts to work on her second nonfiction book. Written under the name Susanne Paola, Body Toxic documents Paola's childhood in an environmentally contaminated county in New Jersey.

Debating pair are tops at national tournament

One of Western's two-person debate teams was recognized as the number one pair nationwide in parliamentary debate going into a tournament March 15 at Regis University in Denver, Colo. The top ranked duo, seniors Amy Kalman and Dan Williams, are sharing the $1,000 Richardson scholarship for forensics excellence.

Ground is broken on Recreation Center

Initial work has begun on Western's 100,000-square-foot Campus Recreation Center, just south of the outdoor track near Bill McDonald Way and 21st Street. The $26 million facility will house a six-lane, 25-yard lap pool, spa, climbing wall, aerobic studios and a three-court gymnasium. Western students voted by a 77 percent majority in 2000 to fund the center. It's scheduled to open in September 2003.

Library has 1,000 items in Western collection

Wilson Library now has well over 1,000 items representing the intellectual and creative output of Western faculty, administrators, staff and alumni, past and present. Scholarly and literary books and articles, personal memoirs, research reports, musical scores and recordings, graphics and even games are all to be found in the unique collection housed in Special Collections.
Miller's essays reflect on resilience

Brenda Miller, assistant professor of English, describes her new book, Season of the Body (Sarabande Books, $14.95/$25, scheduled for release in April), as a memoir in essay form in which she reflects on birth, prayer and human resilience.

Gallay's book details slave trade

History professor Alan Gallay celebrates the traffic of Native American slaves in the early American South in his new book, The Indian Slave Trade: the Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717. This is the first book to focus on the traffic in Indian slaves during the early years of the American South, according to Yale University Press. Gallay documents in vivid detail how the trade operated, the processes by which Europeans and Native Americans became participants, and the profound consequences for the South and its peoples.

Yusa writes text on Japanese religions

Prentice Hall has published Japanese Religions Traditions, a college level text by Michiko Yusa, professor of modern and classical languages. The book is published in the United Kingdom by Routledge under the title Japanese Religions.

Burton's book explores Civil War battle

Brian Burton's new book, Extraordinary Circumstances: The Seven Days Battles, is an insightful read on a decisive but little written about episode of the Civil War. Burton, who has been teaching at the College of Business and Economics since 1995, is an associate professor of management and director of the MBA program at Western. The book is available from Indiana University Press, (800) 842-6796 or www.indiana.edu/~iupress.
Lyle Morse and Donna LeBlonde receive new WWU service awards

Former Alumni Association president Lyle Morse (’70) and WWU information services manager Donna LeBlonde (’86) have received new awards from the WWU Alumni Association.

Morse, who is president of Fish Brewing Co. in Olympia and, until recently, the owner of Norse Furniture, works closely with the leadership of the South Puget Sound Alumni Chapter and gives generously of his time and resources to Alumni events in Puget Sound. He (or his companies) pays for the current special projects of the WWU Alumni Golf Classic, the Viking Night auction and the Fun Run held during Homecoming weekend, donating auction items, beverages, T-shirts and other resources.

LeBlonde was recognized for her invaluable service as an employee of WWU External Affairs and as a volunteer for the Alumni Association. Her work on the alumni database is "above and beyond" the call of duty, said David Britton (’70), Awards Committee chairman. LeBlonde also organizes the Homecoming Fun Run and helps with the alumni golf tournament.

Jeffrey Spencer (’96) had a baby boy on Nov. 10. Amy is a stay-at-home mom and he is a Lutheran pastor in Chinoe, Mont.

1996 – Nita Quan is the executive director of First Step Family Support Center in Port Angeles. Stacy Rosevear is scheduled to walk in the Vancouver, B.C., International Half-Marathon in May through the American Stroke Association’s Train to End Stroke program. Rosevear, who suffered a stroke, has made a miraculous recovery and is working toward raising $5,000 in honor of her second chance at life and in honor of other stroke victims and survivors. Rosevear was to be accompanied by Amy Snyder Heine (’95). … Larry Weddle, a staff officer at Wtacham Educational Credit Union, was the credit union’s employee of the year for 2001.

