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Faculty, staff and alumni publish creative and intellectual works

Diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a form of autism, Prince-Hughes says she believes people with autism spectrum disorders have a predisposition to excel in academia, despite the numerous obstacles they may endure.

Taking a different approach to communicating with students, Huxley College of the Environment Dean Bradley Smith's world-renowned textbooks "Environmental Science: A Study of Interrelationships" and "Environmental Science Field Guide and Laboratory Manual" (McGraw-Hill, $79.19 and $39.06) were both released in their ninth editions in March.

Used in more than 500 colleges around the globe and translated into Chinese and Korean, Smith's text discusses major environmental issues, including nuclear energy and the study of ecosystems.

Also from Huxley, environmental science chair John "Jack" Hardy's text "Global Climate Change: Causes, Effects and Solutions" (John Wiley & Sons, $120) was printed in April.

Hardy addresses the climate change challenge the world faces today. Focusing on fossil fuels and the emission of greenhouse gases, Hardy discusses how these issues have altered the chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere.

Nationally recognized for his expertise on the electoral process, political science professor Todd Donovan explores the idea of cumulative voting in his new book "Electoral Reform and Minority Representation" (Ohio State University Press, $47.95).

Released in March, Donovan's book examines a system in which a voter may pool votes for a single candidate rather than casting one vote for each position. For example, instead of voting for each position on a ballot, a voter may use all votes toward one single position.

Also published by Ohio State University Press, "Sexual Borderlands" ($29.95) continues on page 6.

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Shannon Point garners presidential honors, grant for marine science program and diversity

Under the wing of the Shannon Point Marine Center in Anacortes, the Minorities in Marine Science Undergraduate Program has earned two coveted national awards. In March 18 White House ceremony, Shannon Point director Stephen Sulkin accepted the 2002 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. The National Science Foundation administers the award, which carries a $10,000 grant. A day later, MBMSU's founding director Brian Bingham, associate professor of environmental sciences, received a Coastal and Ocean Resource Management Excellence Award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. One of six people in the nation NOAA honored for research and community endeavors related to oceans and coastal regions, Bingham was specifically cited for "promoting diversity." Shannon Point also received an $86,000 National Science Foundation grant to extend its unique, nationally recognized minority education program through 2008.

Woodding partners with "best" teachers

A new partnership between Woodding College of Education and teachers who have achieved recognition of national calibre is off to a strong start in the region to apply for and successfully complete a rigorous one-year national certification process. Woodding and teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards will help applicants from north Snohomish County and beyond demonstrate that they are among America's most effective teachers.

Western alumni who are among the state's 215 nationally certified teachers are Joan Beardsley ('86), Beth Anne Crissy ('99), John E. Freidl ('84), Lisa Baretta ('92), Rachel Sadri ('95), Valerie Strong ('82) and Debra Rose Howell ('74).

Nancy J. Johnson wins Arbuthnot Award

Nancy J. Johnson, professor of children's literature, received this year's Arbuthnot Award, an honor given by the International Reading Association. Johnson was one of 15 children's literature receivers interviewed, conducted and narrated by Western, which carries a $10,000 grant.

Winning the 2003 football season will be a tough one

Four games against NCAA Division II playoff teams highlight the tough schedule the Vikings football team faces in the fall. Western, which was 6-4 last year, will play six of its 10 games on the road and has just one game against a team that had a losing record in 2002. The Vikings open the season by hosting St. Cloud State on Sept. 4 and will host Central Washington University for the Homecoming game, Oct. 25.
WWU will have two new colleges in September

Western will have two new colleges in the fall: the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the College of Science and Technology.

Acting on the recommendation of President Karen W. Morse, the Board of Trustees in December unanimously approved the creation of two colleges from departments currently in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"The formation of the two colleges is an important opportunity that will strengthen the university and its central mission of teaching and scholarship," Morse said. "The result should be a better student learning environment at a time when we face a more complex, rapidly changing environment in higher education."

Board chair Betty Woods said dividing the College of Arts and Sciences, which contains 57 percent of Western's faculty, "places Western in a stronger position to serve some of the finest students in our state and to attract resources that will enhance an already excellent academic reputation."

The board authorized searches for deans of both colleges and supported development of administrative plans, in collaboration with the faculty, to set up "strong and viable colleges."

Board members noted that creation of the two colleges will enable the university to better respond to a changing academic and economic environment and to meet future educational demands.

They also determined that the ability of the two smaller colleges to focus more closely on educational, programmatic and fund-raising opportunities will benefit students and faculty.

Morse noted that changes in administrative structure have taken place throughout the life of Western.

In June 1975, then-President Jerry Flora proposed three new colleges: the College of Business and Economics, the College of Education and the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

The complete text of President Morse's recommendation, which includes addressing concerns by faculty, is available at http://www.wwu.edu/depts/president/Announcements2002.shtml

With spring, hope and creativity bloom

by Karen W. Morse
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

After the darkness of winter, especially a winter fraught with national anxiety, spring symbolizes hope and a surge of creativity. Nowhere is this more evident than on Western's campus.

May 12-16, we celebrate Scholars' Week, when we share the fruits of student research and creativity achieved in collaboration with talented faculty mentors. Immediately following is Showtime Family Weekend, May 16-18, featuring outstanding performances, outdoor activities and student events.

