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Spring 2014
USPS 679-980

Western News



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Alumni News and Notes from Western Illinois University

Capital Campaign a success

By Julie Murphy '94 M.S. '95

Western Illinois University President **Jack Thomas**, along with the WIU Foundation and its Board of Directors, announced the successful completion of the \$60 million Higher Values in Higher Education Campaign. The campaign officially ended Dec. 31, 2013, raising a total of \$62.1 million.

"I would like to thank all of the generous individuals, foundations and corporations that contributed to this success," Thomas said. "Because of you, Western's core values will be translated into action and our students will have enhanced educational opportunities. The higher education landscape has changed drastically in the last decade, and private support is necessary to maintain excellence and ensure student success."

The Higher Values in Higher Education Campaign set out to raise \$60 million in support of four objectives: student scholarships, faculty support, capital improvement and information and technologies.

"The Higher Values in Higher Education Campaign for Western represents only the second philanthropic campaign in the 114-year history of Western," said **Brad Bainter '79 M.S. '83**, vice president for advancement and public services and executive officer of the Foundation. "Our first campaign, which ended in 2000, raised nearly \$5 million more than its \$20 million goal. I am extremely grateful to the leadership provided by President Thomas, President Emeritus **Al Goldfarb** and our dedicated

Foundation Board. I am especially appreciative of the tremendous support we received from our alumni and friends."

According to Bainter, the success of the campaign has had a tremendous impact on the WIU Foundation. The University's endowment has increased to \$40 million from \$16 million, and the institution's total asset base is now approximately \$55 million. Earnings from the endowment support student scholarships, academic programs, critical University needs and many initiatives on both campuses. Planned gifts also comprise part of the \$62 million total.

"On behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors, I thank each and every donor who contributed to the success of this campaign," said Foundation Board President **Jim Lodico '60 MS-Ed '75** of Geneseo (IL). "From the one-figure to the seven-figure gift, each makes a difference and improves the education we offer our students."

Many campaign funds have gone directly to scholarships, academics, athletics, performing arts, lab equipment and research activities.

"Western has achieved so much and experienced so many positives during these difficult economic times," said Bainter. "Words really cannot express our appreciation for the generosity shown during this campaign. The real success of the campaign is the impact on our students and our campuses. I invite you to visit either the Macomb or Quad Cities campus to see for yourself how your investment contributes to the vitality of this great University."



The Higher Values in Higher Education Campaign set out to raise \$60 million in support of four objectives: student scholarships, faculty support, capital improvement and information and technologies.

WIU sees improved retention

Students at Western Illinois University are performing better in the classroom, retention rates have improved, and more students are finishing their first semester in good academic standing, according to Provost and Academic Vice President **Ken Hawkinson '78 M.A. '79**.

Hawkinson noted that programs such as the Building Connections mentor program, which pairs first year students with a faculty or staff mentor, and a First Year Experience course are having a significant, positive effect on first-year student success. The fall-to-spring retention rate has improved to 89.3 percent (Fall 2013 to Spring 2014), from 82.2 percent in (Fall 2012 to Spring 2013). The percentage of new first-time freshmen in good academic standing or semester honors after their first semester was 78.2 percent in Fall 2013, compared to 70.4 percent in Fall 2012.

"Despite the challenges of fewer high school graduates in the state and greater competition from out-of-state universities, we are thrilled with our Spring 2014 enrollment," he added. "We have cut our fall enrollment deficit in half, while maintaining rigor in the classroom and a commitment to academic excellence. Western's faculty and staff truly care about their students, and our support programs are making a difference in the lives of WIU students."

Students who met with their Building Connections faculty or staff mentor were 90.6 percent likely to return for the spring semester. A renewed emphasis on community development within University Housing and Dining Services has resulted in 92.7 percent of freshmen returning to the residence halls for the second semester, compared to 79.9 percent in the previous year. Western also recently implemented a new common course experience to help students explore the role of critical thinking, problem solving and information gathering skills to achieve success in college and personal growth.

According to Admissions Director **Andy Borst**, while the University began the academic year with 100 fewer new freshmen, the increase in retention resulted in the Fall 2013 freshman class now being larger than the Fall 2012 freshman class, comparing year to year.

U.S. News and World Report 2014 rankings show that Western Illinois University out-performs its predicted graduation rates by 8 percent.

For more information about Western's retention rates and student success, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (309) 298-3100 or admissions@wiu.edu.

2014 UPCOMING ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

March

- 14 Atlanta
- 24 Chicago
- 26 Alexandria (VA)

April

- 1 Normandy
- 2 Champaign
- 2 Chicago
- 6 Chicago
- 30 Springfield

May

- 4 Mediterranean
- 9 Macomb
- 14 Italy
- 28 Washington D.C.

June

- 4 Plainfield (IL)
- 9 Woodridge (IL)
- 10 Apulia
- 16 Silvis (IL)

See page 2 for entire calendar.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER
NEWS FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Announcing WIU Homecoming in Chicago!

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Western News! I hope you'll take a moment to read through all the exciting things happening at your alma mater. One of the most exciting opportunities we have planned Sept. 15-

21 is in conjunction with our football game against Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. While we have a wonderful, traditional Homecoming celebration every year in Macomb, we decided to have a WIU Chicago Homecoming this year. Be sure to watch the Western News, your email and regular mail for information about our week-long events in the Chicago area starting Monday, Sept. 15 and culminating on Saturday, Sept. 20 with an all-day Homecoming-style celebration in Evanston. We look forward to seeing you throughout the spring and summer, and especially September and October for "both" Homecoming celebrations!

Amy E. Spelman
-Amy Spelman M.S. '98

WIU ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

MARCH 2014

- 13South Carolina Alumni & Friends Event at Kiawah
- 14Atlanta Alumni & Friends Social at the Oceanaire
- 24Chicago Bulls vs. Indiana Pacers Social and Basketball Game in Chicago

APRIL 2014

- 1-9Alumni Travel Abroad - Normandy, 70th Anniversary of D-Day
- 2Champaign Alumni & Friends Social at Silvercreek
- 2Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Chicago at The Emerald Loop
- 6Chicago Blackhawks vs. St. Louis Blues Social and Hockey Game in Chicago
- 30Springfield Legislative and Alumni and Friends Social at The Sangamo Club

MAY 2014

- 4-15Alumni Travel Abroad - Cradle of History
- 14-22Alumni Travel Abroad - Italian Inspiration
- 9-10Graduation/Distinguished Alumni Awards Weekend

JUNE 2014

- 4Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Plainfield (IL) at Nevin's
- 9“The Western Open” Chicago Golf Outing at Seven Bridges
- 10-18Alumni Travel Abroad - Apulia (Note new date.)
- 16Quad Cities Golf Outing at TPC Deere Run

AUGUST 2014

- 6Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Chicago
- 21-30Alumni Travel Abroad - Baltic Treasures (Through Sept. 1)

SEPTEMBER 2014

- 6WIU at Wisconsin Social & Football Game
- 20WIU Chicago Homecoming at Northwestern University Social and Football Game
- 22-30Alumni Travel Abroad - Cruise the Rhine
- 25Celebrating Town & Gown in Macomb

OCTOBER 2014

- 1Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Libertyville (IL)
- 3-4Homecoming/Reunion
- 15-29Alumni Travel Abroad - Southern Africa
- 20-31Alumni Travel Abroad - China and the Yangtze River (Through Nov. 3)

NOVEMBER 2014

- 7-15Alumni Travel Abroad - Pearls of the Mediterranean
- 19-30Alumni Travel Abroad - Cruise the Panama Canal

DECEMBER 2014

- 19-20Graduation/Alumni Achievement Awards

JANUARY 2015

- 6-16Alumni Travel Abroad - Mayan Mystique

MARCH 2015

- 15-25Alumni Travel Abroad - Polynesian Paradise

APRIL 2015

- 24-5/3Alumni Travel Abroad - Mediterranean Marvels

JUNE 2015

- 16-24Alumni Travel Abroad - Baltic Marvels
- 22-30Alumni Travel Abroad - Pearls of the Mediterranean

JULY 2015

- 7-14Alumni Travel Abroad - Coastal Alaska

DECEMBER 2015

- 26-10/5Alumni Travel Abroad - Greek Isles Odyssey

***Please see p. 24 for upcoming bi-monthly Washington D.C. area events!

From the President



As we approach the halfway mark of the Spring 2014 semester, it is the perfect opportunity to express my appreciation to our alumni and friends for their dedication to Western Illinois University and to share our many accomplishments thus far during the 2013-2014 academic year.

The Western Illinois University Higher Values in Higher Education Capital Campaign officially ended Dec. 31, 2013. The campaign goal of \$60 million was surpassed by \$2.1 million, and we want to thank you, our alumni and friends, for such a successful campaign. Because of your generosity, our students will have greater educational opportunities for years to come. Many campaign funds have gone directly to scholarships, academics, athletics, performing arts, lab equipment and research activities.

Because of your continued support, Western Illinois University advanced in the NCAA's 6th Fan competition. For making the initial Sweet Sixteen cut, WIU earned \$10,000 toward the University's general scholarship fund. The winner of the overall competition will win \$100,000 for their respective university's scholarship fund. At press time, Western moved into the Final Four and is the only Illinois school and Summit League member remaining in the competition.

We also appreciate your participation in a recent survey to assess alumni and friends' thoughts regarding Western's "Think Purple" marketing campaign. We were pleased to learn that nearly 62 percent of respondents had heard of "Think Purple," and that more than half of those who participated in the survey had a positive opinion of "Think Purple." The comments, suggestions and feedback will help us further enhance our marketing plans for the future.

Our alumni continue to bring great pride and recognition to Western. We appreciate that so many of you return to campus to share advice and provide guidance to our students. Nancy Cardea, the senior vice president and compliance officer for the Leo Burnett advertising agency, was named the 2013 Executive in Residence for the College of Business and Technology. Charles Romani, Jr., a Vietnam veteran and retired chief judge, received the 2013 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award. Retired teacher Linda Janus was the College of Arts and Sciences' (CAS) Professor of the Day. Martin O'Connor, president of OCM, Inc., was on campus to receive the 2014 College of Business and Technology Distinguished Alumnus Award. Heather Wier-Vaught, counsel to Illinois Speaker of the House Michael J. Madigan, served as the Honors College Pre-Law Symposium keynote speaker. Patrick Magoon, president and CEO of the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, delivered the 2013 Robert and Mary Ferguson Lecture. NFL player Jason Williams returned last month to meet with students in his former department, kinesiology.

Western Illinois University students have had a successful academic year thus far. Students in the the Department of Broadcasting have broken a record for the number of finalists in a national competition. The department has 11 nominations in the National Association of Broadcasting Society's Undergraduate Student Electronic Media Competition. Student journalists from the Western Courier earned eight awards at the Illinois College Press Association's annual convention. Senior English major Juliana Goodman, of Riverdale (IL), has become the University's first student to make it to the final round of the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Arts Scholarship competition. A team of students in WIU's School of Agriculture took home first place in the senior college division of the 67th Annual Barrow Show Swine Judging Contest. Five WIU students recently received City of Macomb Citizens' Awards for their selflessness in helping others in danger, and numerous other students provided assistance to Washington (IL), following the November tornado. A new student organization, Be the Match, brought more than 200 individuals together to register as bone marrow donors for the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) and Ashley Luke became Western Illinois Women's Basketball's first-ever Academic All-America selection, an award that recognizes student-athletes' academic and athletic accomplishments.

Students at Western Illinois University are performing better in the classroom, retention rates have improved, and more students are finishing their first semester in good academic standing. U.S. News and World Reports' 2014 rankings show that Western out-performs its predicted graduation rates by 8 percent.

As you can see from just this small sampling, we have so much to be proud of at Western Illinois University. Despite the budgetary challenges we continue to face, our students, faculty and staff continue to succeed and to do great things.

I look forward to meeting many of you at alumni events this spring. Thank you for your continued support.

All my best,

Jack Thomas

Jack Thomas

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Education and Human Services

Reading educators receive grants for their students

Two Western Illinois University Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C & I) graduate students and two alumnae of the program were awarded grants while they were enrolled in the C & I program Fall 2013.