1997 – Craig Forbes is a CPA with Haskin, Shoham & Company in Everett. Forbes was recently promoted to supervisor. … Jesse Hamilton, a Yakima-Herald reporter, won a George Polk award and an award from Investigative Reporters and Editors for a series he co-wrote about the Thirty Mile Fire in Yakima, which claimed the lives of fire fighters. … Kelley Heilhoop and 3 other VHR grads, Mark Dzudzinski, Darcy Hughes and Paul Vanmetre own Pro CNC, a precision machine shop that specializes in metal-machined parts for a variety of fields, including the medical aerospace and computer industries. Kathy Humphreys teaches general educational development (GED) at the Northwest Indian College. … Sally McDonald is an account executive with Waggerger Education in Bellevue. … Drew and Christine Petrou (’94) purchased Staaf Sails in Bellingham.

1998 – Scott Deutsch is an associate attorney with the law firm of Morse & Bratt in Vancouver. … Janice Anderson is the acting director of the Sunnyside School District. … Christine Petrou (’94) purchased Staaf Sails in Bellingham.

1999 – Kristi Moseley, owner of Designed Fitness, is a certified personal trainer and certified strength and conditioning specialist. … Craig Rosevear is the principal at Riverview High School in Centralia. … Paul VanMetre, a youth counselor at the Boys and Girls Club of Whatcom County, was the credit union’s employee of the year for 2001.

2000 – Millisa Macomber is a staff reporter for The Courier Times in Sedro Woolley. … Dan Moseley is the co-owner of MMO Solutions in Bellingham.

2001 – Shad Malone is the co-owner of MMO Solutions in Bellingham. … Tanya Silves is a staff accountant for Larsen Gross in Lynden.
Where do you wear your Western gear?

Send photos of yourself in your Western shirt, hat, etc.; short items of interest; address changes; and other news to:
Alumni House, MS-9199, WWU, Bellingham, WA 98225-9199

U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, the mother of Sara Murray ('02), proudly wears her "Western Mom" sweatshirt while fishing.

Torch bearer is WWU alumnus

Patrick Brown ('00), an eighth grade teacher in La Conner, was one of several people who carried the Olympic torch through Olympia in January, shortly before the start of the Salt Lake Winter Games.

Brown, who teaches social studies and fitness and is an assistant coach for the La Conner High School football team, was cheered along the route by his eighth graders, school colleagues, friends and family, including wife Justina Brown ('00), instructional and multimedia designer at Western’s Center for Instructional Innovation.

Position Opening

Western Washington University seeks candidates for the combined position of director of Alumni Relations and executive director of the Alumni Association. This 12-month, full-time position is responsible for meeting the needs of and developing programs for nearly 80,000 graduates and former students of Washington's largest comprehensive university.

Western seeks candidates with at least a bachelor's degree and five years' full-time experience in association management, alumni relations or public relations. Candidates must have experience working with volunteer boards or associations.

For complete position description, see http://www.wwu.edu/~wwujobs. Candidates are invited to submit a letter of interest addressing desired qualifications, a complete resume and names and addresses of three references to:
Lorie McNell, Alumni Search Coordinator, Office of External Affairs, Western Washington University, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9032.
Learning Resource Center is the soul of SMATE

By Brittany Sadler
PUBLIC INFORMATION

Since the grand opening of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education building in 1996, the building's Learning Resource Center has been widely recognized as a unique facility, offering education majors and in-service teachers the resources needed to effectively teach science, math and technology in the classroom.

"We have books on curriculum, activities, standards, assessments, storybooks, how-to and why books — anything you'd need in a classroom," said Jamie Harrington, LRC facility and operations manager. "If it is being used in a classroom out there, we should have it here. That way the students are better prepared."

The LRC also has a materials and equipment check-out program, giving Western students and teachers in the community a chance to perform hands-on activities in the classroom, using materials they might not have access to through the schools.

