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Kathy D. Sheehan
Western Washington University

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

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For the LOVE of TEACHING

Who was your favorite professor at Western?

We asked WWU graduates to tell us about the outstanding teachers and mentors they encountered during their Western experience.

We received an outpouring of affection, pride, awe, appreciation, gratitude and respect for faculty members who transformed the lives of their students in wonderful ways.

On the pages here and inside, and on the Alumni Association Web site, you can read about several generations of caring, dedicated faculty members who launched careers; coached athletes and struggling artists; inspired legions of teachers, musicians and scientists; and offered jobs, humor, energy and even a snack in the refrigerator.

Most of all, you told us how caring Western's teachers are.

If you would like to contribute your comments about an inspiring WWU faculty member, please write to alumni@wwu.edu.

The full text of these comments and more can be found at http://www.wwu.edu/alumni.

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Western Washington University
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Bellingham, WA 98225 - 9030
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Magazines rank WWU tops for academics

For the eighth year in a row, U.S. News & World Report has ranked Western second among public master's granting universities in the West, a region stretching from Texas to the Pacific. The U.S. News 2005 American college rankings place Western in 18th place among comparable universities — public and private — in the West. Western has been highly rated 16 of the last 18 years.

Western has also been ranked among the nation's top 50 best values for public colleges and universities by Consumers Digest magazine.

"Students tell us they choose Western because of its reputation for academic excellence and faculty who provide a challenging environment for learning, as well as the wonderful environment here in Whatcom County," said President Karen W. Morse.

The Consumers Digest rankings, published in the June issue, are based on attributes that define academic and educational quality balanced against cost of attendance. The magazine ranked 50 public and 25 private colleges and universities out of some 3,500 schools across the United States. Western was ranked 42nd among public institutions.

Faculty in program to evaluate learning

Woodring College of Education faculty members are the evaluators for a successful statewide program that seeks to improve math instruction through enhanced use of technology and mentorship. In the No Limit! (New Outcomes: gratifying Technology) program, selected public and private colleges and universities are the evaluators for a successful statewide program.

Improved access to technology allows teachers to evaluate learning and problem-solving. Woodring received $200,000 last year, and will ensure continued good stewardship of our housing and dining program, as well as provide leadership in new areas of direction for the Student Affairs and Academic Support Services division." said Eileen Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs.

Students committed to sustainability

Some 85 percent of WWU students voted in April to assess themselves a fee to pursue renewable electricity options for campus. The Associated Students' board will spend this academic year working with administrators on the practicalities and exact cost of implementing a renewable electricity program at Western before making the proposal to the Board of Trustees, which votes on whether to implement student fees.

Cars place in Tour de Sol

Viking 32 and Viking 23, the Vehicle Research Institute's experimental cars, placed third and seventh, respectively, overall in the annual national Tour de Sol competition in May. The Viking 32 took first in the autocross category and the 350-foot acceleration test. The Viking 23 placed first in lowest greenhouse emission category.

Building selected as architectural showcase

The Wade King Student Recreation Center will receive a Facility of Merit Award from Athletic Business. It was chosen from among 98 Architectural Showcase entries for 2004 and is one of 30 winning facilities that will be featured in the November issue of the magazine for athletic, fitness and recreation professionals.

Willy Hart tapped for WWU Residences

Willy Hart has been named director of University Residences, replacing Kay Rich (’76) who retired in January. Hart joined WWU in 1991 as associate director of University Residences-Facilities. "I believe Mr. Hart will ensure continued good stewardship of our housing and dining program, as well as provide leadership in new areas of direction for the Student Affairs and Academic Support Services division," said Eileen Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs.

WCE offers certification

Woodring College will begin offering certification for public school superintendents this fall in Everett. The two-year program is for aspiring superintendents and other school district leaders, such as assistant superintendents, executive directors and program managers.

Planet wins more awards

The Planet magazine, Western's award-winning environmental magazine, has earned recognition for the fourth consecutive year as the "Best Student Magazine" published more than once a year in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. Students also won individual awards at the Society of Professional Journalists' regional meeting in April.

Students who gained global perspectives on cultural, business and environmental issues during a study tour to the People's Republic of China in March were enrolled in a course at Huxley College of the Environment, not the College of Business and Economics.
CFPA welcomes new dean: Carol D. Edwards

Carol D. Edwards, assistant dean of the School of the Arts at Kennesaw State University, has been named the new dean of the College of Fine & Performing Arts.

Selected after a nationwide search, Edwards succeeds Linda Smeins, who has been acting dean since 2002. Smeins, a professor of art, will return to teaching.