According to C & I Professor **Sara Simonson MS-Ed, Kelsey Bower M.S. '13, Sarah Brauhn M.S. '13, Candy Berquam** and **Maggie Hyde**—all studying in the department's reading program—received grants they will use to help students in their school districts and classrooms.

Simonson said for accreditation purposes, graduate students in her Reading Specialist K-12 program are required to write and submit a grant, which is a project for the class 588 level course, "Leadership in Reading."

"These dedicated and hard-working teachers are deserving of recognition and the reward of



Kelsey Bower M.S. '13



Sarah Brauhn M.S. '13

classroom literacy materials," Simonson said. "Their students are first and foremost in their minds as they create literacy communities within their classroom walls. I'm proud of their diligence and tireless efforts as they work to improve their teaching practices."

Bower (Davenport, IA), a first grade teacher in North Scott Community School District, received \$40,000 from Scott County Regional Authority, plus a matching gift of \$30,000 from her school district (for a grand total of \$70,000), for her project, "Classroom Libraries." Bower will use the grant award to purchase a variety of engaging and high interest books for libraries in all K-6 classrooms in her district.

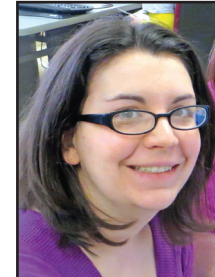
Brauhn (Madison, WI) is a literacy coach at Black Hawk Middle School in the Madison (WI) Metropolitan School District. She received a \$4,000 award from the Lodewick Partner School Network at the University of Wisconsin School of Education for her project, "Middle School Literacy Collaboration, Common Core and School Improvement." This grant will fund Brauhn's



Candy Berquam

and her students' attendance at the Wisconsin State Reading Conference.

Berquam (Keokuk, IA) is a pre-kindergarten teacher in the Hamilton (IL) Community Consolidated School District. Berquam received \$500 from Wal-Mart for her project, "Integrating Literacy through Technology." She is using the grant funds to purchase an iPad bundle for district's reading resource teacher.



Maggie Hyde

Hyde (Orion, IL) is a Title I reading teacher at Alwood (IL) Community School District. Hyde applied for and was awarded a \$1,000 SCORE (Schools and Community Outreach by Educators) grant from the Illinois Education Association, which she will use for family reading nights. With the grant, Hyde held one reading night last November and has another one planned this month. The monies are used to promote parent involvement and literacy.

Friends of Horn: Working together to honor and advance Horn Field Campus

It was in 2009 that a few members of the Western Illinois University community came together to serve a place they hold near and dear to their hearts—Horn Field Campus. Horn, as it is affectionately referred to by many, is one of the University's outdoor educational facilities situated south of Western's Macomb campus on 92-acres. Those acres were donated to the University almost 50 years ago, and the location is one that has inspired hundreds of students, faculty members and community members.

While it is administered through the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration (RPTA), Horn Field Campus (HFC) has been part of many WIU students' experiences. Through its natural beauty, its team-building activities, leadership-development offerings and the "stuff memories are made of" events and activities, such as the annual Corn Maze, the Haunted Maze, outdoor skills seminars, conservation workshops, staff retreats ... the list goes on, Horn has provided a place where people can learn more about themselves and test their physical limits.

According to HFC Program Manager **Mindy Pheiffer '91 M.S. '92**, this group came together five years ago and created the "Friends of Horn" Leadership Team to honor the history of HFC and extend the reach of Horn by generating ideas, finding resources, and providing support of various kinds.

Past and Future Convene in Yearlong Celebration of HFC

Lon Alderman '88 M.S. '03—who earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees in RPTA—served as the first HFC program coordinator at Western. Nearly 21 years ago, he spearheaded the concerted effort to define

the mission, purpose and core values that shape HFC.

"I was there when the RPTA department was able to start it in a direction that would offer programming. Basically, I arrived in 1993 with a blank slate. So, with former College of Education and Human Services Dean **Nick DiGrino** [who also served as RPTA chair and professor from 1986-2004], RPTA Professor **Frank Lupton** (now Emeritus) and **Mike McGowan** (RPTA professor and graduate coordinator), we had big dreams of where we might be able to take Horn Field Campus," Alderman noted.

While the words may have changed over the past few decades, the overall theme continues: To facilitate environmental responsibility and human development within the core values of compassion, community, growth and education.

Alderman also led the Friends of Horn Leadership Team when it began five years ago. He, along with **Caryn Elm '07, Jim Miner '72 M.S. '73, Mitchell Standard '88, Karen Peitzmeier '88, Emily Schoenfelder M.S. '11 and Christi Reed** (graduate assistant in the College Student Personnel Program), as well as RPTA faculty members **Michael McGowan** and **Rob Porter**, served as the charter members of the team.

As the group's mission gained momentum, **Kelley Ashby M.S. '00** agreed to step in and take the helm. Under her leadership, the group formalized strategic planning goals, which included facilities development, marketing and fundraising objectives.

To achieve these goals, the Friends of Horn Leadership Team, Pheiffer and faculty and staff in the College of Education and Human Services are planning a yearlong celebration that commemorates half a century of HFC as part of Western Illinois University. An objective in the

plan to celebrate HFC is to raise money for an outdoor education building, which is sorely needed to continue to expand the program offerings to the region, Pheiffer said.

"The kick-off event for the celebration is set for Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014 at Horn Field Campus," Pheiffer added. "As plans become more concrete, we'll publicize details about events and activities that will occur during the year-long campaign."

Current members of the leadership team include **Stan Abbot '94, M.S. '96**, Ashby, Elm, **Alex Fuller '05 M.S. '07, Dale Maxson '08 M.S. '10, Tom Miller '87 M.S. '11, Rachel Feltman Murray '13, Peitzmeier, Dominica Rogers M.S. '08, Brian Sprinkle '12**, as well as Porter, McGowan, RPTA Professor **Katharine Pawelko**, and RPTA Graduate Assistant **Allen Rudicil '13**.

Fuller, who earned his master's degree in RPTA and served as a graduate assistant at HFC, said his involvement with the Friends of Horn Leadership Team was inspired by his service there as a student.

"I gave so much of my time to Horn Field Campus as an undergraduate and graduate student that, upon leaving Western, a big part of me still cared very deeply about Horn Field Campus. I want to be part of its future," he noted. "HFC is one of the great hidden gems of WIU, and every department, every classroom and every student—really anyone—can gain something new from it."

Although not an alumnus of the RPTA department, Miller (who majored in agriculture) also has an affinity for Horn Field Campus. As a manager in the Peoria (IL) Park District, his work led him to serve on Friends of Horn Leadership Team.

"This group has allowed me to interact with WIU faculty and students in a personal and professional

Education and Human Services

An inspiration to many: Remembering Julia L. Johnson

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 M.S. '11

It was Julia Johnson '89 MS-Ed '92 who inspired Patricia "Patty" Feierberg '01 M.A. '07 to attend Western. Although more than a decade apart in age, the two had a strong connection, initially, through one of Feierberg's older sisters (who was a good friend of Johnson's growing up) and eventually through their own friendship and their Western Illinois University alma mater.

Late last autumn, Feierberg sent a note to the Alumni Association to share the sad news of Johnson's untimely passing.

"I regretfully must inform you that Julia Johnson died on August 1, 2013. There are many reasons why this passing is so tragic. I'd like your help in letting other alumni and the Macomb community know. She was very well known across campus and the town," Feierberg wrote.

Determined, Dedicated, Dynamic... Johnson's Legacy

Johnson earned her bachelor's degree in psychology, as well as her master's degree in counseling and guidance, from Western. The 1989 edition of Western's yearbook, "The Sequel," identifies some of Johnson's undergraduate activities as, "Hall Government, Swasso and College of Arts and Sciences Student Council."

It was on a trip to see Johnson that Feierberg was first introduced to the WIU campus.

"Her mother and I drove down to Macomb together to visit Julia, and I was just so inspired by everything she had been accomplishing, as well as the campus. I found

myself thinking, 'Hey, this could be my future,'" Feierberg explained. "It was a big leap for me, because, at that point, going to college wasn't necessarily something I was considering."

In her note, Feierberg talked of her friend's time at WIU and what a special place Johnson held not only in her family members' hearts, but also of her impact across campus during the time she was at Western.

"Julia Johnson was born in 1966 to Irving and Shalla Johnson of Rockford, Illinois, where she lived for the first 20 years of her life," Feierberg wrote. "She was born with a degenerative eye disease and underwent 13 eye surgeries during her life to save what sight she had until becoming legally blind. But this never slowed her down! Julia was an excellent student. After high school, she went to Rock Valley College for two years. She transferred to Western Illinois University, where she eventually earned a master's degree in counseling. At WIU, Julia had found her professional calling and her home. She was very well known across campus for her dynamic personality and dedication to her education. Watching Julia study at the library was truly amazing! Although studying took her twice as long as the typical student, she never complained and never let her disability stop her. The University made a commitment to Julia by enlarging her texts and supporting her with computerized tests, sound signals, etc.—a new concept in the 1980s. She inspired many throughout campus."

In a follow-up conversation about her friend, Feierberg—who earned her bachelor's degree in history

and her master's degree in political science and now works at the Oak Park (IL) School District—told a bit more of Johnson's story. After graduating from Western in 1992, Johnson worked at the Youth Service Bureau in Ottawa (IL). She eventually was the individual in charge of the juvenile sex offender program there.

"She counseled both the offenders and the victims, and many times, she was asked to provide her findings in court. She became extremely successful in her career," Feierberg noted. "She had to manage and balance some pretty heavy situations. People came from all around to seek her expertise after a while."

In addition to her work in the counseling field, with the help of her brother, Greg Johnson, she started a website for those who suffered from visual impairments. (The website is no longer in operation.) And while she was at Western and after she left, Johnson was often referred to as the "Cookie Lady."

"At Christmas, she would bake hundreds and hundreds of cookies to give away. Over the years, it amounted to thousands of cookies," Feierberg added. "She had an amazing sense of humor, and I was always so impressed with her determination. She never let anything stop her."

At the time of her death, Johnson was living in Spring Lake Park (MN) with her partner, Bruce Erickson. Her obituary can be found online at legacy.com/obituaries/startribune/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=166249270.

Kilmer named College of Education and Human Services interim assistant dean at WIU-QC

Lloyd Kilmer has been named interim assistant dean in the College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities (WIU-QC), according to COEHS Dean Sterling Saddler.

"We are excited to have a college-level academic leader at the WIU-QC campus," Saddler said. "Lloyd's prior experiences and his professional connections to the Quad Cities' communities complement the college's goals of access for students, technology, research and service. We look forward to having him on the dean's office team."

Kilmer has served as a faculty member in the WIU Department of Educational Leadership since 2005. During his time at Western, he has taught courses in the graduate administration preparation and doctoral programs; developed online and distance learning opportunities; designed new courses and research processes for the doctoral program and chaired and served on students' doctoral dissertation committees.

Prior to coming to Western, Kilmer worked as an independent school consultant for the Mississippi Bend

Area Education Agency in Bettendorf (IA); served as the chair of the education and psychology department at Avila University in Kansas City (MO); was an assistant professor at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville (MO) and served as the principal and district curriculum

director at Arlington High School in Arlington (NE). In his career in education, he has also served as an assistant principal (high school), an English department chair (high school) and as an English teacher.

Kilmer holds an administrative and supervisory certificate in Nebraska (endorsements for K-12 superintendent, 7-12 principal), as well as an Iowa conditional license (for 7-12 English/language arts and 7-12 principal). He is a member of the Illinois Council of Professors

of Educational Administration, National Council of Professors of Educational Administration and the American Association of School Administrators.

Kilmer earned his doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, his master's degree from the University of Kansas-Lawrence and his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Continued from Working p. 3

partnership. I have worked in environmental education for 26 years, the last nine with the Peoria Park District at Sommer Park. I definitely see how my background can enhance the wonderful opportunities that exist in this hidden jewel at WIU. Sommer Park and HFC are alike in many ways, and it's great to see that each has provided outdoor education to thousands of students for almost 50 years," he said.

