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Dee Johnson

Western Washington University

Alumni, Foundation, and Office of University Communications, Western Washington University

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President Morse to Retire in 2008

Karen W. Morse has announced that she will retire as president of Western Washington University Sept. 1, 2008. She is in her 15th year as president and is the longest-serving president of all four-year institutions in the state.

"Western's reputation as one of the finest universities of its kind in the country is a tribute to President Morse's leadership and vision," said Kevin Raymond ('80), chair of Western's Board of Trustees. "We are so grateful for all that she does on behalf of Western and higher education in the state of Washington."

President Morse has provided leadership that has fostered a collaborative student-centered academic environment; innovative faculty teaching and faculty-student research collaboration; new programs, buildings and resources that enrich the learning process; and recognition of Western as one of the premier public master's-granting universities in the nation.

"I care deeply about the mission of Western as an institution that provides high-quality academic opportunities," President Morse said. "The many accomplishments since I began as president are a tribute to the efforts of our faculty, staff, administration and students."

Since she began her tenure as president in 1993, enrollment has grown from 9,300 to 12,100 full-time equivalent students. Campus infrastructure has markedly improved, with construction of new buildings including the Chemistry, Biology and Science, Math and Technology Education buildings, the Communications Facility building, Wade King Student Recreation Center and Campus Services facility; the transformation of Haggard Hall, Bond Hall and Wilson Libraries; major renovation of the Viking Union and Edens Hall; and current construction of the Academic Instructional Center, the largest construction project in Western's history.

President Morse also has personally led planning for expansion of Western to the Bellingham waterfront, which has led to siting Huxley College of the Environment there. The University is part of an Innovation Partnership Zone and will be involved in converting an existing tissue warehouse to use for research and collaboration between business and area educational institutions.

As impressive as these measures are, the growth Western has experienced and the recognition the University has received during the past 14 years do not express the personal connections President Morse has made with students, alumni and members of the community.

"Her style is to attend to things by focusing quietly and getting people's attention when something needs to be done. Her hands have been in everything we've accomplished," said Eileen Coughlin, vice president of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services.

Associated Students President Ramiro Espinoza says President Morse has "provided the leadership critical to several defining initiatives on campus, such as green energy and alternative transportation. It has been a pleasure to witness her personal mentorship to students, something not commonly found in institutions of higher education, big or small," he says. "President Morse has significantly defined the excellence of this institution and will be greatly missed."

President Morse is well known for being involved in campus activities and for offering personal encouragement to students.

"We expect our students to expand their interests and perspectives, and they live up to those expectations," she says. "One of the most rewarding aspects of being at Western is having opportunities to share in the successes of our students and alumna."

President Morse and Stephanie Bowers, vice president for University Advancement, spent some time last year on the East Coast meeting with alumni. "Over and over, alumni we talked with expressed their appreciation to Western, citing especially how the encouragement they received helped them go on to achieve successes in their professional lives," Bowers said.

During that trip, President Morse and Bowers attended the Metropolitan Opera debut of Aaron St. Claire Nicholson ('96). Nicholson remembers the encouragement President Morse personally offered to him while he was still an undergraduate student. "Aaron, when you have your debut at the Metropolitan, I will come," she told him. Nicholson remembers that she said when, not if.

The timing for President Morse's retirement from the University reflects her determination to allow for a smooth transition and to provide leadership on key initiatives, including: completion of the University's accreditation process; securing a solid Legislative budget; building on Western's fund-raising capacity; continuing planning for future development at the waterfront and completing the first contract for a faculty union.

"I believed we would be well positioned in these areas by Sept. 1, 2008, and worked with the trustees for several years to plan retirement as president of this very fine University," President Morse said, adding that she will continue her active leadership of Western during the final year of her presidency.

"The opportunity to lead Western has been, and will continue to be, a privilege. I expect to be active and not retired or retiring this year."

Her post-retirement plans include visiting family, traveling and scheduling time for writing and consulting.

She is married to retired Western chemistry professor and director of Science Education Joseph G. Morse, whom she met while both were pursuing their doctorate degrees at the University of Michigan. They have two adult sons, Robert, an attorney in Washington, D.C., and Geoffrey, an assistant professor of biology at Arizona State University, and two granddaughters, Sophia and Victoria.
Waterfront Project Receives Innovation Grant

WWU is part of an Innovation Partnership Zone recently awarded a $1 million grant from the state of Washington to create lab-to-market economic development programs. Western’s College of Sciences and Technology, Huxley College of the Environment and the College of Business and Economics are exploring partnership opportunities with private industry in the zone. The University will be involved in converting a former tissue warehouse to a marine Trades Center that will include programs fostering research and collaboration between business and educational institutions.

Alper Receives International Award

Don Alper, director of Western’s Center for Canadian-American Studies and professor of Political Science, has been awarded an International Council for Canadian Studies Certificate of Merit. The annual award was established in 1988 and recognizes the exceptional contributions made by individuals to the development of Canadian Studies. Alper led WWU’s establishment of the Border Policy Research Institute in 2005 and was influential in having WWU selected as home for the American Review of Canadian Studies. Western’s Center for Canadian-American Studies is one of only two federally recognized and funded National Resource Centers for the study of Canada.

NSF Grant Will Continue Research on Climate Change

Eric DeChaine, associate professor of Biology, has received a $419,000 National Science Foundation grant to continue his research on climate change and how it affects biodiversity. The grant will pay for DeChaine to take two undergraduate research assistants with him next summer, when he will conduct samplings on islands in the Bering Sea. DeChaine has spent three summers doing research in the National Petroleum Reserve on Alaska’s North Slope and on federal lands such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

WWU Receives Grant to Help Teachers Work with Students with Limited English Skills

Western’s Woodring College of Education has been awarded a $1.45 million five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to prepare educators to work effectively with students with limited English skills, identified as an increasingly urgent need among teachers in this state and nationally. The grant will involve a partnership between WWU and the Ferrandale, Nooksack Valley, Lynden and Mount Baker school districts.

WWU Professor Receives APA Presidential Citation

Joseph Trimble has been awarded a Presidential Citation from the American Psychological Association for a 35-year career focused on promoting psychological and sociocultural research with indigenous populations. Trimble is a Woodring College of Education professor and director of Western’s Office of Assessment, Research and Testing.

NSF Grant Funds Plastic Electronics Research

Chemistry professor David Patrick and physics professor Brad Johnson have received a three-year, $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct research into ways to replace the silicon in conventional electronics with organic molecules, a concept known as “plastic electronics.” The research will be conducted through Western’s new Advanced Materials Science and Engineering Center (AMSEC), funded this year by the Washington State Legislature to promote teaching, research, and interdisciplinary competitiveness by regional industry. WWU’s research will focus on how to make lighter, cheaper and more mechanically flexible electronics.