The materials and equipment stock room holds supplies ranging from maps and globes to pulleys and levers. Education majors take advantage of the materials on hand, incorporating them into the curriculum plans they create in their classes.

"We encourage people to put an activity together and then take it out and try it," Harrington said.

Gary Schenck ('01), who is finishing his elementary certification, found curriculum books and manipulatives at the LRC to incorporate into a lesson plan. He and his classmates in a math education class winter quarter were preparing a lesson for a student-teaching project at Parkview Elementary School.

Schenck said he likes the LRC because it has more hands-on options, such as the manipulatives, which serve as learning alternatives to using pencil and paper. Schenck and his group were considering using pattern blocks to teach fractions.

The LRC is constantly updating its technology and materials to maintain its cutting-edge status.

For example, it has become a satellite partner center for the University of Washington's StarNet Program, formerly the High School Human Genome Program. The LRC is a regional distribution and teaching center for high schools wanting to do research in DNA sequencing related to drug abuse.

The LRC is currently seeking funding for equipment and technology related to the StarNet project. This technology would then be available to over 180 Western students per quarter who are enrolled in science education courses, keeping them involved with the most advanced practices in the field.

Unde George Nelson, the new director of the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Program, the LRC is pursuing other big grants including one for the replacement of the computers in the center with 22 newer desktop computers and 12 laptops that will complement the Wilson Library wireless networking project. The laptops would enable students and faculty to generate files during fieldwork to be easily shared with peers and in the classroom.

This summer, the LRC will also be used during the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education and for the Science Teacher Apprenticeship/Mentorship Program, which pairs teachers in local school districts with graduating student teachers, giving students insight into the practicing profession.

"The Learning Resource Center is going to become more of a national presence in the next few years," Harrington said. "Dr. Nelson brings a vitality with him. He has a lot of vision and knows how to put it into action."

Above, assistant professor Scott Lynnman asks student Lindsey Hopkins about her lesson plan on the planets. Below, math education lecturer Janet Meck (seated, center) discusses a lesson plan with (left to right) Gary Schenck ('01), Sylvia Chiu ('00) and Marie Cherny ('01).
Astronaut lands in WWU Center, pursues science education reform

Continued from page 1

One of his first tasks is developing a research program that will look at highly effective teachers in the local schools. "There are a lot of things we don't know yet," he said about teaching methods. "You need experimental psychologists and mathematicians, and Western has them," Kleinkecht predicted that such research will bring the national faculty members involved in the SMATE program, so they can emulate the type of instructional methods that good K-12 science teachers need to have.

"There's a tradition and commitment from this institution to support good science, math and technology education. That's pretty unique," Nelson said.

Nelson, who is also a physics faculty member, was involved in the planning for Western's SMATE Center, completed in September 1996.

Nelson takes stock of some of the materials in the Learning Resource Center at Western's Science, Mathematics and Technology Education building.

Now, five years later, Nelson says he wants to update SMATE's technology and tools, and increase the community's accessibility to the Learning Resource Center, which offers hands-on materials for experiments and lessons to students and teachers in the community.

The facility is already heavily used by local school districts for in-service training.

"SMATE is an excellent facility and it's not often that you have a home for science, mathematics and technology education," Nelson said. "But it's not just a building. The center comes connected with knowledgeable faculty committed to consulting not only with students on the latest teaching methods, but with current educators who will serve as mentors for those new teachers."

Jamie Harrington, the facility and operations manager at SMATE, said he was excited about Nelson's plans. "Essentially, everything is wide open. He has a lot of energy," Harrington said. "We will be doing more outreach trying to get more of the community and the local school districts involved in partnership in science, math and technology education."

In the near future, for example, high school chemistry teachers and their students in the local schools will be able to collect soil or water samples with their students and send the samples to Western's node on an integrated lab network in the Learning Resource Center at SMATE for testing. Then the students will be able to view the testing and test results and get the data they need through a video conference via the World Wide Web. "They can then do their own analysis" using data from testing equipment they wouldn't otherwise have access to", Harrington said.