Creativity is the topic of this issue's cover story on faculty, alumni and staff authors. One of those authors is Outdoor Sculpture Collection curator Sarah Clark-Langham. Her "Sculpture in Place - a Campus as Site" is a lavish tribute to Western's acclaimed collection, with color photos and statements from all the artists whose works adorn the campus.

Speaking of books, English professor Nancy Johnson received this year's Arbuthtoot Award from the International Reading Association, honoring her as a world leader in children's literature.

One of our many creative alumni returned in March to perform with the Montreal Danse Troupe during the American College Dance Festival, hosted at Western for the first time by dance professor directer Nolan Dement and his faculty. Abbie Anderson joined the company after her 2002 graduation. Her short-range plans include working with children, first in Seattle, then in an orphanage in Ghana, before further pursuing her own dance career.

Innovation thrives across the spectrum of disciplines. Under the guidance of industrial design associate professor Arunas Odapas, for example, two students won first place awards at the sixth annual Industrial Design Resource Awards contest in Kanazawa, Japan, topping 200 entries from schools in 23 nations. Three others earned honorable mention or recognition, giving Western five distinguished winners, more than any other competing school.

National recognition has recently come to history professor Alan Gallay whose latest book, "The Indian Slave Trade: the Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717," won this year's Bancroft Prize. It was also a Choice magazine selection as an Outstanding Academic Title for 2002. Associate chemistry professor James Vuuyan, was honored by the National Science Foundation with a Faculty Early Career Development award.

This is just a glimpse of the breadth of creativity our faculty, alumni, staff and students exhibit throughout the year. You can read more about their accomplishments in this, and every, issue of Window on Western. But, please, come back and see for yourself, in spring when the campus is in full bloom - or in any season.
1922 — Pearl Mead celebrated her 100th birthday on Nov. 8 at Colonial Vista in Wenatchee.

1955 — Mary Hash is constantly on the go since retiring from the Enumclaw School District as a teacher. Hash volunteers with the juvenile court system, Enumclaw Community Hospital Foundation, Relay for Life, Cups for Kids and other cancer walks. Hash is undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

1989 — Gary Radliff was inducted into the Washington State High School Coaches' Hall of Fame. Radliff coached the varsity basketball team at Enumclaw High School for 25 years.

1990 — Gary Tolleson was named president of Skagit Valley College by the board of trustees.

1998 — Paul Herbold is the senior management corporate safety director for Diamond B. Constructors in Bellingham. Dean Sandell retired from the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department after 34 years of service. Jerry Winter, owner of San Juan Electronics in Bellingham, was selected by the National Minority Electronic Association as technician of the year. Winter has been in business in Whatcom County for more than 30 years.

1999 — Timothy Ely has published three books and is currently writing nine different books in his studio/home in Colfax. Ely is also an artist and some of his works can be viewed at the Museum of Modern Art, the Library of Congress; the National Gallery of Art; Victoria & Albert Museum in London and many other public museums throughout the world.

1999 — Krista Alciati and Brian Frederickson, July 21. ... Amanda Ayers and Warren Wright, Sept. 21. ... Cathlynn Johnson and Michael Evans, Dec. 27. ... Alden Linn and Tisha Edelman, Sept. 7. ... John Koons and Lonnie Koons, Sept. 10. ... Freda Linn and Thomas Linn, Oct. 15.

2000 — Sarah Bakke and Nils Knudsen, Oct. 5. ... Jaynie Johnson and Kevin Liu, Nov. 16. ... Renee Marr and James Quick, Oct. 5.

2001 — Erica Kleinknecht and William O'Shea, Jan. 25. ... Jody Kline and Alan Kline, Aug. 22. ... Antonio Cervantes and Chrissy Vath, Sept. 7. ... Julie Skilling and Jason Robertson, June 22.

2002 — Courtney Bertsch and Steve Martin, Aug. 17. ... Jaclyn Mccarthey and Billie Jo Fulton, Aug. 17.

2003 — Valerie Payne and Mark Custodio, Aug. 3. ... Elizabeth Smith and Curtis Cramapelger, July 27.


WEDDINGS

1969 — Brett Lange and Tamara Bailey, Oct. 5.

1970 — Stacy Baker and Eric Hill, July 27. ... Jean Elmenhurst and Brian Howton, Nov. 23.

1972 — Scott Cechler and Heather Ferris, Sept. 28. ... Raymione Johnson and Kevin Lin, Nov. 16. ... Renee Marr and James Quick, Oct. 5.

1975 — Erik Kleinheinrich and William O'Shea, Jan. 25. ... Aaron Maddrey and Christy Vath, Sept. 7. ... Julie Skilling and Jason Robertson, June 22.


1981 — Kristin Hendrickson and Nathan Lundyville, Aug. 24. ... Jamee Jordan and Nicholas Rubert, Aug. 24. ... Meghan Luke and Aaron Toso, Aug. 10. ... Janna Martin and Dillon Forino (92), Aug. 2. ... Renee Miller and Joshua Arny ('01), July 19. ... Christine Kessinger and Scott Durbye ('91), July 27. ... Rachel Price and Jon Strachan, Sept. 21. ... Shannon Ross and Jae McMaster, June 15. ... Beth Wartner and sonoch Itoh ('92), Aug. 4. ... Joseph Wiederhold and Kristina Norton, Aug. 3. ... Julie Wilson and Richard Kante, Nov. 2.