Marine Bird Census Shows Species Decline

John Bowler, an associate professor at Western’s Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies, has concluded a comprehensive marine-bird census of Northwest Washington. More than 50 undergraduate students participated in this research. The results show a decrease of more than 80 percent for western grebes and more than 90 percent for common murres, compared to a previous census taken in the late 1970s. His research is now in the process of switching from census-taking to a species-by-species analysis of “what went wrong and how we can fix it.”

WWU Hosts Conference on Adult Education

Participants from all across the United States and Canada and as far away as China came to Western’s campus for the first-ever Western Region Research Conference on the Education of Adults, held Oct. 12 to 14. Presented by WWU’s Woodring College of Education, the conference examined the role of social justice and lifelong education in a global world. Keynote speaker was Sharan Merriam, author of Learning in Adulthood. Three of her books have won the Cyril O. Houle Award for Outstanding Literature in Adult Education.

WWU Tariff Research Could Save Billions

WWU Economics Department Chair Paul Storer is doing research that will shed quantifiable light on the complex relationship between external government tariffs, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and cross-border trade between the United States and Canada. He hopes to be able to point to a potential cost savings in the billions of dollars if streamlined rules regarding NAFTA and cross-border trade could be implemented. Storer will present his findings at a conference later this fall in Toronto. His research is funded by a $30,700 Border Research Award from the Border Policy Institute at Western.

Want to comment about what is happening at Western? Send your letters to Window on Western, MS-9011, WWU, 516 High Street, Bellingham WA 98225-9011 or email alumni@wwu.edu. Letters may be edited for length.
Western's VRI Receives 2007 Brilliant Award

Western's Vehicle Research Institute (VRI) is the recipient of a 2007 Brilliant Award presented at the Discover Brilliant International Conference and Expo held in Seattle in September.

Awards were presented in 14 categories to honor innovative solutions that go beyond “green” to generate real economic value while mitigating negative environmental impact.

The award presented to the VRI, in the “Brilliant Innovations: Waste to Energy” category, recognized the institute’s work in creating Viking 32, a vehicle powered by biomethane distilled from cow manure collected from a local dairy. A scrubber developed at the VRI filters out hydrogen sulfide and removes excess carbon dioxide from raw biogas, allowing it to be used for transportation in compressed natural gas vehicles.

VRI Director Eric Leonhardt ('95) reports that Viking 32 produces less than 25 percent of the greenhouse gases produced by the average automobile.

Western's VRI team was one of six student teams from across the country to win an Environmental Protection Agency People, Prosperity and the Planet (P3) award this year. To fulfill the second phase of that award, students and faculty from Western will work with community leaders to develop a pilot transportation system that uses biogas to power buses.

Viking 32 was the only car fueled by refined biomethane entered in the 2007 Tour de Sol. Competing against cars using biodiesel, Viking 32 placed second in acceleration, second in hill climb, third in autocross and third in climate change emissions.

BP Cherry Point in Ferndale awarded $10,000 to the VRI last spring to support this institute’s continued alternative fuel research.

The Discover Brilliant International Conference and Expo is sponsored by The Athena Institute, a collection of internationally regarded experts who specialize in progressive strategies and practical deployments for a sustainable economy.

Measuring Our Success

By Karen W. Morse  
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

If you were here for Western’s Fall Family Weekend, Oct. 26 to 28, you had the opportunity to discover some of the new programs being offered and the physical changes happening on campus.

The construction-in-progress of the new Academic Instructional Center is very much in evidence. When completed, this center will house lecture halls, classrooms, computer labs, collaborative study seating areas, and an academic wing that will provide new office and clinic space for the Psychology Department and Communication and Media Studies.

If you reviewed the listings of colleges and universities published in August by U.S. News & World Report, you know we have held our place as one of only two public schools ranked in the top 20 among master’s-granting universities in the West, a region stretching from Texas to the Pacific.

Also, as you will see elsewhere in this issue of Window on Western, we were ranked in the top five percent in a recent study conducted by the National Opinion Research Center measuring the percentage of baccalaureate-degree recipients who go on to earn a research doctorate.

We learned late in September that our College of Business and Economics MBA program has been ranked in the top 100 programs worldwide by the Aspen Institute, an international nonprofit organization promoting social and environmental values.

We are ranked forth in the top medium-sized colleges and universities with alumni serving as Peace Corps volunteers.

For many years, we have pointed with pride to our rankings in these and other surveys.

While numbers and rankings are impressive, we are most mindful that it is the accomplishments of our students and alumni that confirm our success. By that measure, we can truly say we are meeting our goal of preparing students for lifelong learning and achievement.

It is with great appreciation that I thank our donors, whose support often makes the crucial difference in our ability to create a supportive and collaborative environment that fosters student development and achievement. Your gifts have been used to fund scholarships, research and enrichment programs. While it may be difficult to quantify the difference each gift makes, collectively we know our students are making a positive difference in their professions and in their communities. As I talk with students, I am continually impressed with their plans for the future and the ways they are using the academic resources available to them.

By now, you are aware that I have announced my intention to retire next September as president of this great University. It will be my pleasure to have served in this position for 15 years. I have enjoyed a unique connection to the past—the traditions and legacies that have defined Western Washington University—and to the future—a future that is being defined by our students.

I look forward to this year and to the continued opportunities we have here at Western to help shape our future. Again, thank you!
Western Football Clinic for Women Includes Hands-on Drills

Western’s second annual Football Clinic for Women, held in August, was served up with professional coaches and tables heaping with hors d’oeuvres. The social atmosphere was purposely planned to help participants relax and get ready to have fun.

Hands-on, interactive drills helped clarify the roles each team member plays. “Keep your butt down and your head up!” Klayton Adams, offensive line coach, instructed. “That way you can see what’s coming, but you’ve got the leverage to hold your position—and protect the quarterback.”

Susie Schmidt, who attended the clinic with a support group of friends, says high stepping over cushion barriers, shoving away tackling dummies and practice taking a snap from center, then dropping back to pass, helped her discover what football is all about. “I always thought it was the arms,” she said. “I was surprised to learn how important the footwork is.”

Ginni Engen, a Western employee attending the clinic, was surprised by what she learned. “Now football feels more like a sport, rather than a battle,” she said. “It makes me want to play the game.”

WWU Hall of Fame Welcomes Three Newest Inductees

Football coaching legends Rob Smith and Terry Todd and All-American running back Jon Brunnaugh (’96) are the newest members of the WWU Athletic Hall of Fame. They were formally inducted in a ceremony held Oct. 6 on campus.