"We are looking forward to welcoming Dr. Edwards to Western," said President Karen W. Morse, "and we're pleased to have a person of her caliber as dean of the College of Fine & Performing Arts."

"This is a strong college with talented faculty and students. We anticipate that she will effectively work with the college to enhance its reputation and help it to become an even more powerful force for the arts on campus and in the community."

"Dr. Edwards brings an extensive background in art education and the visual arts as well as a strong record of administrative accomplishment to her new position. We are delighted she has decided to join us," added Provost Andrew Bodman.

"In addition, on behalf of the university community, I want to extend our thanks to Dr. Smeins for her exemplary service as acting dean since 2002."

Communications Facility plays host at Homecoming

By Kristie Lundstrom

ALUMNI RELATIONS

An open house in the newly completed Communications Facility kicks off the Homecoming activities this year on Humboldt State.

All Homecoming activities on Friday, Oct. 15, will take place on the south side of campus. There will be abundant parking and you can walk from one exciting event to the next.

At 7 p.m., the band "Andy O" will spice things up with some reggae music in the parking lot across from Fairhaven College where the fireworks show and bonfire will begin at 8 p.m. Enjoy the world famous Homecoming Raspberry Apple Cider and hot chocolate, compliments of the WWU Alumni Association.

On Saturday, don't miss the Alumni Association tailgate party, with a beer and bratwurst barbecue and music by Bellingham's Walrus, at 11:30 a.m. at Civic Field. Then watch the Vikings take on Humboldt State at 1 p.m.

For more information on Homecoming activities, Oct. 15-16, see the back page or call (360) 650-3353, (800) 676-6885.

WWU has changed but retains unique character

By Karen W. Morse

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

They say that the more things change the more they seem the same. This might be seen as a guiding principle for Western as we grow, we are true to the niche and mission you saw as students.

Admissions Pressure: While the media has been focusing on tightening admissions in public colleges and universities around the state, we have continued to follow our strategic plan on issues of growth and enrollment, pursuing a careful path of moderate growth. New freshman and transfer students are essential to the university's vitality and intellectual life, and provide opportunities for future students, we have managed our space carefully so that Western will be able to enroll new students in both winter and spring quarters.

Providing a personal learning environment: Programs such as the Teaching Learning Academy, an ongoing university dialogue about the scholarship of teaching and learning among faculty, staff and students, enhance the learning environment and help students be part of it. Developed in 2002 with a Carnegie Foundation grant, the Academy will continue this year with weekly discussion meetings. Other efforts, including First-year Interest Groups (FIG), Scholars Week and the Scholars Academy, bring more than 1,300 students into smaller learning communities where they have an opportunity to integrate their learning, present original research, work on creative projects and discuss vital ideas across disciplines.

Promoting civic involvement and responsibility: New this fall will be the American Democracy Project, a multi-campus initiative sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities to create an intellectual experience of civic engagement for students. We are developing a project-related curriculum for one of our FIG clusters and planning a number of activities to enhance our students' understanding of civic responsibility. Nationally, 180 institutions are involved.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to work with such fine faculty and quality students at the College of Fine & Performing Arts," Edwards said.

In Georgia, Edwards, a professor of art and art education at Kennesaw State, has been assistant dean since 2002 and was chair of the department of Visual Arts from 1999 to 2002. She is also director of the North Georgia Institute for Education in the Arts, a visual arts, music, dance and theater professional development institute for teachers and administrators.
1941 - Mary Lucille Teller is a volunteer in the Cygnet Fire USA museum in Seattle and a retired teacher.

1945 - Virginia Aller and her husband Leon Aller were honored by the Snohomish City Council with a citywide recognition day in March for their outstanding philanthropy work. The couple started Hands for Peamaking which is dedicated to helping solve poverty, illiteracy, illness and unemployment in 40 countries including Guatemala, Ethiopia, South Africa, South Korea and Taiwan. Virginia also started Snohomish’s first kindergarten program. The Allers are active in Snohomish Rotary and have been foster parents to more than 80 children, including seven they adopted.

1954 - Dale Hoggins was named the 2004 “Citizen of the Year” in Edmonds.

1958 - Jean Dunham published her first book entitled Two Women in Africa: The Ultimate Adventure. Her book is a humorous, fast-moving account of the rigors she and a friend faced while on safari. Dunham retired as a school principal in 1991 after 32 years in the field.

1964 - David Benseler has retired from the University of Washington Reserve University and has been designated the Emilie B. de Sausat professor emeritus of modern languages and literatures.