What's the biggest challenge in promoting science, math and technology literacy, Nelson was asked.

Nelson says he expects K-12 teachers need to scale back on the amount of content they teach with current educational methods, but with current educators who will serve as mentors for those new teachers."

Information about the dates and fees and an application are available online at http://www.wwu.edu/adventures/ or by calling (360) 650-6822/6820. Deadlines for registration are May 31 or June 15, depending on the preferred week.

Nelson has two daughters who are WWU alumni: Alnee Nelson (MA '00) and Marti Nelson Frazier ('98).
Cheryl Dickerson to head Alumni Association during next two years of anticipated change

By Brittany Sadler
PUBLIC INFORMATION

Cheryl Dickerson ('80) begins her two-year term as president of the Alumni Association with a promise of change.

Dickerson graduated from the College of Business and Economics with a degree in accounting, and has served on the association's Board of Directors since 1998.

She has taught financial accounting at Western part-time since 1982 and is a co-owner of the partnership, Dallyrple and Dickerson, CPAs.

She is also an active promoter of a Western education.

"One of the greatest things about Western," Dickerson said, "is that the faculty really care about students. Everyone really wants to see their students succeed."

The leadership change from Larry Taylor ('72) to Dickerson comes at a time when change is a predominant theme with the association.

Dickerson said she and other members are feeling slightly overwhelmed as the search for a new executive director for the association continues.

"A change in executive directors will have a big impact on the Alumni Association," Dickerson said.

"Chris Goldsmith has been the director for 16 years, and we have a relatively new board with new members right now. It's scary, but a little exciting at the same time."

Dickerson said one of the things she will work on is trying to convince more alumni of the benefit of becoming dues-paying members of the Alumni Association.

"For being a large university with a lot of graduates, we really don't have a very large membership base," she said.

Dickerson hopes to keep up the momentum sparked by Taylor.

"Larry has been an incredible president and a great representative for Western," Dickerson said. "I would love to inherit even one-tenth of his enthusiasm. He has lit a fire under the board and invigorated us. He will be a tough act to follow."

Taylor said he has enjoyed his term as president and all the accomplishments the association has achieved over the last two years.

"We've been more active on the university campus and have had success with our license plate campaign," Taylor said. "I'm excited about our accomplishments, but I'm even more excited about the accomplishments to take place under Cheryl's leadership. She's a dynamic individual who's dedicated and really loves the university."

Although Taylor will serve as the immediate past president for a year to guide Dickerson should she need any help, he doesn't think she will need much advice.

"She doesn't need any words of wisdom from me," Taylor said. "She has enough wisdom of her own. The only thing I can suggest is to be sure to tap into the knowledge, expertise and devotion of past board members."

Dickerson has two daughters Tara, 22, and Shelby, 14.

June 21-23: 50th reunion

The Alumni Association has planned a full weekend of fun activities, reminiscing with classmates and reconnecting with your alma mater for the classes of 1951-53.

Invitations for all the events have been mailed, so if you did not receive one, please call Alumni House. Anyone who feels an affinity to these classes and would like to attend the weekend events can request an invitation.

The reunion committee includes alumni from each class year: Kathleen "Kappy" Britain ('52), Harry and Carol Pagels ('51), Duane Anderson ('51), Bob Baker ('52), Louella "Lollie" Lapsley ('52), Britt Marie Lee ('53), Ruby Smith ('51), Joan Clyde ('52) and Mark Hardie ('53).

See page 5 for information on the hiring of a new director.

Alumni create "Tree Project" at museum

Artists and furniture makers Wesley A. Smith ('95) and Andrew Vallee ('96) have transformed a single, sustainably harvested tree into a collection of 30 pieces of fine furniture on display at the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham. The "Tree Project", on display through Oct. 20, documents the entire process — careful selection, harvesting and milling — of a 118-year-old big leaf maple. Vallee and Smith undertook the three-year project to explore the value of raw wood and the full circle of processing a living organism in a forest into finished projects that we live with every day.