As head football coach from 1989 to 2005, Smith accumulated 109 victories in 17 seasons for a winning percentage of .640. His victory total ranks third all-time among collegiate head coaches at Pacific Northwest schools. A total of 48 student-athletes earned All-American recognition during his tenure. Smith recently was named director of athletics at Grays Harbor Community College.

Todd was an assistant coach at Western for 20 years. As a Viking aide, he was part of six conference championship teams and coached six All-Americans—three running backs, including Jon Brunnaugh, and three specialists. WWU’s football inspirational award is named after him. Also he was a recipient of the “W” blanket award.

As a student-athlete, Brunnaugh reached the magic 4,000-yard plateau in career rushing. In 1995, he had career highs of 1,127 rushing yards and 80 points and had a school-record seven 100-yard games. A member of the University’s Century Team, he became the first WWU player to lead the team in scoring four times and the third to top the squad in rushing for four seasons.

New Academic Year Brings Changes to Western’s Campus

Dennis R. Murphy (’69, 70) has been appointed to the position of provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. He assumed his new duties Aug. 15 and will serve until a permanent provost is selected.

“Dennis Murphy is widely recognized for the leadership of his college and his dedication to Western,” said President Karen W. Morse when the appointment was announced.

Murphy retired earlier this year after a distinguished career as dean of Western’s College of Business and Economics. He was appointed dean of the College in 1982.

Murphy succeeds Andrew Bodman, who left the provost position to return to teaching.

Brian Burton, associate dean of the College of Business and Economics, has been appointed to serve a two-year limited term as dean. Burton has been at Western since 1995 and previously served as associate dean for Administration and Graduate Programs.

Burton also served as director of Western’s MBA program, which was recently ranked in the top 100 programs worldwide by the Aspen Institute, an international nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of social and environmental values through nonpartisan studies and research. Approximately 600 business schools were invited to participate in the survey. MBA programs were ranked not only on mainstream academic content, but also on the institution’s efforts to integrate social and environmental concerns.

Ron Riggins has been appointed to serve a two-year limited term as dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

Riggins served as acting dean of Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies from July 2000 until he was named dean in July 2002. He stepped down as dean in 2006 and was succeeded by current Fairhaven College Dean Roger Gilman.

Riggins was interim dean of Fairhaven College from 1993 to 1994 and served as acting dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts from 1994 to 1995. He joined the Western faculty in 1977 and taught in the Recreation degree program for 23 years, serving as department chair in Physical Education, Health and Recreation from 1988 to 1992.

Riggins succeeds Carol Edwards, who left Western to become dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Texas Tech University.

Rhonda Allen has been named vice provost for Faculty Relations, a newly established position, and will work with the WWU provost to provide vision and leadership with regard to faculty issues.

Allen previously was assistant dean for Faculty Development and associate professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Before that, she was director of the Faculty Development Center, Office of Academic Affairs and associate professor in the Division of Politics, Administration and Justice at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). She received a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Southern California, a master’s of Public Administration and Policy from the University of Albany, State University of New York.

Douglas C. Nord has been named director of the Center for International Studies. He is the former executive director of the University Center for International Education at Wright State University in Ohio. He was also Campus Fulbright Program representative and chair of the Ohio International Education Consortium. He earlier served as professor of International Studies at the University of Northern British Columbia and was the university’s founding dean of the Faculty of Management and Administration. Nord has taught and conducted research at a wide variety of institutions abroad and has been published extensively in the area of international relations and comparative politics, Canadian-American relations, migration studies and comparative public policy. He earned a master’s degree and a doctorate in Political Science from Duke University.

Dennis Madsen, former president and CEO of Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI) has been reappointed to WWU’s Board of Trustees by Gov. Christine Gregoire. His new term will end Sept. 30, 2013. He was first appointed to the WWU board in September 2004. Madsen is a past president of the WWU Foundation Board of Directors.

Antasia Parker has been appointed by Gov. Christine Gregoire to serve as student trustee on Western’s Board of Trustees for the 2007-2008 academic year. Parker, a senior majoring in political science, served last year as Associated Students vice president for legislative affairs.
Family Ties Bring Pair of Cousins to Western

By John Thompson
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

The long road that has brought cousins Jayce Lindley and Zach Dale to Western, incoming freshmen this fall started with a snowball fight one cold, clear night more than 25 years ago, outside the Birnam Wood residence hall.

Rick Dale ('83) and some friends were celebrating the cancellation of classes due to snow with a vigorous snowball fight when Dale accidentally (but fortunately for him) popped Julie Pyle ('83), who happened to be standing nearby.

"She was completely unimpressed with me and had a few choice words ... but the pursuit was on," Dale says. "It took quite a while for her to go out with me."

Meanwhile, across campus, Todd Lindley ('83) was spending equal amounts of time focused on his degree in business and on Gerrilynn Pyle, the younger sister of Julie. Todd met Gerrilynn two years earlier at an orientation in his decision to apply to and attend Western if accepted.

"Western in general, and the College of Business and Economics in particular, prepared me for the outside world. Since leaving school, I've held senior-level executive positions at Fortune 50 companies such as PRC/Northrup Grumman and MCI. I've worked with executives, staff, and colleagues with graduate and undergraduate degrees from institutions like Yale, Columbia, West Point, Penn—very prestigious universities," he says. "But in the end, they all reported to me, a Western grad, because when I left school, I was prepared."

Now, a quarter-century later, the Dales and Lindleys walk across the campus, recalling good times and noting the many changes since their tenure.

"We didn't have all the technological advances the kids have today," says Todd. "Back then, if you had even just an electric typewriter, everybody wanted to be your new best friend."

Gerrilynn agrees, but adds that some things have obviously remained unchanged.

"The student population then was bigger than my hometown (Shelton), but I never felt intimidated. In fact, the campus always felt like home, and it still does," she says.

Julie says the campus still possesses the elements that attracted her to it when she was a high school senior.

"It is the perfect size, and has such a nice, comfortable feel. And you could always be who you wanted to be—you were never dealing with the pretentious attitudes so common elsewhere," she says.

It was this type of atmosphere that played a large role in bringing both Zach Dale and Jayce Lindley to campus this fall. Both cousins were top students in high school (Zach in Scottsdale, Ariz., Jayce in Montesano) who could have gone to a variety of schools, but both grew up listening to their mother, father, aunt and uncle talk about life on campus in Bellingham, of caring and engaging faculty, and of a diverse and inclusive student body. Both students visited the campus and both decided that Western was where they wanted to be. Jayce hopes to pursue a major in Engineering Technology; Zach plans to follow his father's footsteps as a Business major. "I've looked into Engineering Technology; Zach plans to follow his father's footsteps as a Business major. "IBE all the way," he says.