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Alumni score high in CPA exam

Three Western accounting alumni earned top scores in Washington state's 2002 Certified Public Accountant exam. The exam is national but given at the state level. It is required for those who wish to become auditors.

The following Western alumni were top scorers:

- Monica Beth Miller ('02), who works for KPMG in Seattle, was No. 1 in the state.
- Rachel Price ('01) earned fourth place in Washington. She lives in Everson and is an assistant state auditor.
- Cambrin Gorton ('01) was No. 9 in Washington. She works for Dawson and Gerbic in Seattle.

Andersen returns to WWU stage

Abbide Andersen ('02) rejoined Montecito Dance and led and taught a familiar floorboard in March for a performance as part of the annual American College Dance Festival, hosted this year in Stratton. Western is working on joining a step further. Andersen led the Canadian dance group after her graduation in August 2002. She was with the group from mid-September to the end of October 2002. She was given the rare opportunity to lead the group after the acclaimed group when a dancer was injured on the eve of a three-week tour. "Working with Montecito Dance helped me realize a dream," she said. "In performing, I feel like I realized new potential in myself."
IN MEMORIAM

1952 — Gene Nye, 73, a retired state employee, in Olympia, Nov. 5. ... William Van Brocklin, 72, a retired teacher and principal, in Stanwood Dec. 24.
1954 — Helen McCoy, 103, a retired social worker, in Bellingham, Nov. 29.
1957 — Robert Duval, 72, a retired teacher, in Olympia Nov. 25. ... Robert Everett, 69, a retired teacher, in Shelton Jan. 21.
1959 — Greta Bayes, 90, a retired teacher, in Lynden Feb. 10.
1967 — Carol Ann Blum Anderson, 73, in Port Coquitlam, B.C. Nov. 24.
1972 — Vincent Martin, 78, a retired millwright, in Spokane Nov. 2.
1984 — Linda Gojeno, 60, a teacher at Everett Community College and WWU, in Everett Feb. 12.

FACULTY, STAFF & FRIENDS

Jerome Glass, a music professor and conductor at Western for 28 years, Feb. 20. Recently inducted into the Washington Music Educators Hall of Fame, Glass also conducted the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra for 11 years and the Jewish Community Center Chamber Orchestra in Vancouver, B.C.

Beverly Hanna, 79, an administrative secretary in the speech pathology department from 1968 to 1983, Jan. 5.

Retired Western librarian Miriam Snow Mathes

Lorraine Mathies, 83, longtime leader of the American Association of University Women, Jan. 2.
John Miller, 86, a retired Realtor and a Western benefactor, March 18.
George S. Roberts, 86, retired WWU security guard, Jan. 15.
Dick VanDemark, a maintenance mechanic in the WWU physical plant from 1970 to 1993, Feb. 24.

Carl Simpson

Carl Simpson, 58, sociology professor, head of Western's Office of Survey Research, and director of Institutional Planning and Research, died Jan. 28. He joined the faculty in 1978 and chaired the sociology department from 1990 to 1994. He was a consultant to the U.S. Department of Labor and the state Employment Security Department, and in 1999 he founded Applied Research Northwest, a survey research business.

Michael K. Mishaikow

Michael K. Mishaikow, 85, professor emeritus of economics who taught in the College of Business and Economics for 24 years, died April 13, in Bellingham. Mishaikow helped establish Husky College and served as interim dean during 1977-78.

In 1984, he received the Outstanding Teacher Award, Western's highest recognition of teaching performance. He was a founder of the Annals of Regional Science, a journal on urban, regional and environmental research and policy. He was instrumental in creating the Pacific Regional Science Conference and was voted "Honorary President for Life."

Survivors include his wife, Janet; a daughter, Jessica; a son Matthew; his mother, Lucille; and brothers Don and Steve.

Memorials may be made to the Carl Simpson Fund through the Western Washington University Foundation, MS-9034, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9034.

Active in the community, Mishaikow served on the Board of Freeholders who wrote Bellingham's city charter in 1972, and he won the 1974 Chamber of Commerce award for outstanding community service.

Survivors include his wife, Eleanor; sons Kostantini, a mathematics professor at Georgia Institute of Technology, and Ted, president of Thrillum Corp. and a board and executive board member of the WWU Foundation and WWU Alumni Association; a daughter, Monica Ramsey of Seattle; and six grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Michael K. Mishaikow Essay Fund, WWU Foundation, MS-9034, 516 High St., Bellingham, WA 98225-9034.
Faculty, staff are prolific at authoring

Continued from page 1

by history professor Kathleen Kennedy was released in January. An anthology of essays on the history of sexuality, Kennedy's book explores topics such as how immigration laws have shaped the formation of family in both China and the United States, and how the changes in sexual values influenced a presidential race in the 1800s. Suzanne Paola and Brenda Miller, associate and assistant professors of English, have put together a new text titled "Tell It Slant: Writing and Shaping Creative Nonfiction" (McGraw-Hill, June 2003). The book is the first comprehensive text covering all aspects of nonfiction writing and features an anthology of collected readings. Paola also had a collection of poems published in November titled "Lives of the Saints" (University of Washington Press, $13.95). Paola, recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship for 2002-2003, explores the intersections between spirituality, sexuality and other topics including nuclear power and war. She is the author of three award-winning poetry books, and her prose memoir "Body Toxic" was a New York Times Notable Book of the Year for 2001. Also produced by an English department faculty member is "Pocket Animals" (Egress Studio Press, $12.95, Jan. 2003), a collection of poetry by lecturer James Bertolino. Bertolino says he uses unusual imagery and surprising twists of language to create moments of openness for readers. Bertolino also has a long list of prose publications, but he says "poetry is my primary involvement, my art." Physical education, health and recreation faculty have also recently released texts.