(Take the fun on the road

The Alumni Association announces the return of the Travel Program. Join alumni and friends on trips sponsored by the Alumni Association.

Already this year, alumni have conquered a great ski weekend at Sun Peaks in British Columbia, an overnight trip to Portland visiting the museum and Classical Chinese Garden and a Puget Sound mini-cruise.

Future trips will include a day with the Mariners plus a day of golf in Arizona, foreign travel and more cruises.

If you are interested in receiving updated information about future events, please contact Kristie Lundstrom in the Alumni House or Kristie.Lundstrom@wwu.edu.
Craig Cole
WWU’s Distinguished Alumnus 2002

by Kathy Sheehan
PUBLIC INFORMATION

Craig W. Cole, a 1977 Fairhaven graduate and president of Brown & Cole Stores, is Western’s 2002 Distinguished Alumnus.

Cole, who served on Western’s Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1995 and was involved in numerous Associated Students committees in the 1970s, was chosen for his service to Western and to the Whatcom County community.

Cole, 52, is a former Whatcom County Council member and chairman. He serves on the board of directors of the Washington Roundtable, an organization of 40 CEOs of the state’s top companies, as well as on the boards at Puget Energy, Associated Grocers of Seattle, the national Food Marketing Institute and the Washington Food Industry.

Brown & Cole has 35 grocery stores and 2,200 employees in Washington, Oregon and Montana. Founded in 1909, it is the oldest grocery chain in the region.

Cole said he was honored to receive the award from an institution that has shaped, broadened and enriched his life.

Enrolling at Western in 1969, at the height of the Vietnam War, he became active in student committees focusing on affirmative action, long-range planning, housing, Western’s state budget, employment issues and civil rights concerns. “There was so much going on. We were going to change the world,” he said.

Cole said he had a full-time assistant and a staff of 20 students when he was in student government. “It almost prevented me from becoming an alumnus,” he said with a laugh.

His involvement in social issues led him to full-time employment as an investigator and assistant to the director at the state Human Rights Commission from 1973 to 1978. He finished his degree in urban studies at the Center for Urban Studies in Seattle, then a Fairhaven College program.

“I wanted to graduate from Western,” Cole said. “My activities at Western, both in and out of the classroom, were very broadening experiences that really shaped me in a very positive way.”

Cole was a member of the WWU Board of Trustees in November 1987 when WWU President G. Robert Ross and vice presidents Don Cole (no relation) and Jeanene DeLille were killed in a plane crash.

During the transition period, “Craig Cole gracefully led the board and the university through an extremely difficult tragedy, memorial service and transfer of authority,” said Larry Taylor (‘72), the outgoing president of the WWU Alumni Association who was also a trustee at the time.

Cole has also served on the Fairhaven College Advisory Board and the Western Washington University Foundation board.

Taylor also praised Cole’s leadership in saving Edens Hall from the wrecking ball. It was renovated instead.

Cole and his wife, Susan, who met at Western, have three daughters.

Cole noted that several other family members “have benefited from Western’s wonderful programs.” His father, Jack B., and brother Richard D. attended Western. His brothers, Jack T., and Ron P. received their bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Western, and sister-in-law Martha L. has a master’s in education from WWU.

Craig Cole continued his service to Western, which began when he was a student, with energy and dedication. He made important contributions as a member of the Board of Trustees during his entire period of service. His knowledge and attention to detail were especially valuable in providing direction to ensure high standards and quality. We also are pleased to honor his outstanding service to the community, the region and to his professional organization nationally.”

Karen W. Morse
WWU President

Alumni Golf Classic set for Aug. 2 at Shuksan

The annual Alumni Association golf classic will be held at Shuksan Golf Club in Bellingham this year.

The Eighth Annual Bill Wright Tournament will be held Friday Aug. 2 at the beautiful course at 1500 E. Axton Road. Shuksan Golf Club has spectacular views from many of its 18 holes. The terrain ranges from steep ridges to gentle meadows in a rural setting split by the meandering Ten Mile Creek.