Jayce says his visit played a huge part in his decision to apply to and attend Western if accepted.

"The school is much larger but more laid-back than I imagined it would be, and the hands-on teaching style in the mechanics and plastics classes I was able to sit in on really surprised me. It was just what I was looking for," he says.

Their parents couldn't be happier. "We have very fond memories of Western," says Todd. "We made great friends, got a quality education, and fell in love here. Hard to beat that."

Alumni Awards Celebration Is Expanded

A full day of celebrations and events honoring WWU alumni was held Friday, Oct. 26, when this issue of Window on Western was going to press. The Alumni Awards Celebration, formerly known as the Distinguished Awards Ceremony, was expanded to include campus tours, informal get-togethers with students and faculty, a tea and reception with President Karen W. Morse and Vice President for University Advancement Stephanie Bowers, and a gala awards banquet.

Honor included an Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award, a Young Alumnus Award (presented to an alumnus under 40 years of age), a Legacy Family Award and seven Distinguished Alumni Awards (presented to an alumnus from each WWU College).

A special Larry "Go Vikings!" Taylor Alumni Service Award was created this year. The inaugural award was presented in September to Larry Taylor ('72) in recognition of his service as a volunteer and as a Western Foundation board member, WWU Board of Trustees member and Alumni Association board member.

Other alumni honored with 2007 awards include:

Lifetime Achievement Award
John Fotheringham ('55), Western Washington College of Education

Distinguished Alumni Awards
Steven Clarke ('85 & '91), Woodring College of Education
William Dietrich ('73), Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies
Els Vosdal Ellis ('74 & '77), College of Fine and Performing Arts
Margot M. Loret ('80), College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Heather Heftert Merchant ('77), Huxley College of the Environment
Laurie Vitt ('67 & '71), College of Sciences and Technology
Shaun Wolfe ('89), College of Business and Economics

Young Alumnus of the Year Award
Richard Law ('93 & '95), College of Humanities and Social Sciences
R. Ethan Yarbrough ('92 & '95), College of Fine and Performing Arts

Legacy Family of the Year Award
Kendrick Efta ('95), College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Inaugural Larry "Go Vikings!" Taylor Alumni Service Award
Larry Taylor ('72), College of Business and Economics

The Hickenbottom Family
Reunion Events Bring Nearly 500 Alumni to Campus

Elaine Bailey ('50) was one of the nearly 500 alumni who came back to Western's campus Aug. 24 and 25 to celebrate the reunions of Campus School students and Golden Vikings. The two events were held concurrently.

Western's Golden Vikings get together for a reunion every year to share experiences, connect with former classmates and induct new Golden Vikings. Alumni from the class of 1957 were inducted this year. Golden Vikings include all Western alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago.

The Campus School reunion was a signature event. For some alumni, this reunion brought them back to Western for the first time in more than 40 years. Others, like Bailey, have been able to maintain closer ties. She still lives in Bellingham and says that graduates of her Campus School class have gathered together regularly to reminisce. "Western is one of those very special places we hold in our hearts," she says.

Bailey's connections to Western run very deep. Her sister, uncle, mother and two of her sons have attended the University or the Campus School. Bailey attended the Campus School through ninth grade. Later, she returned to Western to study nursing.

Bailey was accompanied to the reunion by her husband (also an alumnus), one of her sons, and her 102-year-old mother, Edwina Hoover Zwaschka ('23). Zwaschka began her elementary school career at the Campus School and later earned a teaching certificate from Western, then called the Whatcom Normal School.

Many friendships were rekindled. Classmates traveled from Europe and from points all over the U.S. to reconnect with classmates.

At a celebration banquet held on Saturday, Joel Connelly expressed the sentiment heard often during the weekend. "Western is a special place. No matter when we were students here, or what we are doing now, we all have one thing in common—we are alumni of Western," he said.

Connelly, a columnist for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, is a member of the 1959 Campus School sixth grade class. The Campus School, open from 1901 to 1967, provided practical experience for teachers in training.

Record-breaking Crowd Attends Alumni Pre-game 'Battle' Celebrations

The WWU Alumni Association hosted more than 900 alumni, students and family members at the pre-game celebrations for the fifth annual WWU vs. CWU Battle in Seattle at Quest Field on Oct. 20, 2007.

The increase in participation in pre-game activities was up more than 750 percent over last year.

"We are very pleased with these numbers," said Deborah DeWees, executive director of the Alumni Association. "They confirm that we are putting together the programming you want. We have a dynamic, creative staff and we have been listening to what you tell us." 

Each of the packages sold out weeks before the game. More than 550 Western supporters joined the fun in the Pre-game Fox Sports Network Lounge Party. For the hundreds of students who were reunited with their parents at the pre-game party, an extra bonus was riding one of the six student Battle Buses that left campus early that afternoon. As a parent of one of these students proclaimed, "This was the greatest program. I miss my boys so much, so I thought, sign me up!"

Not to be outdone, the voices of 230 young alumni filled the rafters at the inaugural Young Alumni Pre-game Bash at the Pyramid Ale House. "Everyone who came had a good time reminiscing with friends and former classmates. I look forward to many more events like this in the coming future," said attendee Douglas Leek ('99). "It was awesome to see young alumni reconnecting in such a fun and energizing atmosphere. The turnout was so outstanding that we have booked Pyramid Ale House again and are considering early registration for next year's bash," said Chris Ronelli ('99), assistant director of young alumni and student programs.

"This is the beginning of a new and exciting era for the Alumni Association," said DeWees. "Keep your eye out for new programming coming in 2008."
The Western Washington University Foundation and Western Washington University are pleased to recognize the generosity of private financial support received during the 2006-2007 year (July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007).

During the year, 12,550 alumni, parents, friends and businesses contributed nearly $4 million to Western.

Your gifts enhance all university programs and provide significant advantages to both faculty and students.

Listed on these pages are the names of donors contributing $100 or more.

Each contribution is deeply appreciated. On behalf of all who teach and learn at WWU, thank you to all who invest in Western Washington University. You are making an impact.

Generous support from President’s Club members provides funds that are essential to maintaining Western Washington University’s leadership in 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 projects, or to a specific college, department or program. For information on how you can support Western through the President’s Club, please call Angie Vandenhaak at (360) 650-7647 or email angela.vandenhaak@wwu.edu.