For alumni interested in staying involved in the ongoing life of Western, Pheiffer said there are many ways to engage with Horn Field Campus, the RPTA department and with the University. In addition to being involved in the Horn Field Campus yearlong celebration, interested alumni can also be involved in the RPTA Professional Development Conference. Scheduled for Thursday-Friday, April 10-11, the annual event celebrates and honors the RPTA department culture and provides a venue to bestow the annual department awards and recognize student, alumni and faculty accomplishments. It also features alumni presentations that enhance student learning and social events that provide opportunities for professional connections. Interested individuals can register by visiting wiu.edu/rpta.

For more information about ways to get involved with the yearlong celebration of HFC, contact Pheiffer at (309) 833-5798 or MJ-Pheiffer@wiu.edu

"We are excited to have a college-level academic leader at the WIU-QC Campus."

- COEHS DEAN STERLING SADDLER

Education and Human Services

LEJA professor recognized nationally for mentoring, scholarly work

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

It has been a good year for **Kimberly Dodson**. Since last June, the assistant professor in Western's School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration (LEJA) has been recognized with three different awards—two of them from national organizations—for her scholarly and student mentoring activities. In June, Dodson received the Excellence in Scholarly/Professional Activities from the WIU College of Education and Human Services. In November, she was honored with an Outstanding Service Award by the American Society of Criminology (ASC), and last month, she was presented with the Outstanding Mentor Award by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS).

For Dodson, the accolades are, of course, welcome, but for her, it seems, the work she is being honored for is just part of her regular old modus operandi at Western.

"I love my job and working with the students. I am one of those very fortunate people who is lucky enough to do what I love and love what I do," she said.

Connecting In and Out of the Classroom

For those who have had Dodson as an instructor in their LEJA courses, the honors likely come as no surprise. According to Dodson's former student **Brett Deneckere '10**, her extensive practice as a law enforcement professional and her ability to share her knowledge and practical experience in the classroom are just two of the reasons she deserved the honor. Deneckere wrote a reference letter for her ACJS Outstanding Mentor Award nomination, citing her experience, her teaching skills and her commitment to students.

"I arrived at WIU-QC as an undergraduate in the Fall 2008, which was also Dr. Dodson's first semester with WIU. I quickly took a liking to her as an instructor; she has incredible experience in the field as a law enforcement practitioner, which she was able to capitalize on with examples for class lectures and discussions. She also has a unique and refreshing style of teaching that stimulates students' interest day in and day out, and she is consistently enthusiastic in her endeavors at the head of the classroom. Students always praise her abilities both in written evaluations at the end of the semester and through word of mouth between peer groups," he stated in his letter. "Outside of the classroom, Dr. Dodson is just as much of a zealous overachiever. She is on what seems like every committee imaginable with WIU, is chairing a graduate student's thesis paper and she has been requested to write two textbooks: one on the American

correctional system and another on ethics, both of which she is a reputable expert. On top of all this, she is always more than willing to make time to see students for help with class or even just to enjoy lighthearted conversation. It is because of her dedication and personable nature that she is so well liked around WIU by both students and faculty." (Dodson is a co-author of the 2013 book, "Corrections: Exploring Crime, Punishment, and Justice in America," published by Elsevier/Anderson Publishing, and has authored journal articles in such publications as the Journal of Criminal Justice Education and Journal of Offender Rehabilitation.)

Another former student of Dodson's, Leann Cabbage, who is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in criminology at Iowa State University, also provided an endorsement for Dodson's mentoring abilities via a nomination letter for the ACJS award.

"As I was nearing the completion of my undergraduate degree, Dr. Dodson asked me what my plan was after graduation. That conversation was the beginning to the rest of my academic career. I took her advice after several long talks and started the process of obtaining my master's degree. When I started looking at schools, she guided me through the process and explained what I should look for. I narrowed the list down to two schools: one because it was close to home, the other because Dr. Dodson would be there," Cabbage wrote. "As a graduate student, Dr. Dodson continued to guide me in the classroom. Beyond the classroom, she introduced me to the world of research and publishing. She took me to my first conference in 2005, but it would be another four years before I would present alongside her. I remember looking at her when we walked into the room for our presentation and proclaiming I was in over my head. She calmed me down and made it clear that if she thought I was in over my head I would not be there. She was right—I survived, and a year later, I would present as a sole author."

A Goal Realized

After finishing her bachelor's degree in criminal justice and criminology from East Tennessee State University in 1998, Dodson began her law enforcement career working for the Greene County (TN) Sheriff's Department as a criminal investigator. There, she primarily worked on cases involving the physical and sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children.

"During my time at the sheriff's office, I also worked part-time for the U.S. Marshal Service, and I eventually became a U.S. marshal and worked for them for three years. I was in law enforcement for almost 15 years, and then I decided to go back to school," she explained. "I knew I really wanted to teach. I had taught for the East Tennessee Regional Law Enforcement Academy while I worked in the sheriff's department, which made me realize I really loved teaching."

While pursuing her advanced degrees (Dodson earned her master's degree in criminal justice from East Tennessee State University in 2001 and her Ph.D. in criminology in 2009 from Indiana University of Pennsylvania), she served (2004-08) as the director of the criminal justice program and as an assistant professor of criminal justice at Lincoln Memorial University (Harrogate, TN).

"Working at Lincoln Memorial University was a great opportunity, but

I really wanted to move on to bigger things—I wanted to be at a bigger school. So I saw a job posting for Western, which was a job description that sought out someone who had a research background and who was strong in research methods and statistics. I knew I fit the bill. Initially, I was hired for a position at the WIU-QC campus, and then, this past spring, I transferred from the QC position to the Macomb campus."

Dodson—whose ASC Outstanding Service Award is also recognition of her mentoring work with students— noted that feeling connected to her students and helping them advance in their law enforcement careers are the reasons she was inspired to take her skills into the college classroom.

"For me, it's the involvement with my students—the moments in the classroom when you feel connected to the students and you feel like ... I don't know exactly how to explain it. I just call them 'proud teaching moments.' You just know when students are learning from you and you're learning from them," she said. "In addition, maintaining those relationships, those connections, with my former students is also very rewarding. I am fortunate in that, fairly often, I have former students contact me to tell me how much they enjoyed my classes and how much working together has meant to them. I feel the same way about my students."



Kimberly Dodson

TECH INSIGHTS

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Alumni in the news

LEJA graduate pens crime novel, "Justice for Dallas"

As a rookie agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (commonly referred to as the ATF), **Mark Rusin '77** was assigned to a multiple murder case that served as the inspiration for his 2013 crime novel, "Justice for Dallas."

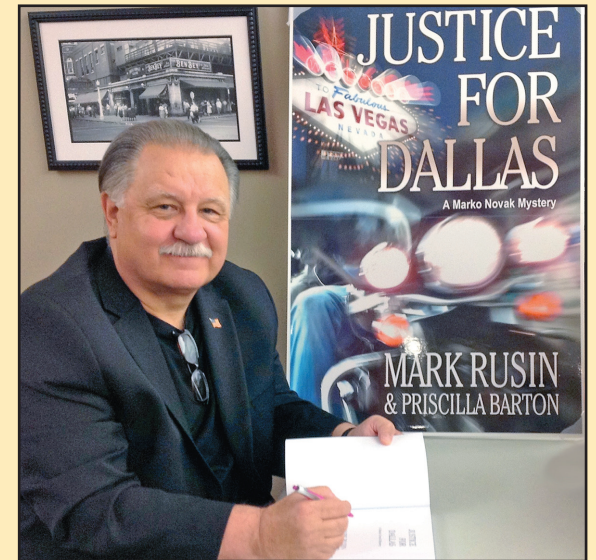
The case involved a quadruple homicide of a former motorcycle gang member and his family, including the gang member's 5-year-old daughter, Dallas, who was found at the crime scene with her throat slit. Rusin's 2013 book was recently the subject of an article in the Daily Herald, a news outlet that serves suburban Chicago. The piece, "Former federal agent Mark Rusin turns experiences into crime novel" (December 9, 2013, dailyherald.com/article/20131209/news/712099907/) by Susan Dibble, describes the similarities between Rusin and his ATF agent protagonist, Marko Novak. (The novel is subtitled, "A Marko Novak Mystery.")

In Dibble's article, she noted in the story about Novak's pursuit of Dallas' killer, the fictional agent is taken "on a wild ride that pits him against the outlaw Iron Cobras biker gang, their ruthless and unstable leader Butch Crowley, and Butch's girlfriend, Angel, who flees her boyfriend's clutches, but fears for her life too much to talk."

"Like his protagonist, Rusin grew up on the south side of Chicago watching cop shows on TV—'Dragnet,' 'Hawaii 5-O,' 'The Untouchables'—he loved them all," Dibble wrote. "He put aside his first love, hockey, when he figured out his skating was not good enough to let him fulfill his dream of playing with the Chicago Blackhawks."

On Rusin's website, the author's biography "About" page notes that during his career, he has "witnessed and investigated several major fire scenes, homicides, bombings and other high profile cases from which serve to inspire his story writing content, jargon and style." It also states that Rusin "is truly a Chicago sports junkie," and that he and his "beautiful wife, Marcie, currently live in the Chicago area, where he continues to write stories and still dreams about playing hockey for his hometown Blackhawks."

Read more about Rusin's career and find other press about his new crime novel at markrusin.com.



Mark Rusin '77 signs a copy of his book, "Justice for Dallas."

Executive director of American Public Health Association at WIU

Dr. Georges Benjamin, the executive director of the American Public Health Association (APHA) was on the Macomb campus last month as an invited lecturer of the Department of Health Sciences and the College of Education and Human Services (COEHS). Benjamin delivered the presentation, "The Affordable Care Act: Why it Matters."

Maureen Bezold, assistant professor in Western's health sciences department, was instrumental in scheduling Benjamin to come to the WIU campus. She serves on the APHA's Governing Council and described him as the "premier representative of public health in the U.S."

"We were interested in bringing Dr. Benjamin to Western because he provides additional context to the national discussion about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and talks about ways it might impact every person in the country in some way or another,"



L to r: **Lorette Oden**, intern chair, WIU Department of Health Sciences; **Dr. Georges Benjamin**, executive director, American Public Health Association.; **Maureen Bezold**, assistant professor, health sciences; and **Sterling Saddler**, dean, COEHS.

known in the world of public health as a leader, practitioner and administrator. He has been the executive director of the APHA since December 2002 and is a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois College of Medicine. He is board-certified in internal medicine and a fellow of the

Bezold said.

COEHS Dean **Sterling Saddler** noted Benjamin discussed the ins and outs of the Affordable Care Act for the benefit of the WIU and surrounding communities.

"The College of Education and Human Services, along with the Department of Health Sciences, were both pleased to bring a speaker of his caliber to campus. His level of expertise in the field of public health and knowledge about the Act provided a bipartisan view that benefitted all who attended," he said.

According to the APHA website, Benjamin is well-

American College of Physicians, a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, a fellow emeritus of the American College of Emergency Physicians and an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health.

In March 2013, faculty and staff in the health sciences department renamed the

"bachelor of science degree in health sciences" to the "bachelor of science degree in public health," or BSPH, to reflect incremental changes that have occurred in the curriculum over the past 20 years.

The College of Education and Human Services, along with the Department of Health Sciences, were pleased to bring a speaker of his caliber to campus.

-COEHS DEAN
STERLING SADDLER



Fine Arts and Communication



Patrick retiring after 39 years

By Catherine Null '72 M.A. '91

The Department of Theatre and Dance will have a lot of new faces in the near future.

Over the course of the 2013-14 academic year, two long-time faculty members and the department chair will retire. Theatre Professor **Tim Kupka**, who was also the head of lighting design, retired at the end of the Fall 2013 semester. Theatre Professor **Ray Gabica**, who is the head of costume design, and Theatre Professor **David Patrick**, who is also the department chair and head of scenic design, will both retire after the Spring 2014 semester.