WWU's Alan Gallay wins Bancroft Award

History professor Alan Gallay has won Columbia University's prestigious Bancroft Prize for his latest book on Native American studies, "The Indian Slave Trade: The Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717." (Yale University Press). Gallay's book is the first ever to focus on the traffic of Indian slaves during the early years of the American South. Twelve years in the making, it documents how the trade operated, the processes by which Europeans and Native Americans became participants, and the intense consequences for the South and its residents.

His other books include "The Formation of a Planter Elite: Jonathan Bryan and the Southern Colonial Frontier," "Voices of the Old South: Freedmen's Accounts, 1852-1861" and "The Colonial Wars of Northwest America, 1512-1763." Gallay has been at Western since 1998.

Professor Roy Clumpner's book "Sport Progressions" (Human Kinetics Press, $19, January 2003) presents teaching skills for coaches of eight different sports, including football and volleyball.

Professor Ralph Vernacchia has written "Inner Strength: The Mental Dynamics of Athletic Performance" (Wadie Publishing, spring 2003), a book outlining his approach to enhancing mental and improving personal performance. His model focuses on what he calls the "Four Cs:" concentration, confidence, composure and commitment.

For the past three years, Vernacchia has taught a Peak Performance class, open to the public, which has helped both competitive athletes and ordinary people improve performance. Vernacchia has given presentations to several community groups and has worked as a sports psychologist for the U.S. Olympic track and field team.

Associate professor Dennis Caine had his book "Scientific Aspects of Women's Gymnastics" (Karger Publishers, $147) published in October. He explores how to bridge the gap between both the science and the culture of the sport.

The book incorporates numerous elements of women's gymnastics, and its residents.

Physical education, health and recreation faculty have also recently released texts.

Experience, travel inspire book

With topics ranging from Antarctic murders to biographies of dead Americans, WWU alumni authors pull from personal experience to give life to their work.

Award-winning journalist William Dietrich ('73), named a WWU alumnus of the Century, has just published his fifth book, "Natural Grace." In this book, Dietrich takes his readers on a tour of the Pacific Northwest, promoting overlooked elements of nature.

In addition to "Natural Grace," Dietrich has published four other books and is working on his sixth.

"Dark Winter," released last December, tells the story of a group of scientists stranded at a research base in Antarctica with an unknown killer. His first novel, "Ice Reich," was also inspired by a trip to Antarctica.

His second novel, "Getting Back," is a tale of survival and romance in the Australian Outback of the future.

As a journalist, Dietrich's journeys have taken him from the South Pole and the inside of an igloo to aircraft carriers and a Trident submarine. He has received many journalism awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for his Seattle Times coverage of the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

His next thriller will explore the conflict between wilderness and civilization. Dietrich's earlier non-fiction books on environmental issues are "The Final Forest" and "Northwest Passage.

Sara Stamey's journey to the Caribbean islands makes her recent novel, "Islands," a story about bloodthirsty cutts and sunken treasures set in the Caribbean, come alive.

Stamey ('81), a creative-writing instructor at Western and a freelance editor, has traveled across the world. She has taught scuba diving in the Caribbean and Honduran Islands, journeyed across Greece and South America, owned a farm in Chile and operated a nuclear reactor at Hanford. Her journeys, like Dietrich, have influenced her writing. Mike Hawley ('74), a creative-writing instructor at Western and a freelance editor, has traveled across the world. She has taught scuba diving in the Caribbean and Honduran Islands, journeyed across Greece and South America, owned a farm in Chile and operated a nuclear reactor at Hanford. Her journeys, like Dietrich, have influenced her writing.

He has also written "Silent Proof," slated to be released this year. Another novel entitled "Verbal Warning" is in the making and due to be released in 2004.

Ron Podmore ('91), who is deaf, and Carol Deach ('79), who has bipolar disease, were prompted to create literature because of their disabilities.
A native of Guemes Island, Deach now lives on Camano Island.

Georgie Bright Kunkel's 82 years and the ailments that have come with them inspired her to write a memoir of her early life, "You're Damn Right I Wear Purple: Color Me Feminist." Kunkel ('44) included two humorous essays about aging.

Kunkel has been involved in a video premier "Hemage on the Hill" in which she and several other elderly women were interviewed and honored. She has also completed a manuscript of her husband's memoirs from World War II, which is now ready for final editing and publishing.

The Resurrectionists

Michael Collins of the English department had his novel "The Resurrectionists" (Scirius, November, $24), chosen as "Novel of the Year" by the Pacific Northwest Bookseller's Association.

A story of survival and redemption in blue-collar America during the late 1970s, Collins' novel, published in 20 languages, won an award for the best novel published in France in 2002. It is being made into a major motion picture.

He also will have an essay about his experiences as a participant in the Everest Challenge marathon included in an anthology called "Pilgrimages."

More books, poetry and books in progress

Assistant professors Stan Tag (Fairhaven College) and Paul Piper (Wilson Library) have co-authored "Father Nature: Fathers and Guides to the Natural World." (University of Iowa Press, $19.95) will be released in June. They will have a reading at Village Books on Father's Day.