1970 - Mark Venn became the new school chief for Sedro-Woolley in April. Venn was previously the assistant superintendent for the Vancouver School District in Whatcom County. ... Cary Tollefson is the new president of Skagit Valley College.

1971 - Roger Braden was hired in May as assistant director for energy at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. ... Jane Lahti taught math, science and physical education for 30 years at Marysville Junior High and Marysville-Pilchuck High School. She served two years as president of the Marysville Education Association, whose members went on strike for a record 11 days last fall. ... Jane Van Voorst was promoted to senior vice president of Horizon Bank. Van Voorst oversees all aspects of retail sales development, working directly with the retail branch staff and management.

1973 - Shahn Farvan Ameli is vice president and bank manager for Union Bank of California in Los Angeles. Ameli also teaches at the college level. ... Doug Padget has been working for DSHS as a bilingual medical assistance specialist in Aberdeen. His wife of 29 years is from Bogota, Colombia. They have a son in Seattle and another living with them. Padget can be reached at padgedj@dshs.wa.gov. ... Mark Reis is now Sea-Tac Airport’s managing director.

1974 - Elaine Hanson retired after having taught math, science and physical education for 30 years at Marysville Junior High and Marysville-Pilchuck High School. She was named a 2004 Teacher of the Year by the National Education Association. A retired teacher at South Whidbey High School, Hanson retired after 28 years of teaching and more time living. ... Doug Padget has been working for DSHS as a DSHS bilingual medical assistance specialist in Aberdeen. His wife of 29 years is from Bogota, Colombia. They have a son in Seattle and another living with them. Padget can be reached at padgedj@dshs.wa.gov. ... Mark Reis is now Sea-Tac Airport’s managing director.

1976 - Bill Boyd is the fire chief for Whatcom County. ... Allen Rice is the new musical director for Whatcom Chorale. Knox Presbyterian Church; and Gloria Dei United Methodist Church in New Westminster, B.C. He also was gay athete of the year in Vancouver, B.C., in 2002. ... Barbara Dingel (M.E./Ed.D.) moved back to Edmonds and is a case manager at Homeless Attendant Care. ... Tara Wolfe released the release in Spring Thaw, the CD created by her group, Cabin Fever.

1978 - Bret Gaussoon is the owner of Pellets, Inc., which company distributes owl pellets for dissection. ... Todd Sproul is the new president of Horizon Middle Schools in Ferndale. ... Sarah Holman is a Spanish professor in Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish counties.

1981 - Michelle Mongrain is the new president of Skagit Valley College. Mongrain has been working for DSHS as a bilingual medical assistance specialist in Aberdeen. His wife of 29 years is from Bogota, Colombia. They have a son in Seattle and another living with them. Padget can be reached at padgedj@dshs.wa.gov. ... Mark Reis is now Sea-Tac Airport’s managing director.

1987 - Kelly Crotty and John Booker, Jan. 31. ... Donna Rathe and Travis Schenck, May 1. ... Melissa Wilson and Brett Leslie, July 26, 2003. ... Chris Castorena has been appointed associate dean of diversity at Everett Community College. Previously, she was director of student financial services. ... Ryleeka Gafoor was promoted to deputy director of the Bellingham Whatcom Economic Development Department. Gafoor, C.P.A., has been hired as Skagit County's...
Kenya native learns, years for home

Edward Wanambisi Wesakania (’94) was inspired by his Kenyan homeland to study in America. The Kenya native and father of six came to Bellingham four years ago to gain the knowledge and skills to protect his village from environmental degradation.

After getting his bachelor’s degree in environmental conservation technology, he will pursue a master’s degree at Western this fall. His plan is to teach environmental restoration and computer skills to others in his village.

Part of his dream is to establish an eco-garden in Kenya. The project would enable him to teach others how to grow their own food using sustainable farming practices.

Without help from the community here, Wanambisi would not have been able to stay at WWU. Community members worked together to raise money for his tuition and books and he was awarded several scholarships.

He is the recipient of an Alumni Association Scholarship, The Bellingham Herald Diversity Scholarship and the Multicultural Achievement Program Scholarship.
The Alumni Association and the Reunion Committee welcomed back to campus 94 graduates of 1954 and earlier for the 2004 Golden Viking Reunion in June.

Morris "Spud" Miller ('54) served as master of ceremonies for three days of events, including a welcome reception; brunch with President Karen W. Morse; campus and community tours; and, the highlight of the weekend, the Golden Memories Banquet.

Miller and his wife, Joyce ('54) traveled from Arizona to celebrate not only the Golden Vikings, an alumni group honoring those who graduated 50 years or more ago, but a golden wedding anniversary.