Between the three educators, there is a combined 84 years of teaching experience. Patrick has been at WIU for 39 years. A 26-year-old Patrick, who came to Western in 1975 for "a couple of years," stayed, received tenure and served as interim chair a few times before becoming the chair.

Patrick said during his time at WIU, the students have always been great—talented, committed to theatre and dance and always hard-working.

"WIU theatre and dance students excel in their classes—that is what they are here for and that is what they love," he said. "The students have been my priority and have kept me young."

Patrick came to WIU a year out of graduate school after doing scenic design for several dinner theatres in his home state of Ohio.

"I always knew I wanted to be a teacher, but didn't know I wanted to be a theatre teacher until I took a scenic design class in my third year of college," he said. "The class was a case of my worlds colliding. I was studying to be an English teacher, and I also loved theatre and architecture."

Scenic design brought all of it together, and Patrick has

never looked back. Instead of teaching high school English, he taught scenic design to college students.

Patrick said his parents provided art lessons at the Butler Art Museum and trips to the Magic Cat Children's Theatre in Youngstown (OH). He also started organ lessons when he was in second grade and spent time in high school being a church organist.

Patrick said it is the students that provide his fondest memories.

"I enjoy talking to students, finding out what makes them tick and finding out what they have in common," he said.

Patrick said one of his proudest moments was bringing Cathy Rigby to WIU for a 1987 Summer Music Theatre production of "Peter Pan." The play had been one of his childhood favorites, and when the chance came along to invite the famous gymnast and actress to celebrate the opening of the remodeled Hainline Theatre, Patrick said they did not know enough "not" to ask her to come.

If it was not enough dealing with Rigby's agent to get her here, he also had to find lodging for Rigby, her husband, mother and four children. The show was a huge success and a lot of lessons were learned, he revealed. And he is not surprised when he finds Facebook comments about the WIU production of "Peter Pan" on alumni Facebook pages, even after all of these years.

"I loved being involved with Summer Music Theatre [SMT], although, many of the productions are now a blur," Patrick said. "SMT required Herculean efforts on the part of the faculty and many productions required all-nighters followed by all-nighters as one show rehearsed, one was in



Theater and Dance Chair and Professor David Patrick

production, and then another went into rehearsal.

For those alumni who spent time in Browne Hall, most recall that Patrick is called "DP" by many students. But that was not always the case.

During the tenure of **Paul Dennhardt MFA '87**, Dennhardt was referred to as PD and Patrick became DP, and it stuck. Dennhardt is now a theatre professor at Illinois State. Like Dennhardt, there are numerous WIU

Master of Fine Arts alumni who have gone into teaching.

"Perhaps it is because the WIU theatre faculty have always loved teaching and the students realized that and have sought to have the same satisfying life experiences," Patrick said.

"But, it is time to retire when you realize the children of your students are now college students themselves," he said.

What will the theatre and dance program be like in five years...10 years? Patrick said it will depend on the construction of the Center for Performing Arts (CPA).

Patrick has some of the longest institutional history with the initiative and has been included in the CPA planning since it began in earnest in 2002. Besides the new technology that will be part of a new building, Patrick said he does not know how it will change theatre and dance, but he is pretty sure it will all be positive.

"I have no regrets about my time at WIU. My disappointment is that I won't be in the department when the Center for Performing Arts is built," he added.

Patrick's retirement party will be from 4-7 p.m. Friday, April 25 in the Hainline Theatre lobby.

WIU music professor, alumnus honored

A Western Illinois University alumnus and a professor from the School of Music were recently each awarded the Mary Hoffman Award of Excellence by the Illinois Music Educators Association (ILMEA).

WIU alumnus **R.**

Brett Goad '74 M.A. '76, the University Chorus director at Northern Illinois University, and WIU Professor **Christine Lapka '87 M.A. '92** each received their award during the annual ILMEA conference. The award recognizes teaching excellence among music educators who have been teaching at any level for 10 or more years.

Goad received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in music from WIU. He is credited for influence on numerous music programs across Illinois. He has served as an ILMEA district choral representative and as president of the central division of American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). He also currently serves



L to r: **Mark Corey, ILMEA President Elect; R. Brett Goad '74 M.A. '76; Deb Shofner, ILMEA President and Roseanne Rosenthal, ILMEA Past President.**



L to r: **Mark Corey, ILMEA President Elect; Christine Lapka '87 M.A. '92; Deb Shofner, ILMEA President and Roseanne Rosenthal, ILMEA Past President.**

on the WIU Alumni Council and College of Fine Arts and Communication Advisory Board.

He was nominated for the Mary Hoffman award by NIU Associate Professor Mary Lynn Doherty, who credited Goad for sharing his "heart and soul."

"He brings the best out of others and always puts his whole self into whatever he does," Doherty said.

Goad was also nominated by a former student, Laura Brooks, who praised him for challenging her.

"He was there to tell me that I was worth it and that I could do it if I set my mind to it," she said. "He believed in me."

Lapka has served as the ILMEA Learners With Special Needs Special Area chair. She was nominated for the Mary Hoffman award by WIU Assistant Professor **Richard Cangro**, who called her a role model for teachers.

"Dr. Lapka influences me by leading by example, displaying excellence and demonstrating characteristics of an outstanding music educator," he said. "She inspires me to become something great."

Lapka was also nominated for the award by former student **Jennifer Wetzel-Thomas '00**.

Many educators know Lapka for her work with exceptional learners," Wetzel-Thomas said. "Words cannot describe the passion she expressed about working with students with special needs. Lapka believes in music education for each and every student, and she is remarkable at adapting her teaching to meet the needs of every student."

Broadcasting studio gets HD upgrade

The Sallee Hall third floor studios that are home to many Western Illinois University broadcasting students recently received a \$100,000 high definition (HD) upgrade.

The WIU College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) also recently completed the renovation of the broadcasting department's studio and control room.

"This is a huge investment in the growth of this program," said Broadcasting Chair **William "Buzz" Hoon '86 M.A. '91**. "We also informed students applying now for this program because they are the ones who are going to benefit most from this upgrade."

The system upgrade will benefit all students in the WIU Department of Broadcasting, including the student-run TV newscast "News3 Live at 4" and sports programming shows, "Pigskin Preview" and "Inside Leatherneck Athletics." The new equipment will allow the development of more student-run television shows through the department and a morning talk show.



L to r: **Chief Broadcasting Engineer Tom Durso, COFAC Dean Billy Clow, Provost and Academic Vice President Ken Hawkinson '78 M.A. '79, Chair Buzz Hoon '86 M.A. '91, President Jack Thomas and COFAC Associate Dean Sharon Evans.**

Arts and Sciences

Summer science and math camps get support from alumni

By Bryce Dexter

When College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Associate Dean **Russell Morgan** moved into his new position four years ago from psychology professor, he was encouraged to establish a new signature outreach program for the college.

As an educator and research scientist, he wanted to offer area high school students who had a budding interest in the sciences the opportunity to explore a variety of scientific experiences through hands-on scientific discovery. It was through those ideas that the "Discovering the World Through Science" Summer Program was born.

Morgan received assistance and ideas from the college's science and math department chairs, faculty members and WIU's Department of Non-Credit Programs.

Promising young students with at least one year of high school science can come to Western for a week and explore a variety of disciplines, including biology, chemistry, geology, mathematics, neuroscience, geography, meteorology, nursing, physics and astronomy. Through hands-on investigation of scientific principles and methodology, students work directly with WIU faculty and department chairs who are highly experienced scientists, mathematicians and nurses.

One of these instructors is a WIU alumnus, Physics Department Chair **Mark Boley '87 M.S. '89**, who has been a part of the program since its inception in 2011.

"We have done computer-simulated activities in

astronomy, accompanied by solar telescope, including solar telescope daytime viewing and night sky-viewing activities, and studies and measurements of gravitational forces and fundamental electrical properties of materials," Boley said. "The main objective has been to challenge the students to see the fun and advantages in pursuing a science-related career, or at the minimum, to have an appreciation for science even if they choose other careers."

Last summer, several WIU alumni with science degrees came forward to help students who could not afford the \$500 camp admission fee. Their generosity created opportunities for some future scientists.

Gene F. Tutwiler '67 said he would never have become a scientist if it had not been for a bug collection that was required for his high school biology class.

"I finally found something that was fun and challenging, and I found I might actually be good at it," he said. "I expanded my interest and collections and participated in several science fairs in Illinois in which my biology projects won blue ribbons."

After graduating from Western, Tutwiler went on to get his doctorate in biochemistry from the University of

Michigan and was head of research and development and eventually CEO for several pharmaceutical and biotech companies. Tutwiler's long, successful career in academics, the pharmaceutical industry and the biotech industry convinced him that the United States is the best in biological sciences in the world. Recently he has had increasing concerns about the ability to remain at this

level of excellence because of the continued decline in U.S. trained scientists available to work in laboratories.

"We still cannot seem to find a way to interest U.S. youth to enter the biological sciences and to fill the numerous openings in U.S. industries. I want to support any effort to interest young people, especially from the inner cities, in the sciences," he said.

Frank Rodeffer

'61, who had a prestigious career in the United States Air Force, replied immediately to the request to sponsor a student for the summer camp.

"It sounds like a wonderful program and a great opportunity for talented, bright and interested high school students," Rodeffer said. "I feel very good about my alma mater when they apply their tremendously talented faculty resources to foster learning, not only for WIU students, but for the local communities as well. I was glad and honored to fund an individual this year."

Richard "Dick" Crain '56 and his wife, Susie, quickly responded to the call for financial assistance to help with the camp. Crain, a chemistry graduate, recalls his local newspaper made a habit of asking eighth graders in his community what they expected to do in their lives.

"My answer was I think I'd like to do something in the science field," he said. "When I came to

Western Illinois State College [now Western Illinois University] in 1952, the eighth grade thought jumped up in my mind. So, I signed up for chemistry, German, math and physics."

This interest in the sciences led Crain to a career as a lead researcher in the newly-founded pollution abatement process for the metal finishing industry. He would later become the executive director of the Metal Finishing Suppliers Association (MFSA), handling the needs of 220

companies and would be recognized as one of the pioneers in the field of pollution abatement by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as well as the industry.

Girls Plus Math Camp—No Boys Allowed!

Established in 1989, the Girls Plus Math summer camp introduces girls ages 11-13 to the world of mathematics. It promotes interest in mathematics, a willingness to take risks in analysis and the self-confidence and motivation to persist in problem solving. The program provides a stimulating and supportive environment with the most up-to-date teaching methods, materials and technology available. The program not only seeks to teach "more math," but to demonstrate how math relates to so many other areas of life.

Once again, WIU alumni came to support this camp, as well.

"I have always been good at math, so I wanted to leverage my natural skills in a career that was heavily

math-oriented," said **Neil Styczynski '74**, a retired IBM sales representative manager. "Initially, I got my bachelor's degree in math at WIU with the intent to teach. I went on to get an MBA at the University of Illinois, majoring in finance and accounting, and shortly thereafter, I went to work for IBM, where I was for 30 years, until my retirement. During my years with IBM, I was often called

upon to use the logical processes that were taught in my math courses at Western, as well as the math functionality used to bring IT and business solutions to IBM customers."

Styczynski said the summer camp can introduce additional challenges to the math-gifted individual in an environment where it is otherwise difficult to provide these challenges.

"Another challenge, besides identifying the students with math skills, is covering the costs of reaching them," he said. "I was fortunate in many of the career decisions that I made. I would like to show my appreciation for the boost given to me by giving back so that another student will be in a position to give back or pay it forward."

Cherie '00 and **Eric Clark '00**, of Celebration (FL), and the parents of two little girls, did not hesitate to

support the camp. They both had attended camps as children and did not want to see a motivated child miss out on an opportunity to attend this camp because of a lack of finances.

The couple wanted to give a young girl some life experiences in a protective setting and enhance their skill sets in mathematics. Cherie's mother was a math teacher and really valued the importance of mathematics, especially for girls. Eric always enjoyed math in



Science camp students make friends with rats before observing their learning patterns.



Girls Plus Math campers have fun with visible geometry.



Girls Plus Math campers make new friends and have fun.