Martin Osborne, a computer science professor, had the second edition of his textbook "Java, A Framework for Program Design and Data Structure" (Brooks/Cole, $76.95) released last year.

Political science professors Kenneth Hoover and Todd Donovan will have the eighth edition of their nationally used text "The Elements of Social Scientific Thinking" (Thomson/Wadsorth, $20.95) released in July.

Hoover will also have his book "Economics as Ideology: Keynes, Laski, Hayek, and the Creation of Contemporary Politics" (Rowman and Littlefield, Inc., $24.95) published this August.

Jeanne Yeasting and Jim Bertolino of the English department both had poems published in "March Hares: The Best Poems from Fine Madness, 1982-2002" ($17.95) last fall. The collection was voted Most Significant Contribution by a Press or Individual at Seattle's Bumbershoot Bookfair.

Todd Donovan's Bumbershoot Bookfair

Psychology professor emeritus Walter Lonner, department chair Dale Dinnel, and associate professors Susannah Hayes and David Sattler have compiled an online collection of readings for the Center for Cross-Cultural Research. Communication professor Jiangong Wang is among the published authors. The collection, found at www.wcu.edu/culture/readings.htm, is free and available to students and professors in classrooms worldwide.

Administrative services manager for Woodring College of Education and WWU alumna Carol Metz ('94) published a history of the Mount Baker Theatre last April in celebration of its 75th anniversary. She also produces the journal "Cross-Cultural Research."

Several authors contributed work to the Bellingham Review, a non-profit literary arts magazine, in November. English professor Brenda Miller, English department lecturers Jim Bertolino and Nancy Piagh and librarian Paul Piper were among the authors published.

Testing center planning analyst Gary McKinney had his novel "If You Want to Get to Heaven" put into print by local publisher Kearney Street Books last fall. The story is about a young man battling cerebral palsy while traveling with his brother's rock-and-roll band.

Former university president Jerry Flora, along with a group of retired Western affiliates (Don Brown, Harvey Gelder, George Lamb, David Marsh, Ali Nickelson, Irwin Snisnick, Stewart Van Wingerden and Lorene Webb), is preparing a book on the history of Western. A draft of the tentatively titled "WWU–As It Was" is available in the library. People interested in contributing to the book should contact Tamara Bels in the Office of Special Collections at (360) 650-3193.

Eric Denon, assistant director of the student counseling center, had his book, "A Student's Guide to College Success: Peak Performances in Class and Life," (Thomson Wadsworth, $40.95) released in its second edition in December. It has been used recently in a PSIR class and provides tools for students and teachers to excel in both the classroom and on the field.

Orion Polinsky ('03), has written a "Biodiesel Handbook," filled with information about the renewable, biodegradable and clean alternative to petroleum diesel.


Judy Deiro, human services lecturer at the Seattle-Marshall School site, is in the process of rewriting her book "Teaching with Heart" (Corwin Press, 1996). She hopes to be finished with the revisions this summer or fall.

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Four honored with annual awards
Seattle city councilman, mountaineer and geology educators named distinguished alumni for 2003

by Kathy Sheehan
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Seattle City Councilman Richard J. McVee (76) has received the 2003 Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award from the WWU Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association also honored with separate Distinguished Alumni Awards mountain climber Carlos Buhler (78) and the geology teaching team of Suzanne Beske-Diehl (72) and Jimmy Diehl (68, '72).

"These four outstanding graduates have distinguished themselves as teachers, researchers, collaborators, leaders and lifelong learners," said WWU President Karen W. Morse. "Western is proud to honor them for their achievements and service to the community.

Richard McVee

McVee, a Fairhaven College graduate, has been a local and national leader in the fields of housing, community and economic development, planning and urban renewal. He is executive director of the Washington Association for Community Economic Development, a coalition of community-based nonprofits working to revitalize disadvantaged communities.

The annual Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes McVee's 30-year history of achievement in creating housing and job opportunities in Washington and across the nation.

McVee's private and non-profit sector experience includes his position as development director at the Tacoma Housing Authority a decade ago. He was also director of the Community and Economic Development Assistance Center in Washington, D.C., and of rehabilitation advisory services for the National League of Cities in the 1980s.

He was employed by the city of Seattle's Planning and Community Development Department from 1967 to 1980 and worked as a private management consultant from 1984 to 1991.

McVee is a "true member of the community, one who has spent his life working to help those members of our society who are less fortunate than others," said Larry Taylor (72).

McVee was appointed to a vacancy on the Seattle City Council in January 1997 and was subsequently elected and re-elected to four-year terms. He serves as chairman of the council's Housing, Human Services and Community Development Committee.

Carlos Buhler

Buhler, a graduate of Huxley College of the Environment, was designated "Best of the Best Mountaineers" by EverestNews.com last year and has been an informal ambassador for Western as he scaled more than 100 of the world's tallest peaks.

He was photographed on Mount Everest in Tibet and K2 in China, the world's highest and second highest mountains, holding a Huxley College flag.

Buhler is the first North American to have climbed four of the world's 14 peaks over 26,250 feet. Buhler, who is also a motivational speaker, was recognized not only for his climbing ability, but his success in using small, efficient teams and lightweight tactics that are friendly to the environment and the local community.

"He is a leader in converting the sport of alpine climbing from an assault mentality to one of group centered, strategic planning; mutual respect between climbers and sherpa; use of high tech gear; and best environmental practices," said nominator Ted Mishkakov ('88), a member of the Western Washington University Foundation board and the Alumni Association board of directors.