WWU students provided background music for the Friday evening reception while alumni took in a spectacular view of Bellingham Bay.

The golden thread through the weekend was one of fond memories, remembering the great times on campus, the wonderful life-long friends and remarkable faculty.

"The informal fun of the reception and visiting folks we had not seen for many years, ... and just being back on the campus made this reunion a highlight of our summer," said Chuck LeWarne ('55), who attended with his wife Pauline ('54).

The Reunion Committee of Kappy Britain ('52), Joan Clyde ('52), Britt Lee ('53), Harry ('51) and Carol Pagent ('52), Dick Pedersen ('52), Jim ('51) and Persis Shook ('51), Ruby Smith ('51) and Cec and June Thomas ('51) have been an inspiration in their planning over the past four years. The Alumni Association could not have done it without them.

The Reunion Committee will be joined by new recruits Donald Davis ('52), Danny Beatty ('54), Joyce Gillie ('46) and Art Heald ('54). If you are interested in joining the Reunion Committee, please phone the Alumni Relations Office at (360) 650-3353 to plan to attend next year’s celebration. Watch for information about the 2005 reunion coming in your mail in December.
Alumni work to formalize new career network

By Bill Farkas
ALUMNI RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Many years ago, in the long history of Western Washington University, one alumnus helped another obtain a job, probably doing so as a favor. Whatever the motivation, it was the beginning of a remarkable and often invisible process called "alumni networking."

The ingredients are simple. Consider the talents, energies, loyalty and spirit of all those undergraduates and young alumni who have attended Western. Mix with a large alumni population whose members have life experience and are putting their education to good use.

Combine that common bond, and it leads to a mutually beneficial meeting of members of the Western family.

I have seen this process in action as the director of alumni relations and, in fact, I've already had the opportunity to use it.

A couple of months ago at an alumni gathering in Seattle, I saw this informal networking taking place.

I watched young alumni taking time from their busy lives to mingle with more established alumni, who had also taken time from their busy schedules to attend. It was indeed satisfying from my perspective and certainly enriching from theirs.

This notion was recently tested from another perspective, and I think it is a perfect illustration of what alumni networking is about and why the alumni of Western need to assist us in building a more formalized alumni network.

One senior was about to graduate and was interested in marketing. One of our alumni volunteers works in marketing for a major Seattle corporation. A quick call revealed that this alumnus was more than willing to meet with this recent grad and assist in the job search process.

As the number of Western alumni increases and their geographic dispersion expands, this networking process will become more and more important.

A recent New York Times article tells of the increase of alumni turning to their alma mater for help in finding a new job.

The Alumni Association and the Alumni Relations Office want to formalize the networking process. To do this we need your help.

If you are in a position to give of your time to help fellow Western alumni, take a minute to fill out the form on this page or go online at http://www.wwualumni.com.

With this information, we will create the first WWU Alumni Career Networking Directory and distribute it to current Western juniors and seniors. It will only be available to members of the Western family and its use limited to career guidance.

To those of you who have been part of this informal networking process by assisting another Western alumnus, thank you.

To those of you who have perhaps received assistance through this process, remember how it happened.

And to those of you who want to be part of the networking process, we eagerly await hearing from you.

Alumni Career Network INFORMATION FORM

Name: ____________________________
Class Year: ____________________________
Home Address: ____________________________
City, State, Zip Code: ____________________________
Home Phone Number: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

I am willing to: (please check all that apply)
☐ Provide Mentoring Opportunities
☐ Provide Internships/Externships
☐ Hold Phone/E-mail Conversations
☐ Host WWU Students for a Work Shadow Day
☐ Conduct Informational Interviews
☐ Provide Tours at Work Setting
☐ Review Resumes
☐ Other: ____________________________

Employer: ____________________________
Type of Company: ____________________________
Job Title: ____________________________
Description of your job: ____________________________

Company Address: ____________________________
City, State, Zip Code: ____________________________
Work Phone Number: ____________________________
Work E-mail: ____________________________
Company Web Site: ____________________________

Please fax to the Western Washington University Alumni Relations Office at (360) 650-6555. Or mail to WWU Alumni Relations Office, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225-9199.
Scholar-Athletes earn season’s accolades

Volleyball setter Liz Bishop ('04) was named Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the third straight time, and football strong safety Rob White earned Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year accolades for 2003-04.

The WWU scholar-athlete award recognizes Viking student-athletes who best demonstrate excellence both on the playing field and in the classroom.

The pair were also named the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Female and Male Scholar-Athletes of the Year for the 2003-04 season.