Physics Chair Mark Boley '87 M.S. '89 assists science campers with data collection from electronic circuits.

Continued on p. 9

Arts and Sciences

WIU alumna founds program for human trafficking survivors

By Jodi Pospeschil

A Western Illinois University alumna is doing life-changing work after founding the only long-term recovery program for survivors of human trafficking in the mid-Atlantic area.

Jeanne (Simia) Allert '81 is the founder and executive director of The Samaritan Women, a long-term Christian home for victims of domestic human trafficking. She is also the director of the Maryland Rescue and Restore Coalition, a gathering of people and organizations trying to make a difference in awareness and prevention of "modern day slavery."

"Through the work of these two organizations, I travel across the region educating people about domestic human trafficking and have become a mentor for organizations in several states who are looking to open victim care programs," Allert said.

As part of establishing the non-profit agency in Baltimore (MD) in 2007, Allert bought a 23-acre estate, which opened to survivors in 2011 and began ministering to adult females.

Throughout her career, Allert has also been a high school teacher, an instructional designer, a technology director and an Internet consultant. For 14 years, she owned and managed a consulting practice that advised trade and professional societies on Internet technologies. She also serves as an adjunct faculty member at several universities.

Her professional awards include being chosen for the 2012 Ruby Award by Howard County Soroptimist International and for the entire South Atlantic region. She also received the 2013 Individual Award for Outstanding Nonprofit Service from the Maryland Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration and the 2009 Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award. In addition, four of the survivors who are part of her program have enrolled in the local community college.

While at Western, Allert was a member of the University Union Board, Blue Key, was a student ambassador and belonged to Chi Omega. She said she

believes the well-rounded education she received at WIU helped develop skills she uses in her career.

"WIU allowed me to 'play in a lot of different ponds' while I was there," she said. "Beyond academics, I had a chance to work on campus, participate in clubs, be a public speaker, start new clubs, practice leadership and relate to a wide group of people. All of those skills have come to bear in the work I do now."

Allert said, while at Western, many friendships developed, particularly through her sorority and fraternity affiliations, which she continues to be involved with today. She also credits her sorority adviser, the late associate vice president for Administrative Affairs, **Nell Koester**, for inspiring her.

"Not only was she a great adviser and friend to the Chi-O's, but she made keen investments in my life personally," Allert said. "As a freshman she plucked me out of obscurity and put me on a stage to speak to incoming parents. I was terrified and I loved it."

The experience showed Allert she had a gift for public speaking, which she said has helped her to travel the world over the past 25 years as a professional public speaker.

"All of that training has made it possible for me to now speak on such a dark and difficult topic," she said. "Nell helped me find my voice."

Unbeknownst to Allert, while she was at WIU Koester took some of her essays and submitted them to graduate schools along with a personal recommendation.

"Literally, one day I got a letter from a university in Ohio that told me I had been accepted on a full scholarship because of what she had submitted. Nell made possible that 'free ride' into my future," she said.

Allert received her degree in English from WIU and went on to get a master's degree in education from Bowling Green State University. She is currently pursuing a second master's degree in divinity, specializing in urban ministry.

For more information about Allert's non-profit agency, visit thesamaritanwomen.org.

school to high school to university. Programs such as Girls Plus Math can help young women build confidence in themselves as independent mathematical problem solvers, solidify their enthusiasm for mathematical ideas and ways of thinking, and keep them engaged in mathematics."

Helena Lira, assistant director for Non-Credit Programs at WIU said she was "amazed and pleased" with the support the program has received for its math and science programs.

"We often receive phone calls from parents who would like to send their child to an academic enrichment program, but cannot afford to do so," Lira said. "The fact that we have several alums who wish to contribute back to Western by sponsoring young students says a lot about them as people and about their love and respect for Western as an institution of learning."

Both camps are coordinated through the Office of Non-Credit Programs. This year's Science Camp will be held from June 8-13, 2014, and the Girls Plus Math Camp will be July 20-25, 2014.

For more information, contact Lira at H-Lira@wiu.edu or (309) 298-1911.

Alumnus helps international student earn bachelor's degree

By Kolette Herndon

Student writer, *University Relations*

Through the generosity of one Western Illinois University alumnus and his son, an international student's dream of earning a bachelor's degree from WIU is coming true as they help him navigate the process.

Zack Stamp '75 received his degree in political science and is a former member of the WIU Board of Trustees. His son, Perry Stamp, met **Emmanuel Kabwe** while serving as a Peace Corps volunteer, and the two helped Kabwe become a student in the Bachelor of Arts in General Studies (BGS) program at WIU.

Perry and Kabwe worked together on projects for the community, such as protecting wells, distributing dental hygiene products and forming women's groups and HIV/AIDS support groups. Through this, the pair became good friends, and he and his family looked after Perry while he was there.

"Without their support, my service in Zambia would have been far less successful," said Perry. "He provided translation of educational seminars I taught, helped me cut through cumbersome Zambian bureaucracy, provided me with contacts and generally helped me to understand the problems our community was facing."

One of the biggest accomplishments Perry and Kawbe saw was establishment of the Smile Train program. This ensured 15 community members with facial deformities had a chance to have surgery. Together, the two men convinced parents of facially deformed children to seek care. Successful treatment was facilitated for cleft lips, cleft palates, clubfeet, bowed legs, claw foot, tumors and burns.

The two men also founded Girls Leading Our World (GLOW), which served as an income generator for girls studying whose families struggled to pay tuition. With donor money from the Peace Corps, they were able to buy the group a sewing machine and materials to produce uniforms for the other students. This project was successful in providing 15 girls with money for tuition, supplies and school uniforms.

After working with Kabwe and seeing his passion to help others, Perry recommended him as a candidate for a language coordinator position in the Peace Corps. Kabwe received the job, which entails teaching language and ways of life to Peace Corps volunteers in the area, after his first interview.

Even though he has become a very successful trainer within the Peace Corps, Kabwe needs a bachelor's degree to advance in his career. Zack is helping Kawbe meet the costs of his degree by providing all his supplies and books.

The opportunity to pursue a degree at an American institution was unthinkable to Kabwe until recently, and this degree is very valuable in Zambia, where most people do not have bachelor's degrees.

Despite the success that Kabwe has achieved in the Peace Corps, he is still lacking the finances to complete his degree at WIU. He is currently enrolled in the general studies program at WIU part-time and hopes to eventually become a full-time student.

Continued from Summer p. 8

elementary, middle and high school. He decided to major in mathematics at Western while working several jobs with mathematical backgrounds. This led him to the actuary field where he has thrived in the insurance industry. He is currently the southeast regional vice president for Medical Protective.

Tamara Lakins '85 M.S. '87, professor and chair of the mathematics department at Allegheny College, recalls that her interest in math started in the eighth grade.

"It was my favorite class and the one that I was the best at," she said. "I taught many years ago (2001 and 2002) in the George Washington University Summer Program for Women in Mathematics for rising senior university women students majoring in math, whose goals included helping its participants develop mathematical self-confidence and independence and promoting success in graduate school. That experience was a very positive one for me, and I was thrilled to learn that I could also support younger girls interested in math, this time financially and at my own undergraduate institution. Girls often become increasingly alienated from mathematics as they progress from middle



Intercollegiate Athletics

Kevin Kintzel shares CFPA Linebacker National Award

Western Illinois junior linebacker **Kevin Kintzel**, of New Lenox (IL), added yet another award from the College Football Performance Awards (CFPA) to his collection. Kintzel, who earned Honorable Mention accolades from the CFPA six times during the regular season, shared the CFPA Linebacker award.

The CFPA recognized weekly, annual and career award recipients—selected based on objective scientific rankings of the extent to which players increase the overall effectiveness of their teams.



Kevin Kintzel and head Coach Bob Nielson

Ashley Luke named women's basketball's first-ever Academic All-American

Western Illinois women's basketball forward **Ashley Luke** was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Third Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) in February.

Luke is the program's first-ever Academic All-America selection, an award that recognizes student-athletes' academic and athletic accomplishments.

Out of the 15 Academic All-America honorees, Luke was the only sophomore and one of just two non-seniors selected. Additionally, she was one of just two recipients to maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

"Our staff made it a priority to recruit well-rounded student-athletes. Our team has an incredible work ethic, both on the court and in the classroom, which was shown by our 3.59 team GPA in the fall," head coach **JD Gravina** said. "Ashley embodies these traits perfectly. As coaches, we couldn't be more proud that her countless hours of hard work and dedication have paid off with this huge honor."

This season, the Oak Creek (WI) native leads the team in scoring (19.4 ppg) and rebounding (10.6 rpg).

The 2013 Summit League 'Newcomer of the Year' leads the Summit League in rebounding and is second in

scoring.

"Ashley is a model student-athlete, and this award reflects the University's number one core value: Academic Excellence," Director of Athletics **Tommy Bell** said. "Congratulations to her and the entire women's basketball program."

To be eligible for Academic All-America consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at their current institution and be nominated by their sports information director. Luke became eligible for Academic All-America by earning Capital One Academic All-Region honors from CoSIDA last month.

Luke has helped the Leathernecks to a 13-12 overall record and 5-5 in conference action, currently tied for third in the league.



Ashley Luke

Save the Date
35th Annual
WESTERN ILLINOIS
LEATHERNECK CLUB
GOLF CLASSIC
June 2, 2014

Save the Date
WESTERN ILLINOIS
PURPLE & GOLD
AUCTION
1989 25 2014
Purple & Gold
Auction
Presented by:
Coca-Cola
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2014
Western Hall, Macomb, IL

Intercollegiate Athletics



Jimmy Holtschlag earns third Academic All-Star Team Award

Western Illinois senior offensive lineman **Jimmy Holtschlag** (Quincy/Notre Dame) ended his career by receiving the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCA ADA) Academic All-Star Award for a third time. Holtschlag was one of 43 winners nationwide listed on the 16th annual list.

Holtschlag and the Leatherneck football program helped the Missouri Valley Football Conference (MVFC) become one of three conferences to have six student-athletes honored.

"The FCS ADA is honored to present this prestigious award to our football student-athletes each year," stated FCS ADA President Brian Hutchinson, director of athletics at Morehead State University. "Each



Jimmy Holtschlag

year, these young men epitomize the definition of a student-athlete, both in the classroom and on the field. Our Association is pleased to recognize their accomplishments annually."

Football players from all Football Championship Subdivision institutions are eligible for these prestigious awards. Each of the nominees was required to have a minimum grade point average of 3.20 (on a 4.0 scale) in undergraduate study and have been a starter or key player with legitimate athletics credentials. He must have reached his second year of athletics and academic standing at the nominated institution and have completed a minimum of one full academic year at the nominated institution. He must also have

participated in 50 percent of the games played at his designated position.

Holtschlag already joined an elite group in Leatherneck football history when he earned All-MVFC and First Team Academic All-MVFC honors three times each, and now receiving the FCS ADA national accolade the maximum three years. Holtschlag was named Capital One/CoSIDA Second Team Academic All-America, which was the 11th time in program history a football student-athlete received the prestigious award.

He carries a 3.94 GPA, majoring in agricultural sciences with a minor in both zoology and chemistry. Holtschlag played in 46 career games and made 40 starts on the offensive line.

A special Review Committee of Football Championship Subdivision athletics directors was responsible for selecting the all-star team and scholarship finalists. Completing this task were: Brian Hutchinson, Morehead State (chair); Ken Beazer, Southern Utah; Charlie Cobb, Appalachian State; Ron Strollo, Youngstown State and Jeff Tingey, Idaho State.

2014 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 28	Valparaiso	MACOMB	6 p.m.
Sept. 6	Wisconsin	Madison, WI	TBA
*Sept. 13	Drake	MACOMB	3 p.m.
Sept. 20	Northwestern	Evanston, IL	TBA
Sept. 27	Southern Illinois	Carbondale, IL	TBA
**Oct. 4	North Dakota State	MACOMB	3 p.m.
Oct. 11	Youngstown State	Youngstown, OH	TBA
Oct. 18	Illinois State	MACOMB	3 p.m.
Oct. 25	Northern Iowa	MACOMB	1 p.m.
Nov. 8	South Dakota	Vermillion, SD	TBA
Nov. 15	South Dakota State	Brookings, SD	TBA
Nov. 22	Indiana State	MACOMB	1 p.m.