The popular tournament was named in 1998 to honor Bill Wright, ‘60, who brought the first NAIA national championship to Western and was the first African-American to win a USGA title, the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in 1959.

Proceeds from the entry fees benefit Alumni Association Scholarships and the Athletic Success Fund.

Life members of the Alumni Club pay $100; Alumni Club members pay $110; and non-members pay $125.

The entry fee includes greens fees, cart, sleeve of balls, commemorative souvenir, beverage coupons and celebration dinner.

Golfers typically compete in a four-person scramble format. Sign-up this year will be at 11 a.m. Workshop with Bill Wright at 11:30 a.m. Putting contest at noon; shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Early registration is recommended. This should be a sell-out event; it is limited to the first 144 golfers. Registrations are due in July.

Contact Alumni House at (800) 676-6885 or (360) 650-3353 or at http://www.wwu.edu/~alumni for entry form and more information.

WWU President Karen W. Morse
Bill Wright and Ceta Wright
Chemistry department to host major conference; 1,500 educators will explore teaching innovations

Western's chemistry department will host some 1,500 chemistry educators from the United States and Canada at the 17th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education this summer.

High school, community college, college and university educators will participate in a host of symposia, workshops and seminars July 28-Aug. 1.

The Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society has sponsored the conference since 1972 to facilitate the exchange of ideas and to provide access to the latest in teaching innovations and curricula.

The conferences have played an important role in groundbreaking advances in chemical education such as computer-based molecular modeling and microscale laboratory practice.

Some of the symposia planned for this summer's sessions include the role of biotechnology in chemical education; how to bring science to under-represented societies; and strengthening the connection between industry and higher education in the sciences.

More than 700 speakers will lead the sessions.

Western's own science faculty will provide a demonstration of the Integrated Lab Network, an online resource soon to be available in the Science, Math and Technology Education (SMATE) building, which has Internet "nodes" connecting high schools with universities such as WWU. In the Integrated Lab Network, a high school chemistry class can watch through a video connection as sophisticated instrumentation at node universities like WWU analyze their chemical data.

Many of the conference sessions will be held in the Learning Resource Center, inside the SMATE building.

Carver Gym will be the setting for an exhibition hall where textbook publishers, instrument manufacturers, chemical suppliers and others will set up booths.

Sponsors include Varian, Inc.; Hayden-McNeil Publishing; American Chemical Society, Puget Sound section; Battelle Northwest/Pacific Northwest Research Laboratory; Phillips Petroleum Co.; ChemGlass Inc.; the Chemical Heritage Foundation; Washington College Chemistry Teachers Association; Huxley College of the Environment; and the office of WWU President Karen W. Morse.

Bank of America joins WWU in teaching financial "fitness"

Western's Center for Economic Education, through a $40,000 Bank of America gift, is administering a statewide program to train K-12 teachers in an innovative personal finance curriculum, Financial Fitness for Life.

Bank of America and the National Council of Economic Education (NCEE), of which Western's center is a part, spent two years and $3.2 million developing the curriculum aimed at teaching K-12 students, and their parents, to become skilled consumers, savers and investors.

The program was launched nationwide Feb. 26 after field tests in 18 schools in three states.

The $40,000 from the Bank of America Foundation will subsidize teacher training within Washington. Financial Fitness materials include workbooks with age-appropriate activities for teachers and students (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12) as well as two parent guides (grades K-5 and 6-12).

WWU economics chair David Nelson, who founded the Economic Education Center in 1978, and Pam Whalley of the economics faculty are conducting the teacher workshops in Washington, which are expected to reach 27,000 students this year alone.

"Some K-12 students have been taught sound money management principles at home," Nelson says.

But they are islands of light in a sea of darkness where financial knowledge is concerned. This new and unique personal finance curriculum fills an educational void.