Buhler lives in Boren, Mont., and travels the country consulting on organizational development and managerial expertise with two primary presentations, "Product and Process: The Path to Excellence" and "Greater Results with Fewer Resources: The Commitment to Efficiency."

Jimmy Diehl and Suzanne Beske-Diehl

Buhler's quest for excellence and his commitment to teaching others is shared by co-recipients Jimmy Diehl and Suzanne Beske-Diehl, geophysics and geology professors at Michigan Technological University.

The couple, who met at WWU while pursuing master's degrees in geology, have shared a single faculty position for nearly 25 years at MTU where they established a Ph.D.-level research program in paleomagnetism and applied rock magnetism.

Both have received several National Science Foundation research grants and were instrumental in obtaining NSF funding for a state-of-the-art environmental magnetism laboratory at MTU.

"These are a team in all aspects of their professional as well as personal lives," said geology professor Emeritus Myrl Beck, who noted that the concept of a shared academic appointment was largely anathema 25 years ago.

"It is only fitting that they jointly receive this award because their successes have evolved out of their astonishing ability to work together," added Robert Mitchell, associate professor of geology at WWU who attained his master's and Ph.D. degrees at MTU under Beske-Diehl and Diehl.

"They have been an inspiration in my life and I directly give credit to them for nurturing my passion for learning," he said.

Among his many honors as a scientist and teacher, Jimmy Diehl was named "Outstanding Teacher" at MTU in 1995 and served as associate editor for the Journal of Geophysical Research from 1994 to 1997.

At MTU, Suzanne Beske-Diehl was associate dean at the College of Engineering from 1994 to 1997 and spearheaded the establishment of a Presidential Commission for Women on campus in 1992, which brought an awareness of gender and racial diversity issues to the campus and creation of a child care center.

"I think she changed the culture in the college through her effective advo-
Scholarship recipient: Lisa Hobbs

Lisa Hobbs, a senior from Redmond, is the recipient of the Alumni Association’s Lifetime Member Scholarship, a renewable scholarship of $3,000 a year.

She is one of more than 20 students attending Western this year on Alumni Association scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $3,000. The scholarships are funded by generous WWU alumni and other supporters who contribute to Alumni Association scholarship programs.

Hobbs’ Lifetime Member Scholarship is funded through the dues of life members of the Alumni Association.

A graphics design major, Hobbs said the scholarship has fueled her interest in contributing to the community after she graduates in 2004. Hobbs said she hopes to one day teach art to low-income children, perhaps by forming a non-profit organization that would offer art scholarships.

“I want to give kids like me the opportunity to learn about art,” she said.

Hobbs said her push to get a college degree was spurred by her parents, especially her mother, Shirley, who was denied promotions in her career because she didn’t have a college degree.

“Going to college not only fulfills my dream but hers as well,” she said.

For more information on Alumni Association scholarships, or to learn about the benefits of becoming a Lifetime Member of the Alumni Association, contact Kathleen Howard at Alumni Relations, (800) 676-6885. Or send an e-mail to alumni@wwu.edu.

“Golden Vikings” return to campus for June reunion

More than 1,500 graduates from the Class of 1910 to the Class of 1954, are invited to return to campus June 20-22 for a weekend of “Golden Memories,” the theme for this year’s reunion.

The exciting weekend of activities features induction into The Golden Vikings Society, our newest alumni group, which honors those who have been WWU alumni for 50 years or more.

The Alumni Association will also be recognizing members of the Class of 1943 (60 years), 1948 (55 years) and 1953 (50 years) at the reunion as well as members of the Class of 1954, who will become members of The Golden Vikings Society next year.

You can be a mentor! Alumni mentors have impact on current WWU students

Do you want to have an impact on current Western students? A new program matches WWU graduates and community members with a current Western student interested in pursuing a similar career path.

The alumni/community mentors volunteer to help students successfully transition from graduation to their chosen professions. After the Alumni Office matches students with mentors, it is the student’s responsibility to contact his/her mentor.

WWU’s Career Services Center will collaborate in the program, advising sophomores and juniors on various career paths and graduating seniors on interview techniques and resume development. Mentors also may invite their students to “job shadow” them for a day.

For more information about how to become a mentor, contact Susan Bakse, director of Alumni Programs and Outreach: (360) 650-7283 or susan.bakse@wwu.edu

Parents play an active role as partners and ambassadors

More than 150 parents of current Western students are participating in activities to support WWU’s student population.

Members of the Parent Volunteer Group act as ambassadors to parents of prospective students and encourage business contacts to learn more about Western’s corporate partnership opportunities.

Levels of involvement vary from playing an active role welcoming parents of prospective students during family weekends to developing new opportunities for students.

Some members of the Parent Volunteer Group also host events in their homes to introduce university representatives to potential supporters.

For more information about the group, contact Anna Carey at New Student Programs/Family Outreach, (360) 650-3846 or acarey@wwu.edu

Home economics reunion will kick off Homecoming, Oct. 18-26

The theme was “Gone But Not Forgotten” in 1905. At the first home economics department reunion, hats were the centerpieces, and the day was filled with memories.

It’s time once again to reunite alumni, faculty and staff Oct. 18 for the second reunion since the department closed a decade ago.