* WIU's Family Day

** WIU's Homecoming Game





Foundation

George Hermann Graduate Scholarship

By Julie Murphy '94 M.S. '95

Former teacher, coach, professor, graduate coordinator and department chair **George Hermann** has established a graduate scholarship in kinesiology for sport management majors.

"It's fun for me to share," said Hermann. "I enjoy giving some of my resources away and seeing someone benefit from them."

The George Herman Graduate Scholarship in Sport Management will be awarded annually to a full-time sport management major with a grade point average of 3.0 or above and who has demonstrated financial need. The \$50,000 endowment will initially support a \$2,000 annual scholarship award.

Hermann came to Western Illinois University in 1967 to teach physical education in what was then the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER). During his 20-year tenure at WIU, he served as assistant/associate/full professor, graduate coordinator for men's physical education, graduate coordinator for the College of HPER, and associate chair and chair of the WIU Men's Physical Education Department.

One lasting legacy of Hermann's professional career is the annual Western Illinois Senior Olympics. He founded the program in the fall of 1980, and he organized the first regional games in spring of 1981. Hermann served as the state coordinator for the Illinois Regional Senior Olympics for 23 years. He participated in the Western Illinois Senior Olympics, where he still holds two records, and held records in the Illinois State Senior Olympics for many

years.

In 1982, Hermann was a group leader of the Delegation of U.S. Educators to the International Olympic Academy in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

"This was one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences of my professional life," he said.

Hermann went on to take a sabbatical in 1985 to research youth sport programs in the United States and East and West Germany. In 1988, he taught a graduate course in sport management for the United States Sports Academy in Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

At WIU, Hermann was instrumental in developing the sport management program in 1972.

"The early years were difficult because an internship was required and back then internships were not common, said Hermann. We had to limit the number of students in the program to the number of available internships."

Today, Western's program is one of the oldest and most established in the United States.

"This generous scholarship will help the program he helped create and forever associate Dr. Hermann with the success of the sport management graduates. We so appreciate all he has done for Western," said Vice President for Advancement and Public Services **Brad Bainter '79 M.S. '83**.



George Hermann

Robert L. Hodges English Education Scholarship

By Julie Murphy '94 M.S. '95

Bob Hodges '43 saw the world from the sky and through the pages of countless books, informed by his experience at Western Illinois University and the liberal arts. Hodges was born in Adair (IL) and grew up in Macomb, where he attended the Academy, or WIU laboratory school. As a WIU student in the 1940s, Hodges was active in the English Club, Green Door (drama club) and the student newspaper. He earned a Bachelor's degree in English education.

Hodges also became part of the first group of pilots to be trained at Western.

"That was during the Roosevelt era, and he knew we were going to be at war, but the country was unprepared," Hodges said in a 2009 interview. "Roosevelt wanted to enlarge the military, but Congress wouldn't let him, so he created an aviation program at colleges across the country."

"It was a little like today's ROTC, in a sense, but we weren't in uniform," explained Hodges. "We studied meteorology, aeronautics and so on and flew out of Macomb's old Clugston airfield, earning our private pilots' licenses."

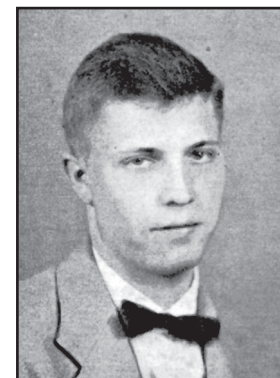
Hodges served during World War II and taught high school when the war ended. He also earned his master's degree in English literature and drama during this time. At the start of the Korean War, he was called up as a reservist. Hodges had a long career in the Army, serving until his retirement in 1970.

Remaining true to his love of literature and books, Hodges opened Burkwood Books in Champaign-Urbana, a bookstore specializing in rare and collectible titles upon his retirement. He operated Burkwood Books for more than 35 years, taking coursework for a doctorate in literature along the way.

Hodges died in 2012, and Western recently received nearly \$253,000 from his estate for English education majors.

"Bob informed the WIU Foundation of his estate plans in 1995," said Vice President for Advancement and Public Services **Brad Bainter '79 M.S. '83**. "Because we knew the gift would be received in the future, we were able to work with Bob on the criteria of the scholarship and structure it according to his wishes. We appreciate his willingness to assist our students, and were pleased that he discussed all the issues in advance. In this way, we are able to honor Bob's life and intentions and help students at the same time."

The Robert L. Hodges English Education Scholarship is available to undergraduate English Education majors aspiring to teach English literature or language in a public school setting. For information or applications, contact the Department of English and Journalism (309) 298-2974 or Office of Scholarship Activities (309) 298-2001.



Bob Hodges '43

International Printmaking Travel Scholarship

By Julie Murphy '94 M.S. '95

Professor Emeritus **Fred Jones** and his wife, **Nancy MS-Ed '85**, have established the International Printmaking Travel Scholarship to offset personal expenses associated with traveling abroad to study printmaking. The scholarship is available for current art majors and Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) graduates, and also to Western exchange students involved with the Cardiff College of Art in Wales.

"One major factor that motivated Nancy and I to establish this scholarship was to preserve the craft of printmaking," Jones said. "The people teaching printmaking at Western now (Professor **Susan Czechowski** and Professor **Bill Howard**) are excellent, and I see a lot of good energy in the program. We just want to help it along."

The WIU Art Gallery has a significant collection of prints, of which 150 were donated by Jones. These are works of artists and poets from both sides of the Atlantic.

"This is an important step in creating a printmaking curriculum that can be a force in this area. The Midwest area has a rich tradition in printmaking, and our students follow in that tradition. This international scholarship will enable our already competent students to further their work and connect at an international level," said Howard.

Jones is a product of, and advocate of, international education. He first came to the United States from his home country of Wales in 1964 as a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh, then taught two years at Chester College of Art in England before joining Western's art faculty in 1968.

Cardiff offers a BFA, Master of Fine Arts and a Ph.D. in printmaking and is one of four major metropolitan art universities in the United Kingdom.

"Ideally, I would like to see a Western student study printmaking at Cardiff," said Jones. "Mostly, I would like our students to get a wider view within their own education. The exposure to other cultures, major museums, fantastic artworks and different ideas about printmaking will enhance students' creativity and help them achieve their potential, which is really what Nancy and I hope to do."

"The International Printmaking Scholarship will provide a chance for printmaking students to experience and grow even beyond the special printmaking camaraderie and community of Garwood first floor," added Czechowski. "This generous opportunity to take their personal studies abroad will prepare them as artists for the contemporary art world in which they will work and live."

Applications for the International Printmaking Travel Scholarship are available online and through the Department of Art. Recipients will be selected by a faculty committee. Upon completion of the study abroad experience, recipients are expected to submit a one-page report and a small print for the University collection.

"International education is a life changing event and makes education more meaningful," Jones said. "Scholarship recipients will come back to us, talk to other students and leave a print. This investment will come back to us and leave something at Western Illinois University for the future."

Fred Jones retired from the art department in 2000 after 32 years of teaching. Nancy Jones was involved for many years with international education at Western; both are supportive of international experiences for WIU students.

"We are just giving back in a small way," said Jones. "It makes such a difference."

University Libraries



Student scholarship recipients

The 2013 William and Eva Little Graham Student Scholarship recipients are **Hyung Kwan Kim** and **Brandi Fink**. Applicants were asked to write a short essay on the impact that working at University Libraries has had on them. Each will receive a \$500 scholarship toward their tuition for Spring 2014.

This year, the library offered a Study Abroad Library Student Assistant Scholarship for \$1,000 to assist with travel expenses. The recipient was **Elizabeth Dunn**.

Kim is pursuing a master's of science in physics.

"When I began working at the library I had a golden opportunity to learn by teaching others about the library, and I was able to apply what I learned in my classes. It reinforced my own learning foundation and helped me discover the joy of helping others and how fulfilling that can be," said Kim.

Kathleen Clauson '82 M.A. '86, unit coordinator of the physical sciences library, recommended Kim for the scholarship.

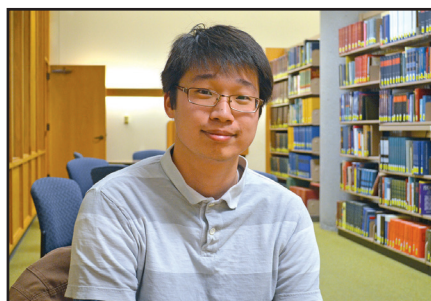
"Not only is Kwan creative and enthusiastic about his work and service to our patrons, but he is an honest, thoughtful and genuinely down-to-earth co-worker," Clauson said. "Kwan is always willing to work whenever I employ students during breaks, but if others are also interested in working, he always offers to share hours. I find it heart-warming to see a young man think of others first."

Fink is a sophomore at WIU.

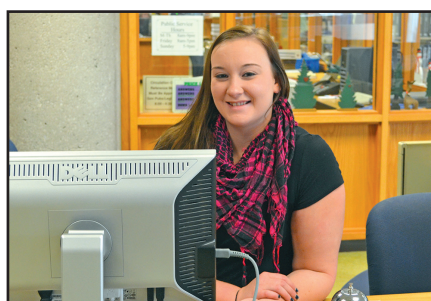
"Not only has my experience at the Malpass Library helped me with my research for school, but I have also learned about time management, as well as communication skills," said Fink.

Charles Malone, unit coordinator of the government, legal, spatial and data services unit, recommended Fink for the scholarship.

"Brandi has excelled in her duties. She does an excellent job of working with the faculty, staff, graduate assistants and other student assistants of our unit. She



Hyung Kwan Kim



Brandi Fink



Elizabeth Dunn

exhibits the kind of cooperation and teamwork that helps a unit do its work," said Malone.

Dunn is a senior art and English major with a minor in journalism. She will be studying abroad for a three-week summer program in Mildura, Australia.

"I have a goal of reaching all seven continents, and this trip is the beginning of that journey. I value this world and all the history it has to offer, and by being able to study abroad, I can keep improving my education. Education does not live only within the written word or in classroom lectures, it also lives and thrives within experience," said Dunn.

William Cook '94 M.A. '99, library specialist, recommended Dunn for the scholarship.

"In addition to knowing how to preserve the history of the University and having an interest in doing so, Elizabeth is a conscientious employee, who I believe will achieve anything she sets her mind to," said Cook.

The William H. and Eva Little Graham Libraries' Student Assistant Scholarship was established through a bequest from **Louis and Maxine '41 Haertle**, and is named after Maxine's parents, William H. and Eva Little Graham. The Grahams have long been associated with Western Illinois University. Eva Little Graham was

a student in 1903-04, and many of her children and grandchildren attended WIU. Her daughter, **Peggy Graham**, was employed with University Libraries for sixteen years. The scholarship provides a worthy student with a tuition grant and offers an annual opportunity for acknowledging the generosity of the Graham and Haertle families to WIU and University Libraries.

The Study Abroad Library Student Assistant Scholarship was established in 2012 at the request of the Library Leadership Board.

To make a donation to the scholarship fund or any other library fund, contact the Library Administration Office at (309) 298-2762.

University Libraries receives donation

Linda Wade '89 M.S.'01 has been employed with Western Illinois University Libraries for more than 25 years and currently serves as the unit coordinator for digitization. Her husband, **David Wade**, is currently enrolled in Western's graduate program.

"Western and University Libraries have had a significant impact on our lives," said Linda, "We knew University Libraries had a need, and it seemed like a natural fit for us to fulfill this need."

The Wades donated a Canon Rebel camera, with accessories, for the libraries digitization unit, an in-kind value of more than \$1,000.

"This camera will allow the digitization unit to replace an old scanner," Linda said. "It will also allow us to digitize items we were unable to include in our digital collection in the past. We are going to be able to share more than just our documents with this camera set-up."