Kurt Hartmaier, Nicola Parker ('04) and Josh Griesse shared WWU Athlete of the Year honors and will have their names added to the G. Robert Ross Memorial Trophy.

Bishop, with a 3.89 GPA, was the Outstanding Graduate for the secondary education department, a four-year letter winner and the GNAC Player of the Year for the second consecutive season.

White, a senior from Woodinville, is a biology/anthropology major with a 3.78 GPA. He was an academic all-star for the league and the College Sports Information Directors of America District VIII both for the second straight year.

Parker, a libero from Auburn, was selected WWU Female Athlete of the Year. She led the volleyball team to the best second in school history and a third straight GNAC title.

Hartmaier placed 41st at the NCAA II National Cross Country Championships to earn All-America recognition, becoming just the second Viking to earn that distinction. He also was a four-year letter winner in track.

In other athletics honors, senior Laurel Kaminski, the bow stroke in Western's nationally ranked women's varsity eight crew, was named a College Rowing Coaches Association/NCAA Division II National Scholar-Athlete for the second straight year.

Faculty honored

For excellence in teaching, research and diversity achievement, five faculty members were honored at Commencement ceremonies in June.

Excellence in Teaching awards went to philosophy professor Ned Markosian from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and economics professor Paul Storer from the College of Business and Economics.

Political science professor Ken Hoover earned the Os camp Faculty Research Award and Huxley College of the Environment professors Gigi Berardi and Lynn Robbins received the Diversity Achievement Award.

The teaching and diversity awards include $1,500 stipends to use for research, teaching and equipment and supplies. Hoover received $1,000 as the research award recipient.

Crew team so close to first NCAA title

With 600 meters to go in the varsity eight grand final, Western's women's crew team appeared to be on its way to victory and capturing the school's first NCAA Division II National Team Championship.

Then misfortune struck. A WWU rower's oar got stuck in the water on the recovery portion of a stroke, and the dream was over.

The Vikings' eight, ranked No.1 nationally all season long, was forced to come to a complete stop and finished fourth.

Western finished third in the team standings at the third NCAA Division II Women's Rowing National Championships at the CSU Sacramento Aquatic Center in May.

The copyright for WWU's Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology was purchased by Sage Publications of California in May. Sage, a leading independent publishing company, paid Western $1.25 million and will pay annual royalties averaging $50,000 in perpetuity.

The Journal will continue to be associated with Western's psychology department and Center for Cross-Cultural Research. Lonner will continue his involvement, holding the title of founding and special issues editor.

Established in 1969 by now retired Western professors Robert D. Meade and Lonner, the center has involved various members of the psychology department in cross-cultural research and scholarship over the years.

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Journal rights sold to Sage Publications

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Faculty continue the legacy of excellence by providing scholarships for WWU students

by Shauna Bakkensen('04)

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Professors and staff at Western are more than willing to help students succeed in obtaining a college education. Through countless hours of teaching, advising and guiding, Western faculty and staff help young people reach one of life's most rewarding milestones.

Faculty members feel a special connection to Western because of the time they invested in students and the university. They want to continue the legacy of excellence and help promising students succeed.

Western is a part of both the work and family life for many retired faculty, and their families observe and honor these individuals' commitment to education. Proving education can be a life-long commitment, many of Western's retired faculty and staff continue to support students by providing scholarships.

Radke endowment

The children of August "Rad" and Carol Radke gave their parents a unique 50th wedding anniversary gift: they created the August and Carol Radke endowment at the WWU Foundation.

The Radke children wanted to commemorate Rad's 36 years of teaching history at Western, and Carol's 20 years of working on the Bellingham School Board. The Radke children are all graduates of Sehome High School, and the endowment is awarded to a Sehome graduate who is entering Western as a freshman.

"I am very devoted to public education, and I feel thankful our children would honor us in such a way as to establish a scholarship," Carol said.

She has the privilege of presenting the scholarship to the recipient at an assembly in June. This year, the endowment had grown so much that two students were awarded $1,500 each.

Monahan endowment

Bob and Marilyn Monahan also honored a family member by creating the Patrick L. Monahan scholarship endowment in remembrance of their son.

Bob is a WWU professor emeritus of geography and environmental social sciences and Marilyn is retired Western staff.

The Monahans established the scholarship in 1974, and through continuing support from friends, family and geography graduates the scholarship has continued to grow.

Bob, who began teaching at Western in 1955, has seen many students struggle with rising tuition and book costs. He said scholarship winners are grateful for the financial help but more importantly, students gain confidence and self esteem because someone believed in them.