President’s Club levels of participation include:

- **Benefactors**
  Cumulative commitments of $100,000 or more (listing is carried in perpetuity)
- **Lifetime Members**
  Cumulative total of $25,000 or more (listing is carried for life)
- **Honor Council**
  Annual gift of $5,000 or more
- **Annual Members**
  Contribution of $1,000 to $4,999
- **Young Associates**
  Contributions of $500 to $999 from individuals age 39 or younger
The Old Main Society recognizes alumni and friends who have made arrangements to provide gifts through their estates or other planned giving options and provides the opportunity for Western to acknowledge donors' generosity during their lifetimes. These gifts provide for the opportunity for Western to acknowledge donors' generosity during their lifetimes. These gifts provide for future needs and are an important resource of funding for Western Washington University.

Membership in the Old Main Society begins once documentation is completed naming Western as a beneficiary through a bequest, trust, annuity or life insurance plan. If you have included Western Washington University in your estate plans, please notify us so we can also recognize and thank you through the Old Main Society.

For more information, please contact Betty Kejej at (360) 692-2526 or email betty.kejej@wwu.edu.

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Harry Albert
Evelyn Ames
Amos Ames
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Heather Arnett
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Elen Broad
Benedict D. Briassoulis
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Rebecca Browder
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President’s Club

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Dwayne and Mary Kitter

Endowment Honors Huxley Professor

Fred O'Brien (74) was the first member of his extended family to earn a college degree. He did not have high expectations for himself when he moved to Western.

Looking back on the years that have passed since then, says life has been good, much better than he could ever have imagined.

This year, O'Brien made an endowment gift to the University in honor of his extended family to support the young professors. "It has been an honor in me before I believed in myself," O'Brien says. Deciding to accept the professor's assessment of his future changed his life.

The endowment, funded through O'Brien's gift, will be used to support areas identified at that time to most benefit Huxley College.
Grad Student Pioneers
New Method to Monitor Volcanoes

By John Thompson
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Western Washington University graduate student Angela Diefenbach has always been passionate about her two favorite pastimes, photography and geology. Now she is using her experience in these two areas to develop a technique for monitoring volcanoes that could conceivably save thousands of lives.

Diefenbach, who will defend her master’s thesis in geology this fall, is pioneering a new method for the study and evaluation of active volcanoes and their risk for eruption, research that could lead to easier and more cost-effective evaluation and risk assessment by geologists and volcanologists across the globe.

Diefenbach is using a technique called photogrammetry that involves taking pictures of an active volcano. Using commercially available software, she marks plot points on the pictures that the software is able to evaluate and turn into three-dimensional models. The models can then be compared to past models to determine the volume and rate of growth, key indicators of volcanic activity. Diefenbach’s test subject is the volcanic dome inside the crater of Washington’s Mount St. Helens.

Prior to Diefenbach’s research, this type of data was collected by government organizations such as the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) using airplane overflights for the pictures, which were then sent to Denver, Colo., to be collated and plotted using equipment that costs in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Diefenbach calls the process she is using the poor volcanologist’s toolkit. “We can get data that is 95 percent as accurate as the other method, at a fraction of the cost. We can shoot our photos from a helicopter and process them on a laptop using equipment typically used for forensic analysis and computer animation. So it’s a technology that’s much more accessible than the usual methods of photogrammetry.”

Diefenbach’s first interest as an undergraduate was in biology, but after a summer spent on a geology field course—taken at the prodding of her geologist sister—she was hooked. She initially came to WWU to work with her thesis advisor, associate professor of Geology Juliet Crider, on a project measuring geologic changes on Mount Baker. She changed the focus of her research after an internship with the USGS that took her to the Cascades Volcano Observatory on Mount St. Helens to monitor its active eruption. There she began accumulating the data needed for a newly revised thesis on photogrammetry and its applications in volcano monitoring.

“The two scientists I worked with from the USGS thought some photos we had taken from the helicopter could be used for some kind of quantitative analysis, so we started brainstorming and looking on the internet for software. I’ve been working toward that goal for the past two years,” she says.

Crider says Mount St. Helens is the perfect test site for Diefenbach’s research. “Mount St. Helens may be the most closely monitored volcano in the world, with dozens of instruments on the ground and teams of researchers interpreting the data. Angie can test her method against the work of others at Mount St. Helens to see how close her results are to estimates of the same quantities made by more sophisticated instruments,” she says.

Potential uses

The success of Diefenbach’s pilot project is something she hopes to be able to present to agencies and groups at conferences after she has defended her thesis this fall. Her goal is for geologists across the globe who may not have access to the latest equipment to be able to incorporate her system into their volcano research, a goal Crider says is of enormous value.

“Most volcanoes in the world have no continuous monitoring, and many are so remote that flying over them in a helicopter may be one of the only ways to get information about an eruption.” Angie’s technique, it will be possible to get quantitative information, rather than just pictures. This will help volcanologists track the progress of an eruption and evaluate the hazards, even without fancy instruments on the ground. Because the technique is relatively low cost—less than a few thousand dollars for a camera, computer and software—it is accessible to many more researchers than other methods. We imagine it being used by volcanologists in developing nations or anywhere that funding for science is limited.”

Dr. Arlan Norman, dean of WWU’s College of Sciences and Technology, says this type of research is a continuing focus at Western.
“Many of the research challenges faced by developing countries and their scientists can be addressed only if lower-cost ways can be found to do the research. Often, finding ways to get the results we need, using less costly methods, really takes immense imagination and creativity and should be a goal of some of our research efforts,” he says. “A hallmark of our research programs in Geology—and in the College of Sciences and Technology in general—is that they involve both undergraduate and graduate students in all aspects of the research, making the educational experience and research environment somewhat unique.”

Research and conclusions

Diefenbach’s data shows that the lava dome inside the Mount St. Helens crater is growing at a rate more than double that of its first growth surge in the 1980s. She says this isn’t necessarily cause for concern.

“It could continue at its present rate for years without necessarily having another major eruption, or it could start to slow down tomorrow and become inactive, as it did from 1986 to about 2000. You just never know,” she says.

Flying around the inside of a volcano’s crater in a helicopter is not a typical graduate student activity, but Diefenbach says it’s one of the highlights of her thesis work. “It’s a blast—especially when the doors are open.”

WASHINGTON GET PROGRAM CELEBRATES 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

By Dee Johnson (’96) UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Although a successful career in government has taken Chuck Odell (’52) away from Western and the WWU campus, he has maintained close ties with the University. He is a member of the President’s Club and has been an active participant in Alumni Association programs.