"When implemented nationwide, Financial Fitness will make a significant difference in many lives," Nelson adds. "In a decade or two, its legacy will be more knowledgeable consumers, more prudent savers and investors, and more informed voters."

Huxley and Holland experts to look at sustainable growth in Skagit Valley this summer

Researchers, educators, planners, designers and policy makers from around the world will use the Skagit Valley as a living laboratory when they meet to discuss sustainable development at Western June 20-22.

Huxley College of the Environment will co-host the fourth International Workshop on Sustainable Land Use Planning with Wageningen University in the Netherlands where the workshop was founded in 1974.

Experts will emphasize collaboration to achieve a balance among multiple competing interests, such as agriculture, tourism, I-5 transportation and residential development, in the region between Vancouver, B.C., and Seattle.

Huxley students will participate as technical support staff to the international experts whose recommendations will be sent to policy makers and planners throughout the region.

"The area between these two major metropolitan areas can be a model for sustainable development that serves a wide variety of interests," says Huxley dean Brad Smith. "The alternative is the worst sort of random growth that serves no one."

Two Wageningen professors echoed Smith's concern in a report on their visit to the region last summer: "Face to face with the drastic effects of 'spontaneous' development, we cannot help but feel the urge to raise a finger in warning," they wrote.

"The impulse to start preaching the gospel of environmental planning foists itself on us."

For more information about the foundation:

phone: (360) 650-3027
e-mail: foundation@cc.wwu.edu
web: www.foundation.wwu.edu
Boeing donates laptops to two student programs

By Jackie Martin
PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Boeing Company equipped WWU students with high-tech mobility by donating 40 laptop computers to Fairhaven College's Law and Diversity Program and to the Woodring College of Education in February.

Each program received 20 Dell Latitude laptop computers, equipped with Pentium II processors, allowing students to conduct online research and fulfill academic requirements while balancing family, work and school.

Twenty of the computers from Boeing will be available for yearly checkout to students of the Law and Diversity Program. The LDP was developed by Fairhaven College in 1991 to be ethnically, socially and economically under-represented students gain access to law school.

"Our students are single parents, commuting students and students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds," said Julie Helling, LDP director. "Having laptops gives them mobility to balance academic work and other responsibilities. For parents, having a laptop means the freedom to study at home with their kids."

For LDP student Billy Munoz, 28, having a laptop also means he'll be able to make the most of his time away from class. In addition to managing a full credit load, Munoz helps care for his 5-year-old daughter and works part-time at a local beauty salon.

"The first thing I'm going to do with my laptop is work on the bus and work during my slow time at the salon," Munoz said.

Legal research is increasingly being done online and many law schools now require first-year students to have a laptop, Helling reported. The laptops will prepare students to continue their legal education after graduating from Fairhaven.

"These computers are such a valuable gift because they will allow students to develop online research skills and the computer savvy necessary for today's legal environment," Helling said. "Most of the students in the program simply don't have the money to buy a computer."

The other 20 laptop computers will help Migrant Head Start child care providers prepare for the National Child Development Associate (CDA) Accreditation Exam, the first of its kind in the nation.

"These computers are such a big dent in Western's technology needs. I can't help but feel good about being able to do that," said Larry Gilbert, director of Academic Technology Services.

"Most of the students in the program simply don't have the money to buy a computer," Helling said. "Most of the students in the program simply don't have the money to buy a computer."

For LDP student Billy Munoz, 28, having a laptop also means he'll be able to make the most of his time away from class. In addition to managing a full credit load, Munoz helps care for his 5-year-old daughter and works part-time at a local beauty salon.

"The first thing I'm going to do with my laptop is work on the bus and work during my slow time at the salon," Munoz said.

Legal research is increasingly being done online and many law schools now require first-year students to have a laptop, Helling reported. The laptops will prepare students to continue their legal education after graduating from Fairhaven.

"These computers are such a valuable gift because they will allow students to develop online research skills and the computer savvy necessary for today's legal environment," Helling said. "Most of the students in the program simply don't have the money to buy a computer."