"Marilyn and I support deserving students," he said. "We help those who are having a tough financial time and recognize those who use their minds effectively. We want to attract individuals who will make a contribution to Western and to society in general."

Industrial design scholarship

Marvin A. Southcott has seen the meaningful contributions his students have made to society and supports students through the industrial design scholarship.

Southcott, associate professor emeritus of technology, meets scholarship winners at the scholarship luncheon, and he has seen many of the industrial design graduates accomplish great works. He continues to receive phone calls from students who thank him, after years in the field, because they are still using information he taught them.

Southcott taught his students many lessons during his career, including two lessons he continually emphasized.

"I always told my students, 'You do not make mistakes; you make opportunities for adjustment.' And 'Design is an invention of relationships that are appropriate for the situation,'" he said.

Southcott not only created the industrial design scholarship for promising industrial design students, he also created, in 1974, the industrial design program at Western, which has been recognized world wide. Students from all over the world applied to the WWU ID program.

"We want to attract individuals who will make a contribution to Western and to society in general."

Bob Monahan

He retired in 1991, after 26 years of teaching, and wanted to provide talented students with an advantage.

Southcott, the Radkes and the Monahans are just a few of the dedicated faculty and staff, current and retired, who encourage and champion students through the educational process. Providing scholarships goes beyond the daily commitment to students and is a testament to their interest and desire to help young people realize their potential.

For more information on contributing to or creating a scholarship, please contact Mark Bagley at (360) 650-3612 or Mark.Bagley@wwu.edu.

Goal is $8 million

Scholarship campaign extended to Dec. 31

Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of Western alumni, parents and friends, the WWU Foundation has eclipsed its original goal of raising $5 million in scholarship support by the end of 2004.

Foundation Board President Dennis Madsen has announced that the goal has been extended to $8 million by Dec. 31.

"We are extremely pleased with the response to this initiative," said Madsen. "With the continued increase in higher education costs, scholarships are extremely important, and it is gratifying to see so many step up and make a commitment to help Western students."

Over the next three months, the Foundation will continue to focus on raising funds for scholarships. They will be earmarked for four areas: recruitment scholarships to attract the best and brightest to Western; scholarships for upper division students who have declared a major; scholarship to encourage diversity and access; and athletic scholarships.

If you would like additional information on scholarships, or to make a gift, please call the WWU Foundation at (360) 650-3027 or e-mail mark.bagley@wwu.edu.
Herbert Taylor distinguished service professor emeritus, anthropology

Dr. Taylor was a fixture in the anthropology department from the early 1930s until his retirement in 1987 and death in the early 1990s. He was the quintessential southern gentleman and always respected his students by calling them ladies and gentlemen — and meaning it.

Like many of his generation, he interrupted his academic studies to serve his country during World War II. Later, he continued by serving as an officer in the Washington State Air National Guard.

He was a great mentor and I feel that my professional and personal relationship with Dr. Taylor started me on a path to become a professional anthropologist and archaeologist with the U.S. military, where I work as a forensic anthropologist/archaeologist with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command on Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii.

Besides anthropology, what did I learn from Dr. Taylor? Here's a partial list: 1) Try to maintain a compassionate attitude for the people we study and work with; 2) a sense of humor is essential; 3) a little knowledge about wine is a good thing; 4) duty to our country can be done in many ways; 5) if you entertain your students, they may learn more about life as well as the subject matter of the course; 6) there are many, many ways to cook salmon; and, 7) while bulldogs don't drool, they are extremely loyal pets.

— William R. Belcher ('84/'85) POM/MA Accounting/Command

Bearnice Skeen professor emeritus of education

For making me aware of taking time for yourself and life around you.

— Jane Marianne Hancock Hawkins ('54) retired teacher in California

Janet Mock mathematics

She treated each of us as professionals, and this automatically raised the bar in what she expected from us in terms of our time, effort and dedication to the course. She was a rare individual able to balance kindness and discipline with perfection.

— Lisa Dills ('03) second grade teacher, Sedro Woolley

Harley Hiller professor emeritus of history

Harley Hiller taught Canadian history, and I ended up taking several classes from him. What he gave me was an infectious enthusiasm for his subject, so that one could not help but be swept along by his energy. He had a pet phrase that I still use today, "close enough for jazz" when he approximated something. Many years later, a professor myself, I try to emulate that amazing enthusiasm and love for teaching that Harley Hiller imparted to me. I like to think that I honor his memory with my own teaching every day.

— Diana Knauf ('83) faculty member at Shoreline Community College in Seattle

Howard Harris professor emeritus of anthropology

Mr. Harris taught me that kindness is not weakness; that a whiplash can be more powerful than a shock; that standing up for your convictions is always the right thing to do; and that there is humor to be found in just about every human situation.