"For an employee to give back in such a manner is worthy of emulation," said **Michael Lorenzen**, dean of University libraries. "I am looking forward to the expansion of our digital collection."

The camera and accessories have been received and, once set up and tested, the digitization unit will begin using them.

Chu to retire

University Libraries will say a fond farewell to Associate Dean for Library Operations **Felix Chu**, who will retire May 31 after 30 years of service.

Chu began his career at Western Illinois University Libraries in 1984 as the automation librarian. He has held multiple titles since then, including assistant to the acting dean, reference librarian, cataloging and assessment librarian, interim dean and associate dean. He has served under seven library deans and six University presidents. Originally hired as the automation librarian to oversee the library computer system that managed the circulation in a state-wide consortium, Chu has since managed the two computerized catalog system changes.

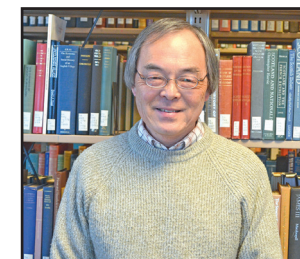
"During my career at Western Illinois University Libraries, I have had the pleasure of working with a variety of departments, both within the library and the campus community," said Chu. "It's a nice place to work where I've had the freedom to do the things I want. I've held several positions, and each time I've been able to shape the new position into what I wanted to see it become."

One of Chu's fondest memories of WIU is the inauguration ceremony for President Wagner.

"We marched in full regalia from the Union through campus to Western Hall. It was the last time we held such an elaborate ceremony for a new president," said Chu.

"Felix has a unique way of conceptualizing and articulating complex challenges," said **Hunt Dunlap**, systems librarian, "He has insights others miss, and analyses that one would do well to evaluate and understand. I will miss Felix and wish him all the best."

University Libraries will host a retirement reception for Chi from 2-4 p.m. Thursday, May 1 in the Leslie F. Malpass Library Garden Lounge. The reception is open to the public.



Associate Dean for Library Operations Felix Chu

Bishop Hill Tour

University Libraries will host a tour of Bishop Hill (IL) Saturday, May 17. Upon arrival, the day will begin with a guided tour of the Bishop Hill village, followed by a guided tour of Bishop Hill Museum. Although lunch will be on your own, a space has been reserved for participants to bring their meal and listen to **Jeff Hancks M.S. '10**, archivist and special collections librarian, discuss the history of the Swedish Utopian community established in 1864 by Erik Jansson.

The afternoon schedule is open for participants to roam the village, visit the shops or take in the Jars, Jewels, and Jellyrolls Quilt Show. Additional information about Bishop Hill can be found at bishophill.com.

The cost of the tour is \$40 per person, which includes transportation to and from Western Illinois University. The bus will leave Macomb at 8 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. For those interested in meeting the group at Bishop Hill, the fee is \$10 per person. To register or for more information, contact the Library Administration Office at (309) 298-2762.

Business and Technology

Students prank Professor Dobson before Fulbright trip

By Jodi Pospeschil

A group of students in the Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity at Western Illinois University decided to give one of the University's Fulbright Scholars a send-off he wouldn't forget.

Management and Marketing Professor **Joseph Dobson**, one of three Fulbright Scholars from WIU in 2013, is teaching in Romania for the Spring 2014 semester. He is teaching management classes, including principles of management and advanced organizational behavior, at the University of Babes-Bolyai.

Before Dobson departed for Romania, students from Delta Sigma Pi covered every surface in his WIU office with playing cards. His office was then filled with balloons.

"It was really a surprise and a great send-off to leaving for Romania for the semester," Dobson said. "They spent an incredible amount of time and effort to pull it off, and also to clean it up later on. The Delta Sigma Pi members don't do anything halfheartedly."

WIU students **Jake Alumbaugh**, a senior business major from Champaign (IL), and **Danielle Balbach**, a senior business major from Lena (IL), said the prank involved about 3,000 playing cards, 1,000 balloons and 25 students, mostly from the co-ed professional business fraternity, for which Dobson serves as the faculty adviser.

"The whole process took five hours," Alumbaugh said. "The reason we chose to do this with playing cards was because Dr. Joe has a love for magic and we thought it would be really cool to theme this prank based off something he really enjoyed."

Alumbaugh and Balbach said Dobson is known for pulling pranks on fellow faculty members in Stipes Hall.

"Our other faculty adviser, Dr. **Jess [Harriger] '05 M.A. '06**, helped arrange for us to access his office after hours and when other faculty found out about the prank they were willing to help make it happen," Balbach said.

A few of the students were sitting outside Dobson's office when he arrived to see his reaction to the prank.

"After the shock wore off, he had a lot of fun jumping in the balloons like they were a big pile of leaves," Alumbaugh said.

It then took students about four hours to complete the cleanup of the office, including getting the playing cards off the walls and windows.



Professor Joe Dobson pictured in his office.

Agriculture alumnus elected as VP of Illinois Farm Bureau

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

A Western Illinois University School of Agriculture alumnus will serve Illinois farmers and agriculture professionals at the state level for the next two years.

David Erickson '80 was recently elected to the vice president position of the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB).

Erickson, who farms near Altona (IL), was elected by IFB delegates at the IFB Annual Meeting in December; he will serve a two-year term in the VP office.

Erickson said he started his farming career in 1985 and became involved with serving the Farm Bureau in 2005.

"I became more fully involved with Farm Bureau in 2005 when I began to serve on the Knox County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. I most recently served two years as president of the Knox County Farm Bureau and then announced my candidacy to run for IFB vice president last July," Erickson noted. "As the VP, I serve as a member of the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors, with specific committee assignments on the finance committee as chair, and I will serve as the chairman of the resolutions committee, which develops the policy positions of IFB on an annual basis. In addition, I will serve the members of IFB as directed by the IFB president, as well."

He noted his duties also include serving as a director or officer for IFB-affiliated business relationships with Country Financial.

According to Erickson, the IFB has a network of 96 County Farm Bureau offices, which provide farmers and those who work in the state's agriculture industry with resources in communications, leadership development, legislative education/involvement and agricultural literacy programs, as well as numerous support services.

"The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member-driven organization. We work on agriculture policies, programs and industry initiatives identified, prioritized and directed by our members," he said. "Our goal is to work cooperatively with our members and county offices to 'improve the economic well-being of agriculture and enrich the quality of farm family life,'" he added.

Erickson demonstrated his service to the agriculture industry early on, serving as a member in various agriculture-based groups and organizations when he was a student at WIU.

"My involvement with student and volunteer organizations at Western helped me gain experience in leadership development and personal communication skills. I was a member of the Ag Ed Club, Hoof and Horn Club and

Alpha Zeta Ag Honorary Fraternity, while also serving as an active member and officer of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity. I also served on the Interfraternity Council."



David Erickson '80

56th annual Ralph Dirksen WIU Engineering Technology Exhibit

The 56th annual Ralph Dirksen WIU Engineering Technology Exhibit will be held Friday, April 25 in Western Hall. The exhibit, sponsored by the WIU engineering technology department, will feature nearly 500 projects constructed by junior and senior high students in vocational-technical education, STEM (science, engineering, technology and math), PLTW (Project Lead the Way) and Engineering related classes from throughout Illinois.

The exhibit is open to the public from 8 a.m. – noon April 25. The exhibit will feature projects in the following divisions: furniture-making, metal-working, technical illustration, graphic arts, mechanical drafting, computer-aided design, wood-working, architectural drawing, metal machining and an open division.

The exhibit features two student competitions, bridge-building and testing for high school students and an egg



The Ralph Dirksen WIU Engineering Technology Exhibit will feature projects constructed by junior and senior high school students.

drop for junior high school students. There will also be a social interaction activity this year: competition bags tournament for participants. Tours of the Department of Engineering Technology in Knoblauch Hall will be conducted by student organizations all morning.

Project judging by teams of teachers and professionals in trades and specialty fields takes place Thursday night. Ribbons and plaques will be awarded Friday to teachers, students and

schools at the 11:45 a.m. awards ceremony in Western Hall. Associate Professor Emeritus **Ralph Dirksen** will present the awards.

For more information or to register, contact the Department of Engineering Technology at (309) 298-1091 or visit wiu.edu/cbt/engineering_technology/tech_exhibit.

Business and Technology

44TH ANNUAL WIU AG MECH FARM EXPO

For the past 44 years, people from all over the western Illinois region—as well as from across the state and beyond—have flocked to Western Illinois University to get a glimpse of emerging agricultural technology, tractors and machinery, livestock and crop equipment and supplies and much more. It was in 1970 the Ag Mech Club started what has become the largest student-run agriculture show in the U.S., the annual WIU Farm Expo—which many refer to as the “Ag Mech Show.”

This year, Western’s School of Agriculture added to the Ag Mech Show tradition by incorporating an annual reunion for all “WIU Aggies,” which featured a number of alumni activities, including a bull test open house, State FFA interview contest, an agriculture issues contest and an agriculture communications workshop.



A WIU Ag Mech Farm Expo attendee checks out one of the equipment exhibits.



Opening ceremonies at the 44th Annual Ag Mech Club’s Farm Expo.



WIU Agriculture Alumni who attended the social at the WIU Aggie Reunion Weekend.



Scene from the WIU Ag Mech Club’s Farm Expo held in Western Hall.



Alumni had an opportunity to tour the Bull Test Facilities during an open house.



The WIU Farm Expo is the largest student-run expo of its kind in the country. Members of the Ag Mech Club take on the work of planning and implementing the show every year.



One of the many events during the WIU Aggie Reunion Weekend was an Ag Communications Workshop.



Attendees of the WIU Aggie Reunion Weekend.



Attendees of the WIU Aggie Reunion Weekend.



WIU School of Agriculture Faculty Emeriti.



Business and Technology

WIU football players excel on the field, in the classroom

Three Western Illinois University Leatherneck football players are tackling the rigors of collegiate athletic participation with excelling in the classrooms of the University's College of Business and Technology (CBT).

Ryan Ricketts, a junior offensive lineman from Galesburg (IL); **Jimmy Holtschlag**, a senior offensive lineman from Quincy (IL); and tight end **Mason Howington '13**, a graduate student from Lawrenceville (GA) each maintain a high grade point average in their WIU classrooms. In addition to the on-the-field demands, the three men are considered excellent students.

Ricketts, a marketing major, said balancing football and school has not always been easy.

"It takes a lot of organization, time management, priority management and sacrifice to do both," he said. There are many times when you have to say 'no' to doing something fun with your non-athlete friends just so you can get homework done or get the proper amount of sleep."

Ricketts started at the center position in 10 out of 11 Leatherneck games this season. He helped pave the way for seven 100-yard rushing efforts for the team and helped the WIU offense score nearly as many points as in the last two years combined.

Ricketts credits numerous WIU professors for guiding him toward a career path and for sharing their passion for teaching.

"As a former collegiate student-athlete, I have a great appreciation for the level of determination and commitment required for these young men to balance achievement of great things, both on the field of competition and in the classroom," said WIU Assistant Professor **Jason Franken**. "Ryan is a solid student, and

just as importantly, he is cordial, humble and respectful and truly representative of WIU's goals of higher values in higher education."

After graduation from WIU, Ricketts hopes to get involved in sales or managerial work in the agriculture industry.

"Western Illinois has taught me what it takes to be successful in the real world," he said. "Constant work for football and demanding classes have taught me time management, hard work, being on time, being self-driven and being a leader, as well as dedication to your teammates."

Holtschlag, an agricultural sciences major, said he believes discipline and sacrifice have been key to his success.

"The ag department has been integral to my success by being a very useful support system," he said. "Also, I will never forget any of the coaches I have had while playing here because they all have had some impact on me."

After his graduation from WIU, Holtschlag said he plans to enter a veterinarian program.

"I am confident that being a student-athlete has instilled me with the discipline and the ability to overcome adversity that I will need to be successful in my career," he said.

Holtschlag has received numerous athletic awards during his time at WIU, including being named a second team Academic All-American, second team All Missouri Valley Football Conference, first team Academic All Missouri Valley Football Conference, team MVP and ended his career by receiving the Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCA ADA) Academic All-Star Award for the third time.