He took notice 10 years ago when the Washington state GET program was introduced and immediately purchased GET units for his four grandchildren. His grandson, Charles Kyle Odell, began using GET units last year when he enrolled at Western. The proud grandfather notes that Charles Kyle finished his freshman year with a 4.0 GPA.

Charles Kyle is one of more than 550 students on Western’s campus who are currently using GET units to pay all or a portion of their tuition.

Western has some special ties to the Washington GET program. Director Betty Everett Lochner (’79, ’87) has been involved with the GET program for seven years. She met her husband Ken Lochner (’79) at Western. Their daughter Kalli Mae Lochner, now a high school senior, has applied to Western.

Lochner says many of their friends are WWU alumni, so it’s not surprising that there are so many GET students on campus. “When I tell them about the GET program, they open an account. It’s a no brainer,” she says.

Washington GET celebrated its 10th anniversary in September. GET is the state’s 529 prepaid tuition program, which means that money put into a GET account grows tax free, and all withdrawals are tax-free when used for tuition, room and board, books or other qualified higher education expenses. The program offers a hedge against inflation; the state guarantees that the value of a GET account will keep pace with tuition.

Anyone—parents, grandparents, or friends—can open a GET account for a future university student. The only requirement is that either the student or account owner be a Washington resident at the time the account is opened.

GET units can be used for in-state or out-of-state public or private institutions. If a child with a GET account receives a scholarship or for some other reason elects not to use the account, the owner of the account can transfer it to another family member or request a refund.

The open enrollment period for the Washington GET program runs through March 31, 2008. To learn more, go to www.get.wa.gov or call (800) 955-2318.

California Elementary School Adopts Western

By Lance Henderson (’07) UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Western T-shirts, hoodies and souvenirs will soon be in high demand at Valley View Elementary School in Riverside, Calif.

Catherine Green’s kindergarten class is adopting Western Washington University as part of its application to the “No Excuses University” network, a program used to promote awareness and excitement about higher education options in elementary schools.

Greer is committed to promoting college readiness for every one of her students and is excited to be a part of the “No Excuses University Network.” She is also looking forward to the connections her students will build with WWU.

Her daughter, Deb Currier, is an assistant professor in the University’s College of Fine and Performing Arts, so Greer already knew that Western, like Valley View Elementary, is focused on helping students reach their highest potentials.

Greer has also discovered that Valley View and Western share another common bond: they are both Viking Schools.

Joanne Carney, associate professor of instructional technology and elementary education at Western’s Woodring College of Education, knows just how powerful connections to a university can be. She saw the proof of that after sending her 10-year-old niece, who lives in Massachusetts, a postcard of Western’s campus.

Carney’s sister reported back that her daughter excitedly went to the Western website to find out more, and she then decided that she wants to come to Western to become either a teacher or a scientist.

“Is my niece likely to come to Western from Massachusetts?” she asked. “Probably not, but she nonetheless has an image in her mind of a very attractive place she can attend later if she dedicates herself to learning in her elementary school now.”

Carney says it’s very important for elementary school teachers to make all students aware of higher education options.

“Establishing those kinds of expectations for children provides them with real-life goals and gives meaning to what they are learning in the classroom,” she says.

She also points out that elementary teachers have an opportunity to give students from low-income families these kinds of college-bound mental images.

“Their families may not include anyone who has attended college, and so these children have an even greater need to hear that their teachers have high expectations for them,” she says. “Connections to particular universities, like Western, can make those expectations real.”

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606 - Bob Storms taught music in Ferndale for 38 years and has recently published a book that includes a collection of columns he wrote for the Ferndale Record-Journal relating stories from his teaching days.

1961 - Donna Thompson was.featured on the Today Show on July 27 in an interview with Matt Lauer regarding playground safety. She is the executive director of the National Program for Playground Safety at the University of Northern Iowa, Thompson is the 2005 recipient of the Western Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award.

1962 - Dennis Myers has been inducted into the Washington NHS Officials Association Hall of Fame for his diverse contributions to basketball officiating, which include serving as three-time president of the Snohomish County Basketball Officials Association and writing the association’s constitution and bylaws. He is the first official from Snohomish County to receive this honor.

1967 - Jim and Sandy Swanson recently retired and decided to close Swanson’s Shoe Repair in Bothell. The store had been a fixture on Bothell’s Main Street for the past 40 years. The couple met while attending Western....

1969 - George Drew was named winner of the 2007 Stephen Dunn Poetry Award and first runner up for the 2007 Louisiana Literature Prize and the Fugue Poetry Prize. He is the author of two full poetry collections, including the recent. The Hon’s Name was Physics.

1971 - John W. Schutt was honored with a service award from The Meteoritical Society, an international organization devoted to the study of space matter. Since 1980, Schutt has been guiding scientists across the polar ice sheets of Antarctica in search of meteorites...

1973 - Lila Pinson has released her third book, My Monkey, which takes place in the Quinault village where she was born and raised.... Patricia Wood Weber retired from Olympic School District after serving nearly 31 years as a teacher and librarian.

1974 - Karen Johnston has had her art displayed in Art in the Park in Boise, Idaho and the University of Washington’s Henry Art Gallery. One of her large wall hangings is in the private aircraft of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. Greg Colfax, a Makah carver, fisherman and poet, recently presented a lecture on the “Origins and Fears of Northwest Coast Native Art.”

1976 - Jim Hayden joined SecondSpace, a new online services company, as vice president of sales.... Whitney Schuster recently released her new executive director of Nookack Salmon Enhancement Association. She had held the position since 1993.

1977 - Kurt Creager was recently named senior vice president of housing development for CDK Partners, a property management firm in Phoenix, Ariz. Michael Dwyer was recently recognized by the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) as the Washington State DECA Advisor of the Year. DECA gives high school students hands-on experiences in business and marketing. Dwyer has been a marketing teacher for 24 years at Eisenhower High School in Yakima.

Duncan Wilson was hired as North Bend’s new city administrator.

1980 - Scott Broughman is the new parks and recreation director for the city of Paluma, Calif. Patty Page is the new supervisor of parking management for the city of Paluma, Calif. The new supervisor of parking management for the city of Paluma, Calif.

1981 - Ray Downey received honorable mention for his clarinet styling at an international competition sponsored by the Los Angeles State University Music Workshop. His composition, “Three Genomes from Sonoma,” was performed at the workshop. Ray has played bass trombone for the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra for more than 20 years and has been teaching music in Blaine for the past 26 years.

1982 - Bryan Hansen is the new pastor of the Luther College United Methodist Church in Aberdeen, Calif. He finished his pastoral training at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif. In 1986, Hansen was named chaplain for the Redmond School District as their new director of educational improvement.