These are lessons that have stayed with me throughout my life. I am lucky to have been his student.

— Sandra "Sam" Thompson ('79) projects analyst at an international law firm in Seattle

Howard Critchfield professor emeritus, geography and regional planning

Often times, you remember the professors you liked the most, but you also remember the ones who terrified you the most. In both cases, Dr. Howard Critchfield comes immediately to mind. He was an institution at Western by the time I got there in the late 1970s. I took several geography courses from him, such as climatology and geographic thought and writing, which was considered the toughest course in the major. I earned an "A" in thought and writing, and I remember thinking that my grade in any other course did not matter after that laurel.

Dr. Critchfield did more than just teach geography. He taught how to learn. On the first day, he would say, "Write your name and the city you were born in," or something apparently simple. Most of the students would get it wrong, writing his name or the state they were born in, for example. His point was that most people don't listen and can't follow even simple instructions.

I have a few choice books on my desk at home in San Diego to this day. Some Barbara Tuchman history books, Stephen Ambrose's book on Lewis and Clark, and Critchfield's "General Climatology" textbook.

— Jason Ford ('82)

Petra Fiero associate professor of German

With her, every one of her students has a one-on-one dialogue. She influenced me to go on to graduate studies in German and pursue a Ph.D. in German and Linguistics. I hope to one day be an effective and insightful professor as she is.

— Abram Bergstrom ('62) teaching assistant, Portland State University

Fred Rhoades research associate, biology and Fairhaven

and

David Mason professor emeritus Fairhaven College

They both took their students "outside the box" both figuratively and literally.

Both professors gave tough assignments and simply assumed that you were ready there to learn.

— Mark D. Johnson ('90) faculty member, St. Joseph College, Connecticut, where he teaches microbiology, marine biology, virology and other environmental subjects to undergraduates. He's also engaged in research and is teaching himself impressionist landscape oil painting.

Read more about favorite professors

Comments by Odell and Hawkins are from questionnaires found in Wilson Library's Special Collections.
For the individual trusted with the responsibility of guiding emerging artists through the rewards and pitfalls of a career in art, dedication to the craft of teaching is paramount. The professor admires the most in this respect is Patrick McCormick, for his incredible work ethic, his grace, his sense of humor, and his ability to write great recommendation letters within a moment’s notice!

The example that he set as a consistently working professional artist inspired me to let art consume my life. He is the one who taught me that artistic growth happens through the process of working rather than the lure of the finished object.

He constantly urged me to examine the possibilities of the artwork I was creating. This was accomplished through critique, and at times through anecdotes. I am sure all of his students would agree Pat is quite a storyteller.

Sometimes I would get too caught up in the “seriousness” of what I was doing, and Pat would remind me that life is hilarious and fun too.

Since graduating with a BFA in 1999 I have taught high school art, earned a master’s degree and exhibited my artwork regularly. I am finding out it is rare to know someone who, after 30 years in the field, is still excited to go to work every day.

I am encouraged to know that Pat honestly looks forward to the start of every quarter and the chance to work with new students. Pat is not only one of the finest educators, he is also a fantastic human being, one of the best I know.

— Keri Straka (’99), Outstanding Graduate, art department, ceramics teacher, Massachusetts College of Art

Robert Kim

Professor emeritus, educational foundations

As a freshman, I took an intro class in Asian American Studies from Dr. Robert Kim. This class opened my eyes and gave me a greater perspective and appreciation for diversity. The class also directly – being quite an athlete himself. He also had a deep and abiding interest in his students and showed — with integrity — how to live a full and honorable life.

— Robert B. Wade (’65)

Robert Kim

Professor emeritus, educational foundations

As an activist, I and other students were interested in starting a Korean language course on campus. Given the growing diversity of the Korean American student population at that time, we thought it was important that Western offered a Korean language course.

Dr. Kim played a critical role in helping us coordinate, raise funds and market our efforts to the greater Seattle Korean community for their support. Remarkably, we raised all the funds to start the Korean language course within a year.

Robert Kim

I can honestly say as a student of color, my experience was positive and wonderful because of people like Dr. Kim. He definitely helped shape the path I took after college.

— Hyon Chu Yi (’94)

director of MASC/Locus Cultural Center, San Jose State University

Raymond Hawk

Professor emeritus, education, director of student teaching

He was an advisor. … Coming directly out of 10th grade (and the U.S. Navy) into college, you can imagine I was having a difficult time with certain subjects. My first grading period was atrocious. I just felt like saying, “Well, why waste any more time here?”