The reunion will coincide with the opening of the Western Gallery exhibition featuring “A Painting for Over the Sofa” (That’s not necessarily a painting). Blue sofas from the Western chair collection will also be part of the exhibit.

The gallery is also installing 50 prime examples of the famed chair collection in an adjacent room as a permanent exhibit.

The home economics reunion will kick off the weekend 2003 Homecoming activities. Look for more information about Homecoming in the next issue.
New faculty bring their research to teaching

by Kathy Sheehan
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

New faculty at Western often hit the ground running when they arrive on campus in September.

Such is the case with three newly arrived researchers and teachers who have received research funds to explore writing and language systems in Africa, dolphin behavior in Costa Rica and machine learning, a type of artificial intelligence.

Jianna Jian Zhang

Jianna Jian Zhang, an assistant professor of computer science, is working on two projects involving machine learning. One is a learning model that involves teaching a computer how to teach WWU students Chinese characters so they can then teach WWU students Chinese pronunciation.

The Chinese Language Learning Model would be a type of virtual environment that students could use to practice what they learn in the classroom. Zhang and two other faculty members at Western, Janet Zhiqun Xing and James Hearne, have applied for a National Science Foundation grant to build the practice environment and support student research.

Fallou Ngom

In the department of modern and classical languages, students are learning about the history and evolution of French and African languages from Fallou Ngom, an assistant professor of French and linguistics who joined the faculty in September after receiving his Ph.D. in French linguistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ngom, who grew up in an urban area of Senegal, is conducting pioneering research into the linguistic and cultural implications of colonization, Islamization and Christianity on sub-Saharan languages.

Many African languages have been wrongly classified as Arabic, he said, because the European scholars who first studied them thought the writing systems were the same or similar to Arabic.

"There is a lot of literature that is buried, that is unknown," Ngom said. "People don't realize that it exists."

He is currently studying, with a grant from WWU's Bureau of Faculty Research, how French, English and Arabic speakers have influenced the grammar of his native Wolof, the language spoken by 80 percent of the people in Senegal.

Other cultures have influenced Wolof and other African languages so much that they are losing many of their characteristics, he said.

For example, most European languages describe actions in the three tenses: past, present and future. However, Wolof speakers talk only about actions that are completed and actions that are not completed, and they focus more on the manner in which the action was conducted (quickly, while talking, without assistance, etc.).

But even those aspects of the language are changing as more international citizens live in Senegal, especially for people in urban centers who now speak a language Ngom calls "Urban Wolof."

"In Urban Wolof, we are losing many aspects as a result of the influence of European languages," he said.

A. Acevedo-Gutierrez

The marine ecologist, who also has a grant from the BFR, will have two undergraduates helping him collect data on marine predators (seabirds, seals and sea lions) in Puget Sound this summer. Scientists from the Northwest Fisheries Science Center will be collaborating on a long-term study of the response of these predators to varying fish densities in the water.

Later in the summer, Acevedo-Gutierrez will travel to Costa Rica for an EarthWatch-funded study of dolphins in Gandoca-Manzanillo, a wildlife refuge. He will be the principal investigator of a study aimed at determining whether two distinct species of dolphins, bottlenose and tucuxi, are producing hybrid offspring.

Hybrids are common among dolphins in captivity, but scientists have confirmed through genetic testing only two types of cetaceans that produce hybrids in the wild: whales and porpoises.

Acevedo-Gutierrez says he suspects the Costa Rican bottlenose and tucuxi are producing hybrid offspring in the wild as well. "We just haven't confirmed it yet," he said.

Acevedo-Gutierrez says one of his long-term goals is to set up a regular research program in the Costa Rican wildlife refuge where WWU students could study marine ecology and animal behavior. His Ph.D. in wildlife and fisheries sciences is from Texas A&M University.
Key partnerships among Western alumni, the university and leading Puget Sound businesses are growing stronger than ever through the efforts of many alumni working within their corporations.

Alumni at Microsoft, Starbucks and Moss Adams, for instance, are expanding their partnerships with Western by mentoring, advising and providing internships for students, serving as guest lecturers and speakers in classrooms and recruiting now employees on campus.

Alumni at those organizations create scholarships, provide software and other learning resources to students and faculty and tell their non-alumnus colleagues about opportunities that benefit both Western and the company.

Moss Adams LLP accounting firm, with nearly five dozen WWU alumni counted as employees, has hired more new graduates from Western in the last four years than from any other West Coast university. It is also one of the biggest corporate supporters of Western’s accounting program.

Rick Anderson (’73), president and chief operating officer, and Russ Wilson (’79), managing partner of the Bellingham office, say they are pleased with the high quality graduates Western’s accounting department produces.

"We hope our contributions help ensure the quality education that I and many of my partners and associates received," Wilson said. "I see the results of our efforts every day, reflected in the Western graduates working at Moss Adams."

Alumni at Microsoft, who number more than 300, are also major partners with Western, especially through the company’s matching-gift donation program.

Microsoft software design engineer Brian Daugherty (’84) became involved with the company’s matching gift program nearly six years ago when he created a Web community for WWU graduates to publicize the matching gift program internally at Microsoft. Former WWU trustee David Cole, (’84/’86), senior vice president for MSN and personal services, goes even further by hosting meetings of both alumni and non-WWU alumni at Microsoft to encourage them to make gifts to Western, too.

Over the years, Microsoft and its employees have donated $8.4 million worth of software to Western. That includes recent contributions of Windows and Office XP, organized by Jason Tafoya (’91).