1984 - Joan Penney is the new dean for humanities and visual arts science at Edmonds Community College. Penney worked at Skagit Valley College for 18 years as an executive director for the McGregor Performing Arts Center, dean of academics, music instructor and choral director.... Annmarie Powers-Vance has released her first e-book. Entitled According to His Deeds, the book focuses on modern American families and a family dealing with tragedy. Kim Robbins is a diving coach for the Bellinger Parks and Recreation Department at Ame Hanna Aquatic Center, and works with area high school students.

1985 - Yvonne (Fisher) Brown has joined the staff of Snapper Shuler Kenner Insurance in Lynden. Patrick Rick is a deputy treasurer for the state of Washington.

1986 - Jeff Parcher is the senior communications advisor for the Bill Richardson presidential campaign.

1987 - Kerriann Cookrell joined the staff at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park as fund development and membership manager. Mary Evitts has joined the staff of the Bellinger Herald as editor of Whatcom Business Magazine.

1988 - Julie McGalliard recently joined Net Solutions North America, an interactive website design company, as their Ecart Pro project manager. She is also working on several books, as well as writing and designing a comic strip in her spare time.... Clarissa Ruston was appointed to a director position on the Auburn School Board....

1989 - Rob Cheesman has been teaching at Lynden High School for 16 years and employs a unique teaching methodology, which involves using software rasterized exclusively for his students. He has seen his students write letters to themselves, which he keeps for five years and then returns to the students.

1991 - Beth Kirkhoff has been the chorus master for the Seattle Opera Chorus.

1992 - Debra Rose has been promoted to vice president of finance and operations at the Alliance for Lupus Research in New York City.... Dean Shelton has been appointed to the Washington State Fire Protection Policy Board. Daniel Shepardson recently enrolled in the Public Administration and Policy doctoral program at Portland State University.

1994 - Renee Marr was named vice president and agency manager at Vibrant USA, an insurance agency specializing in serving Medicare patients.... Jill Mesi was recently launched her own company, Lernia Training Solutions, which specializes in training for small to mid-sized performing arts groups, as director of customer relations.... Cara Ungar-Gallandt was named executive director of the Oregon Council for the Humanities. She is the third director and the first woman to head the 36-year-old nonprofit organization.

1995 - Trevor B. Hall was recently hired by Sheldon Good & Company, a global retail marketing services and corporate communications agency. Mark Salazar was also included in the 2006 Top 40 Under 40 by the Seattle Business Magazine and the Alaska Journal of Commerce.... Patrick Spoke recently joined Ticket Turtle, a host ticketing services firm, and is responsible for creating and directing large-sized performing arts groups, as director of customer relations.... Cara Ungar-Gallandt was named executive director of the Oregon Council for the Humanities. She is the third director and the first woman to head the 36-year-old nonprofit organization.

1996 - Gary Gerhard and Tamra Reis, on April 28

1978 - David Lee and Bonnie Coffee, on June 2

1987 - Stuart Jones and Noe Dinh, on July 9

1994 - Matthew Henderson and Michelle Elliott (’00), on March 3

1997 - Carol Franco and Lance E. Ingles, on July 7

1998 - Jeffrey Dwyer and Carol Hathaway, on June 16

1999 - John Mills and Katie Callahan, on June 30

2000 - Scott Kloehn and Carol Hathaway, on June 16

2003 - Michele Elliott (’00), and Margaret Twiss, on March 10

2004 - David Schutte and Julie Jones, on April 14

2005 - Eric Mathews and Amy Byegard, on June 23

2006 - Peter Ahn and Lydia Steele, on March 16

2007 - Robert Jackson and Kendra Spoonell, on June 8

2008 - Emily Samuels and Joshua Sebastian, on March 24

2009 - Jonathan Shaffer and Elizabeth Marsh, on June 16

Rep. Larry Springer is a regional leader for the Washington State House of Representatives. He was recently re-elected to his second term serving the 45th district.

A former public school teacher, Springer was elected to the Kirkland City Council in 1991. He served in that position until 2004, when he left to run for the state House of Representatives. He has also served as mayor of Kirkland. An advocate for economic development, social responsibility and the arts, Springer was instrumental in bringing a Performing Arts Center to Kirkland. He is the owner of The Grape Choice, a small wine shop located in downtown Kirkland.
of a design and marketing firm in Green Lake.  

- Brendolyn Johnson received an Amatuer Poet of 2006 award from the international Poet Society. She now lives in New York. Johnson previously lived in Everett and worked with Community Services and Careers to help DHS participants find and maintain an employment.  

- Michael Koenen is a part-time writer/photographer for the Atlanta Falcons' sideline report. Donn Quimby recently joined Keller Williams Realty.  

- Nadia Kranovitch hosted her first solo art exhibition during the Lummi Island Artists' Studio Tour held Labor Day weekend.  

- Melanie Reed is an award-winning graphic designer for the Sequim Gazette. Reed accepted a position as graphic design coach for boy's basketball at Olympic High School. She comes to the job after two years as a graphic design teacher at Bellingham High School.  

- Jennifer Shelton is the director of the Edmonds Community College Small Business Development Center. She recently partnered with the South Snohomish County Chamber of Commerce to assist area companies with free, confidential business information and support services.  

- Thoreen Rogers has been hired as the new manager at Ate Works, a nonprofits organization that salvages and sells home appliances. Thoreen previously was assistant manager at the RE Store.  

- Bonnijo Chervenock recently received a 30-year employee award for her dedicated service in the marine biology department. Chervenock was the first assistant manager at the Edmonds Community College Boat Basin.  

- Colleen (Reilly) Lauderback, 73, a retired teacher, on Sept. 21.  

- Paul E. Smith, 57, a carnivore enthusiast and fly fisherman, on May 7 in Everett.  

- David Swenson, 77, a retired U.S. Navy lieutenant commander and former director and employee of the Edmonds Marine Science Center, on July 20 near Covode, Pa.  

- Sarah Price Ridenhour, 66, a former teacher and retired research specialist, on Sept. 8 in the Yakima River Canyon. At the time of her death, Ridenhour was a member of the national cougar study team.  

- Gordon William Martin, a retired U.S. Navy lieutenant commander and former teacher, on Aug. 25.  

- Paul E. Smith, 83, a World War II veteran, former teacher and recipient of the American Red Cross Clara Barton Award, on Oct. 25, 2006.  

- Beatrice (Moore) DeGoller, 69, a former teacher, librarian and world traveler, on May 7 in Bellingham.  

- John Paul Olson, 66, a former teacher and retired Boeing software engineer manager, on Aug. 21 in Auburn.  