So I went to him, and he says, “If that’s not going to happen.”

… He worked out a system where every Thursday I’d go to his house, and if he or Mrs. Hawk or their son weren’t home I could go right in, check the refrigerator, see if there’s a little snack there or something, and wait for them to get home. And he would then go over my studies for that week.

… And it was through him that I determined to stay (at WWU).

— Charles Oedel (’52)

Carl U. Schuler

Associate professor, history

For demonstrating that learning, even about the Ancient Near East, can be entertaining as well as enlightening for the present. And for having the unique ability to be “real human beings,” interested in sports and even — if I remember correctly — being quite an athlete himself. He also had a deep and abiding interest in his students and showed — with integrity — how to live a full and honorable life.

— Robert B. Wade (’65)
President's Club

President's Club members are the cornerstone of support for Western Washington University. Renewed support from members provides essential funds to help keep Western on the leading edge of undergraduate education.

President's Club level gifts may be designated to the campus Enrichment Fund, which supports the most critical needs of campus-wide programs and initiatives, or to a specific college, department or program. For information on how to support Western through the President's Club, as well as membership benefits, please contact Angie Yandreska at (360) 650-7647 or angela.vandenheck@wwu.edu.

Last year, 10,225 alumni, parents, friends and businesses contributed more than $4.8 million to Western. All contributions are deeply appreciated, and listed here are some of the names:

- Craig and Susan Cole
- Wilbur and Linda Kukes
- John Callan
- Maria Muñoz
- Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Koster
- Dr. and Mrs. John Caffrey
- Mary Ann Ford
- J. Richard Newton
- Drs. Jack T. and Martha L. Cole
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- Association
- Washington Oil Company, Inc.

Please note: This list reflects gifts of $100 or more received during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004). While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list, please call Pam Gibson at (360) 650-6101 or pam.gibson@wwu.edu and let us know of any changes/corrections.

[Inclusion of Benefactors]
Oct. 8 Manufacturing Operations Management Alumni reception, 5-8 p.m., at Bed Hook Brewery, Woodinville.

Oct. 10 Alumni Run, 9 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. start, Wade King Student Recreation Center

Oct. 13 Student Alumni Association Comedy Night, 7 p.m., Amtzen Hall 100

Oct. 13 King County Alumni Chapter meeting, 6:30 p.m., Marie Callender's, near Northgate Mall, Seattle


Oct. 26 Alumni Association Networking/Happy Hour, 6 p.m., Weeners American Grill, Tukwilla

Ian. 15 of graphic design in the United States the 1980s he was the art director for Dave Crider and Estrus Records, and in an aesthetic that emerged out of Seattle 1970s. He has designed posters for ma­

known for helping create the poster

The graphic design of Art Chantry ('78) Sept. 24

A WINDOW ON WESTERN

Fine arts major is best known for helping create the poster -

Music and dance highlight Western's 2004-2005 Performing Arts Center Series. An abbreviated season of three events is complemented by the music department's Sanford Piano Series, listed below. Season tickets to the PAC Series, which range from $35-$50 for all three events, and single tickets to PAC Series and Sanford Piano Series events go on sale Sept. 22 at the PAC Box Office: (360) 650-6146. For more information, visit: http://www.pacseries.wwu.edu.

The 2004-2005 PAC Series is sponsored by The Bellingham Herald, Bellingham Weekly, Best Western Lakeway Inn and the Kukes Endowment.

Paul Rosenthal & Friends Saturday, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. PAC Concert Hall Tickets: $10-$16

Violinist Paul Rosenthal is joined by an ensemble of WWU faculty for an evening of intimate chamber music featuring works by Borcherini, Mozart and Brahms.

Sergio & Odair Assad

Sergio and Odair Assad are today's preeminent guitar duo. They have led a revival of contemporary music for guitar duo with an exciting blend of musical styles, periods and cultures.

Stephen Druy Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m. PAC Concert Hall Tickets: $5-$14

Twentieth-century music champion and award-winning pianist Stephen Druy will perform Charles Ives "Concord" Sonata and other works.

Paul Roberts Friday, Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m. PAC Concert Hall Ticket: $8-$14

Paul Roberts is one of Britain's most exciting and astute interpreters of French piano music and will be performing works by Ravel, Messiaen and Liszt.

Natasha Paremski Saturday, May 14, 7:30 p.m. PAC Concert Hall Tickets: $8-$14

Russian-American pianist Natasha Paremski, a quickly rising star, will perform works by Mozart, Schumann, Corigliano and Rachmaninoff.

www.pacseries.wwu.edu