After last year’s fire in the College of Business and Economics, Microsoft employees rounded up software replacements totaling nearly $29,000.

"I know having a shortage of resources makes (college) that much harder," Daugherty said. "I’m glad to be able to help provide resources."

At Starbucks, Denny Organ (’73), director of international manufacturing, encourages Western alumni at Starbucks to utilize the opportunity to have contributions matched by the international coffee company, up to $1,000.

Organ, who serves as advisory board chair of WWU’s manufacturing and supply chain management program, wanted his involvement to target that program.

"This very strong and relevant program, built out of a partnership between industry and the university, deserved more funding for scholarships and programs than was available," Organ said. "By focusing on industry and graduates for donations, we have been able to raise $50,000 to $100,000 each year for Western."

The donations are used for scholarships, paid student programs, support for professions and software and materials to help keep the curriculum up-to-date.

Organ said he also feels donating helps maintain the high quality of work he sees in employees recruited from Western.

“Our fund raising truly creates a win-win situation," Organ said. "This helps the university attract top students to a high-caliber program, while industry benefits by hiring outstanding entry-level employees ready to contribute from their first day on the job."

Stephanie Bowers, vice president of University Advancement at Western, appreciates the role alumni play in assisting the university.

"Alumni have a tremendous impact on our programs, and these are some of the many who have gone above and beyond for Western," Bowers said.

"By creating and strengthening corporate relationships, both our students and the businesses that hire them benefit."

For more information about alumni corporate partnerships, contact Dave Brown, director of corporate and foundation relations, (360) 650-4485 or dave.brown@wwu.edu.

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<td>Sept. 11 Key Bank/Viking Night Diner and Sports</td>
<td>Oct. 18-26 Homecoming activities</td>
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<td>3 Alumni Association: Board meeting, on campus</td>
<td>13 Outstanding Graduating Senior Awards and Reception</td>
<td>Oct. 18 Reunion for home economics department and a sailing regatta at Lakewood Fireworks, bonfire and live band</td>
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<td>3 Reunion: Human Services graduates, on campus</td>
<td>17-28 Concert Choir tour of Bulgaria</td>
<td>Oct. 24</td>
<td>Homecoming football game against Central Washington University. Pre-game and post-game activities</td>
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<td>3 San Diego Alumni Chapter: Tour and dinner at the Maxten House</td>
<td>20-22 Reunion for Classes 1952, '53, '54 and before, on campus</td>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>Fun Run at new Recreation Building, to raise money for scholarships</td>
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<td>17 Alumni Association: Life Members cruise to Victoria, B.C.</td>
<td>21 San Diego Alumni Chapter: Tailgate at the Padres/Mariners game</td>
<td>Sept. 13 Seattle Alumni Chapter: Fall Send-off WWU Convocation</td>
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<td>24-25 Whatcom County Chapter and Student Alumni Association: Ski-to-Sea Festival participation</td>
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<td>27 Seattle Alumni Chapter: Twisted Flicks Event</td>
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<td>Sept. 26 Alumni Association: Night at the Mariners game</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>11 Summer Stock opens.</td>
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<td>Performances throughout the region through Aug. 23.</td>
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**TICKETS & INFORMATION**  
http://calendar.wwu.edu

**Alumni events**  
(900) 676-6885  
Athletics  
(360) 650-3109  
Box Office for PAC/  
Theatre Arts  
(360) 650-6146  

**Theatre Arts/ Summerstock**  
(360) 650-3879  

**Western Gallery**  
Info Line  
(360) 650-3900  

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

**RALPH MUNRO SEMINAR for Teachers**  
July 14-18  
The annual political science seminar is an intensive and interactive civic education course aimed at K-12 teachers. It features political insiders such as legislators, lobbyists, political consultants and media specialists who describe how the policies that shape our democracy are made. $550 for Washington residents ($600 for non-residents) covers food, lodging, materials and tuition for two graduate credits.  
For information, call (360) 650-3469.

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**Summer events to entice you to back to campus**

**Summer Stock 2003**  
July 11-Aug. 23  
This year’s Summer Stock repertory theater features: West Side Story, Cheaper by the Dozen, Boy Meets Girl, Comedy of Errors and GI Jukebox. Shakespeare’s Comedy of Errors will tour throughout the region. (360) 650-3876.

**Summer Session 2003**  
June 24-Aug. 22  
Many courses open to current students, alumni and community members. For more information, call (360) 650-2841 or send e-mail to summer session@wwu.edu. On the Web:  
http://www.wwu.edu/~summer/

**Marrowstone Music Festival**  
July 27-Aug. 17  
Produced by the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, the festival brings 200 students and three dozen exceptional faculty to participate in intense musical study on campus and in a public concert series. (206) 362-2300. On the Web: http://www.marrowstone.org

**WWU Summer Youth Programs**  
June 23-Aug. 8  
Adventures in Science and Arts Summer Program provides a full week of in-depth investigation of a favorite topic in the arts or sciences for youthful scholars in grades 3-12. Students in grades 3-5 may experience college living by staying on campus in a residence hall or they may commute from home. The Outdoor Adventure Program is an action-packed week of outdoor learning for students in grades 6-12; and College Quest introduces students in grades 10-12 to college life and a sample college course in July. (360) 650-4622. On the Web:  
http://www.wwu.edu/academic/