The other 20 laptop computers will help Migrant Head Start child care providers prepare for the National Child Development Associate (CDA) Accreditation Exam, the first of its kind in the nation.
May

10-12 Western Showtime Family Weekend
11 Alumni Chapter: Seattle hosts reception and Seattle Symphony Concert, Renesanya Hall
11 PAC Series: Oliver Mtukudzi & The Black Spirits, 7:30 p.m., PAC Concert Hall, $15-$22
17 Alumni Chapter: New England hosts Mariners vs. Red Sox
17 Sleeping Over with Science: Hands-on activities and a science show in the Science Learning Resource Center for grades 3-8, $45
18 Alumni Chapter: Oregon/Southern Washington hosts tour to Oregon Garden, Frank Lloyd Wright House, picnic lunch
25-26 Alumni Chapter: Whatcom County's Ski-to-Sea race teams
30 Alumni Reunion: Chemistry Department reception at Columbia Winery. Woodinville

Bellingham beckons in July and August

Summer Session, June 25-Aug. 23 Many courses open to current students, alumni and community members. For more information, call (360) 650-2841 or send e-mail summer/session@wwu.edu.

Summer Stock, July 12-Aug. 24 This year's Summer Stock Repertory Theatre features musicals, drama and literary theater: Barnfo ot in the Park; Grease; Much Ado About Nothing; The Diary of Anne Frank; Taffetas. (360) 650-3876.

Ralph Munro Seminar for Teachers, July 7-12 The intensive civic education seminar features political insiders who describe their experience in politics and how policies that shape our democracy are made. Aimed at K-12 teachers; two graduate credits. (360) 650-3469.

Marrowstone Music Festival, July 28-Aug. 18 Produced by the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestras, the festival brings 200 students and three dozen exceptional faculty to participate in intense musical study on campus. A concert series will delight you. (206) 362-2300.

Alumni Chapter: Northern California hosts Chinese dinner in Point Richmond
3-6 Alumni: Three-night mini-cruise in Puget Sound
8 Alumni Chapter: Skagit Valley hosts Puget Sound Day cruise
14 Alumni Association hosts outstanding graduating senior reception, on campus
15 Alumni Chapter: San Diego hosts "tailgate" party, Mariners vs. Padres game
22 Alumni Chapter: Colorado hosts family picnic at Chautauqua Park in Boulder, Reunion for classes of 1951, '52, '53.
23-28 STUDY CANADA Summer Institute for teachers and librarians/media specialists and Atelier de Francais for high school and community college teachers of French, (360) 650-3728
Summer Session begins

June

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Fall Events

Sept. 7 Alumni Chapter: South Puget Sound hosts family salmon barbecue in Burfoot Park in Olympia
Sept. 12 Key Bank Viking Night: Dinner and sports auction, 5-9 p.m., Carver Gym, $75 per person or $600 for table
Sept. 14 Alumni Chapter: San Diego hosts luncheon and scholarship celebration, Norway House, Balboa Park
Sept. 20 Alumni Club Member Event: Mariners Game
Sept. 24 Convocation
Sept. 28 Alumni Chapter: Northern California hosts WWU at St. Mary's football game and "tailgate" dinner in Monta Homecoming, sponsored by Alumni Association
Oct. 4-6 Alumni Chapter: Northern California hosts WWU at St. Mary's football game and "tailgate" dinner in Monta Homecoming, sponsored by Alumni Association

Tickets & Information

Adventures in Science and Art Camps (360) 650-6822
Alumni events (800) 676-6885
Athletics (360) 650-3109
Box Office for PAC/ Theatre Arts/Summer Stock (360) 650-6146
Distinguished Lecture Series/ Turning Points (360) 650-7543

Marrowstone Festival (206) 362-2300
Summer Stock (360) 650-8876
Summer Session (360) 650-2841
Special Events (360) 650-6825
Theatre Arts (360) 650-3879
Western Gallery Info Line (360) 650-3900

Wilson Library Hours (recorded) (360) 650-3049