- Theodore M. Bondurant, 71, a Lutheran pastor and former logger and millwright, on July 3 in Forks.  

- Larry Taylor ('72), a former member of the Board of Trustees and past president of the WWU Alumni Association, died Oct. 5. He was 57.  

Brady Ridhentour ('04) will spend 10 months in China as a Fulbright Scholar researching deaf-education practices in China, sharing U.S. deaf-education practices and promoting bilingual sign language/ written language policies in schools for the deaf. Ridhentour received her bachelor's degree in Linguistics from Western in 2004. In June, she received a dual master's degree in Deaf Education and Educational Administration from Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.  

Deborah Purce ('96) has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship which will allow her to spend 10 months in Chile researching strategies that have been developed to unite diverse marine ecosystems and cultures under a single national policy for Marine Protected Areas (MPA) management. As an undergraduate, Purce studied abroad her junior year in the Dominican Republic and Chile. She has also worked with a marine science program in Mexico and has spent 12 years learning Spanish. She completed her thesis in December 2006 to earn a master's degree in biology from Western.

Larry Taylor Remembered for Service to Western

Larry Taylor (72), a former member of the Board of Trustees and past president of the WWU Alumni Association, died Oct. 5. He was 57.  

In recognition of his significant service to the University, he was presented with the newly created Larry "Go Vikings!" Taylor Alumni Service Award. The award will be given annually to an alumnus who exemplifies Taylor's dedication to and enthusiasm for Western.

"Larry's greatest pride after his family was Western Washington University," President Karen W. Morse said during a eulogy she delivered at Taylor's memorial service Oct. 13. "He was known for his enthusiasm and ability to coerce, in a friendly way. He was our auctioneer for our Viking athletics auction, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars so students could attend his alma mater," Morse said.

His dedication to Western was evident in his remarks to the graduates he addressed in the annual Commencement speech he delivered on behalf of the Alumni Association. "When you wake up in the morning, you can walk with your head a little higher, your back a little straighter, you shout a little louder, your step a little prouder because you are a graduate of Western Washington University," he said.

Taylor was involved in many volunteer and civic activities. He received numerous awards from local and regional agencies and was a much sought-after speaker, motivational coach and spokesperson. He is survived by his wife Theresa, sons Ethan and Jesse, and many other family members and friends. Gifts in his memory can be made to the WWU Foundation.

FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

- Thomas Adrian Nils Alberg, 91, a former professor of chemistry, on Sept. 10 in Bellingham.  

- Thomas Graham, an adventurer and Olympic College staff member, on Mount Jupiter, on July 14.

- Emily M. Peck, a former WWU faculty member, counselor, and poet, on June 21.  

- Robert Charles Smith, 47, a teacher, software specialist, and member of the Western Washington University faculty, on Oct. 22, 2006 in Austin, Texas.  

- Jennifer Jo Stickney, 32, a homemaker and crafter, on Oct. 22, 2006 in Austin, Texas.  

- Rachel Lynn Schoonover-Huston, 32, a homemaker and crafter, on Oct. 22, 2006 in Austin, Texas.

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- Lawrence L. Lowery, professor emeritus of political science, on July 14.

- Francisco Elizalde Titus, a Financial Aid officer for 25 years, on July 8. Through her involvement in Women on Wheels, Titus was inspired by those who had lost their jobs even after their retirement. An account has been created to establish a scholarship in Titus’ name for future students. Memorials may be sent to “Fran Titus Scholarship Fund,” care of WUCUC, P.O. Box 9750, Bellingham WA 98227-9750.

- William A. “Bill” Tomaras, 85, a former director of Men’s Athletics at Western, on Aug. 12. Tomaras was known as the Father of Western Wrestling. He started the wrestling program at Western in 1961 and helped initiate the rowing program in 1969. He was inducted into Western’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 1968, the Helms Foundation Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1973, and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2002.
Performing Arts Center Series

**Trio Mediaeval**
Thursday, Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.
The Trio Mediaeval repertoire features polyphonic music from old ballads and songs and contemporary works, a seamless and precise blending of voices and impeccable intonation.

_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $16-$25_

**Le Trio Joubran**
Friday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
Well known throughout the Arab world, the three Joubran brothers deliver rich and beautiful vocal harmonies showcasing traditional Palestinian influences.

_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $16-$25_

**Quartet San Francisco**
Friday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.
Performing with tango dancers, Quartet San Francisco redefines chamber music and brings classical music to a new level with genre-bending world influences.

_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $16-$25_

**On Ensemble**
Friday, May 16, 7:30 p.m.
On Ensemble employs traditional taiko rhythms to conceive an original sound combining acoustic instruments, electronic influences and Tuvan overtone singing.

_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $16-$25_

**Sanford Piano Series**

**Ian Parker**
Friday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.
_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $9-$16_

**Robert Roux**
Friday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m.
_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $9-$16_

**Orion Weiss**
Friday, Feb. 29, 7:30 p.m.
_PAC Concert Hall - Tickets: $9-$16_

The Sanford Piano Series is sponsored by the Sprint Fund of Whatcom Community Foundation. Proceeds support the Arthur Hicks and Fred Hill Piano Scholarships.

The College of Fine and Performing Arts brings internationally acclaimed artists to Western. Tickets are available at the WWU Box Office, (360) 650-6146, and online at tickets.wwu.edu. Discount prices are available to WWU Alumni Association members. For more information, visit www.ac.wwu.edu/cfpa.

Tickets & Information
http://calendar.wwu.edu

"Bigger Big Chair," a sculpture by Bay Area artist David Ireland, is the newest addition to Western's acclaimed Outdoor Sculpture Collection. The new sculpture, inspired by a chair and described by the artist as "micro-architecture," is made of coated steel plate and measures 8 feet high and 12 feet long. It was installed in September on Fairhaven Ridge, located between WWU's Buchanan Towers residence hall and Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Ireland grew up in Bellingham and attended Western's Campus School. He earned a master's in Fine Art at the San Francisco Art Institute. His first solo show was at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in 1976. A recent retrospective of his work was hosted at the Oakland Museum of Art. Ireland has had numerous one-person exhibitions at major institutions and museums. A leader in functional artwork, he is known for his creative solutions to existing architectural spaces.

Western's Outdoor Sculpture Collection was named one of the 10 best on-campus public art collections in a survey published last year in Public Art Review magazine.

The Western Gallery opened its 2007–2008 season with the "Fabric of Identity" exhibition of textiles and fiber/ multimeda installations exploring the representation of identities from a number of different perspectives. The exhibition runs through Nov. 30.

Photo by Lance Henderson (’07)

(360) 650-6146