WIU Assistant Agriculture Professor **Samantha**

Cunningham said she believes Holtschlag will also excel in a school of veterinary medicine.

"Not only will he be an asset, but I am confident that he has demonstrated the work ethic necessary to survive and succeed in veterinary school," she said. "No matter where life takes this young gentleman, he will represent the WIU School of Agriculture to the highest degree."

Howington, who graduated in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in marketing, said he believes that his policy of "not wasting time" has helped him excel on and off the football field.

"For me, I felt like if I wasn't playing football, I was studying," he said.

Howington played the first five games of the 2013 season before suffering a season-ending injury.

After he graduates from WIU's MBA program in July 2014, Howington said he would like to work in the financial services industry and possibly become a stockbroker.

"I think my best memory of Western will be scoring a touchdown to take the lead against Minnesota," he said. "It was the first touchdown of my career. For it to happen against a Big Ten opponent at a pivotal point in the game made it that much sweeter."

MBA program Director and Associate CBT Dean **John Drea** called Howington a "great addition to the MBA program."

"He has balanced his success on the field with success in the classroom, and he has shown excellent leadership during his case projects," Drea said. "I'd love to have a dozen more students just like him."

Ricketts, Holtschlag and Howington are exemplary individuals, and the College of Business and Technology is proud to have them on our team."



Senior Leatherneck tight end Mason Howington, of Lawrenceville (GA), is pictured with his mother, Laura Cooper.



Ryan Ricketts is a junior Leatherneck offensive lineman from Galesburg (IL).



Senior Leatherneck offensive lineman Jimmy Holtschlag '13, of Quincy (IL), is pictured with his parents, Mark and Karen Holtschlag.

Business and Technology

O'Connor named 2014 CBT Distinguished Alumnus

By Jodi Pospeschil

Martin E. O'Connor '78 has been named the Western Illinois University College of Business and Technology (CBT) 2014 Distinguished Alumnus.

O'Connor, who received his degree in agriculture, worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Market Service for 34 years before becoming president of OCM, Inc., an agricultural consulting service for the meat and livestock industries.

The CBT honored O'Connor with a plaque in the lobby of Stipes Hall and a luncheon Feb. 11, which was attended by O'Connor's friends and family, CBT faculty and staff and WIU administrators. He also met with numerous CBT classes and student organizations, such as the Hoof and Horn Club and the WIU Livestock Judging Team.

Among those attending the lunch was O'Connor's high school agriculture teacher John Conner, who is retired from Galesburg High School. The two have remained friends and Conner had high praise for O'Connor.

"He was as outstanding in high school as he was in college and beyond," Conner said. "I am very proud of him."

WIU School of Agriculture Interim Director **Andy Baker** said he is pleased that someone from one of the University's Signature Academic Programs was named a distinguished alumnus.

"We are so proud of how Marty has been able to take his career to the next level based on skills he learned at

Western," Baker said. "He has worked hard and is so dedicated to public service."

O'Connor, who now lives in Round Hill (VA), praised the University's agriculture programming and said he was pleased to see his major be named among WIU's Signature Academic Programs.

"I am very proud to be not just a former WIU student but an alum of the University," O'Connor said. "This institution was very important in forming my career path. For 99 percent of my career, I

have been in public service and it is great to be able to come back and assist the sector I grew up in and to be able to connect with student groups."

O'Connor said WIU helped him develop his work ethic, as well as problem solving and listening skills.

"I'm confident the (agriculture) program is going to continue to produce a rising generation of leaders in the agricultural industry," he said.

During his career, O'Connor managed the USDA grade standards programs for livestock and meat, including research, development and implementation of grade standards, policies and procedures, training personnel

and interacting with producers, industry, academicians, researchers and government officials.

The nationwide USDA standards program O'Connor directed has assisted in the marketing of livestock and meat throughout the supply chain from producer to consumer. He also participated in international market assessments, as well as market access programming in countries, including China, Japan, Serbia, Chile, Argentina, Poland, Taiwan, Korea and Venezuela. He has researched, developed, tested, approved and implemented an instrument technology assessment for official USDA

grading of beef carcasses to replace subjective human evaluations. Under his direction, an instrument-grading program for lambs was also approved.

O'Connor was responsible for the implementation of the Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) and development of purchase requirements for federal nutrition and assistant programs for red meat and fish.

During the luncheon, CBT Dean **Tom Erikson** told O'Connor that the college will award a \$2,000 scholarship to a CBT student in his

honor.

"Ag is an integral part of this University," Erikson said. "It's so great that its graduates are doing things that make a real difference."

For more information on the WIU CBT, visit wiu.edu/cbt and for more information on WIU's Signature Academic Programs, visit wiu.edu/academics/signature.php.



L to r: President Jack Thomas, Martin E. O'Connor '78 and CBT Dean Tom Erikson



The CBT honored O'Connor with a plaque in the lobby of Stipes Hall and a luncheon Feb. 11.

WIU graduate: Manager at Mercedes Benz

By Jodi Pospeschil

A Western Illinois University alumnus working as a manager with the Daimler automobile company in Germany credits the methods he learned at Western with helping build his career.

Markus Keller MBA '08 is a manager at the production plant of the Mercedes Benz Transmission Department at Stuttgart/Hedelfingen. He manages nearly 150 workers in a division that produces planetary gears and center gears, as well as prototype gear wheels and shafts for the Mercedes Bens automatic transmission. The finished products are supplied to the company's vehicle plants around the world.

In addition to his degree from Western, Keller also earned his German diploma in business administration from the University of Mannheim, Germany in late 2008. Keller said that degree had a "clear focus on the theoretical education and academic background of business studies," while his time at WIU helped him to practice real-life opportunities.

"WIU gave me the opportunity to practice the methods and tools with example case studies and 'real business life' oriented classes," he said. "The WIU education, which is more related to real life, helped me to build up a great knowledge base of examples, which is more useful for my daily business at Daimler in making operational and strategic decisions."

Keller also developed a relationship and eventual friendship with accountancy and finance Professor **Don Johnson**, who he credits for guiding his path.

"Markus is one of the most hardworking and focused people I've ever met," said Johnson. "He is meticulous, has great attention to detail and a great love of cars, especially Mercedes vehicles, of course. He has always been a critical opponent in discussions, was never shy of good advice and has the gift of asking the right questions that will make you think about an issue again, maybe to look from another angle and bottom line to motivate you, as well as to question yourself at the same time," Johnson added.

During his time at Western, Keller said he remembers participating in First Night Fun and the annual mud volleyball tournament.

"I certainly remember tailgating at the games of the WIU Leathernecks," he said. "Another highlight has been watching the 2008 Super Bowl at (Professor) **Joe Dobson's** house...and not to forget, an incredible home-cooked pepper steak at (former Professor) **Steve Axley's** house."

Keller said other memories surround WIU's Center for International Studies (CIS).

"I enjoyed so much being a part of a multi-national community and participating in all of the events CIS offered," he said. "I even had the chance to hold a presentation about Germany at a cultural coffee. Lastly, I remember the international and intercultural parties; for

example, I received a birthday card signed by people from 13 different countries—I probably won't be able to beat that ever."

Keller said he would like to return to WIU for a Homecoming celebration and to visit friends.

An interest in cars and "driving anything that can be driven" keeps the hobbyist in Keller busy.

"It doesn't matter whether it's a boat, a semi-truck, a tractor, an ATV or just a car," he said. But if it's a car, it is preferably equipped with a nice V8 engine or beyond 400 horsepower so I can drive it on the German Autobahn."

While at WIU, Keller used his available break time to travel to all 50 states within one year.

Keller lives in Germany with his wife, 3-year-old son and newborn daughter.

For more information about WIU's MBA program, visit wiu.edu/mba.



Markus Keller MBA '08

WIU Alumni Association You're a Member! Reap the Benefits!

Credit Card... The WIU Alumni Association and INTRUST Bank, one of the oldest banking institutions in the Midwest, have partnered to provide the WIU credit card. If you choose the WIU Visa®, you will support your alma mater by helping to fund student scholarships, the Western News, events around the country AND earn great rewards for yourself. wiu.edu/alumni/credit_card.php (800) 222-7458



RockeNetwork... A free online social network provided exclusively for WIU alumni to reconnect with friends and classmates and to network. rockenetwork.wiu.edu

License Plates... If you have a car or class-B truck registered in Illinois and would like to support Western, order your WIU license plates today. Vanity and personalized plates are available. Also, a mobile unit is periodically in the University Union staffed by the office of the Secretary of State for certain driver and vehicle services. wiu.edu/alumni/license.php (217) 785-5215

Career Development Center... WIU alumni can enjoy continued access to benefits provided by WIU's Career Development Center (CDC). The CDC serves the primary function of preparing individuals to market themselves to prospective employers. wiu.edu/student_services/career_development_center/ (309) 298-1838

Western's Leslie F. Malpass Library... Alumni can use the physical library and can search the online databases when they are on campus. Use of online catalogs for books and media and access to the library's reference services, guides, etc. are included in your benefits. wiu.edu/alumni/library_access.php (309) 298-2700

Alumni Directory... All alumni have access to the online directory exclusively for WIU alumni. Also available for purchase is the hard-copy. wiu.edu/vpas/stars (309) 298-1914

WIU Partners with Quad City Airport... We are pleased to partner with the Quad City International Airport to offer the "WIU Easier Card" for alumni who use the airport for travel. The card offers access to the airport's Destination Points business center on Concourse B. wiu.edu/alumni/airport.php (309) 298-1914

AlumniMortgage... Our AlumniMortgage program is offered through Quicken Loans® with our longtime partner Collegiate Insurance Resources. Get a mortgage or refinance an existing one and receive a \$300 check back after closing. mortgageinsiders.com/WesternIllinois (888) 506-9575

Recreation Center Memberships... WIU alumni and their spouses and domestic partners may purchase memberships. wiu.edu/alumni/rec_center.php (309) 298-2773

Insurance... Our partnership with Collegiate Insurance Resources offers a variety of programs, including comprehensive short-and-long-term medical, disability, dental and travel insurance. wiu.edu/alumni/benefits (800) 922-1245

Liberty Mutual Partnership... An exclusive discount of up to 15 percent on home and auto insurance rates and much more. wiu.edu/alumni/benefits (844) 652-2353 (Toll Free)

WIU Class Rings... The great traditions of Western Illinois University can be personally commemorated by every alumnus. Go online, anytime, to design a custom class ring to tell your college story. The Jostens Ring Designer is available 24/7 online. Email A-Association@wiu.edu to learn how to get up to 40% off select college rings. wiu.edu/alumni/rings.php (309) 824-1436

WIU Diploma Frames... Join the WIU tradition, and frame your diploma! Our officially licensed, Made-in-the-USA frames feature the Western Illinois University name and seal, and will preserve your hard-earned diploma for a lifetime. Frames are customizable so that you can match your own style and décor. Desk accessories are also available. Plus, a portion of all sales goes to support the WIU Alumni Association! Order your custom frame online at diplomaframe.com/wiulua/store.aspx. (800) 477-9005

Alumni-Admissions Initiative Update

From Director of Admissions Andy Borst...

The Office of Admissions recently interviewed approximately 500 freshmen about why they chose to attend Western Illinois University. Three important themes emerged from these interviews, including the importance of an affordable education, visiting campus and hearing alumni tell their stories about their days at WIU.

New students talked about their anxiety regarding how to pay for college. Students are attracted to Western's Cost Guarantee program to lock in tuition, fees and room and board for four years, and that WIU is a great "bang for your buck" college. Students discussed the importance of being able to plan for the cost to go to college and the security of knowing what their bill will be. WIU recently earned some attention for being one of the first universities in the country to send out financial aid award letters two months before most other institutions.

Students also stressed how much a campus visit impacted their decision to enroll. Many students talked about how their visit or interactions with WIU helped them make the decision to come, including saying things like "everyone was so helpful" or "it felt like a good place." For every two prospective students who come to Macomb for an official admissions visit, one will decide to enroll. We know that if we can get students to campus to see WIU, we can meet our enrollment goals. To help with this, President Thomas recently approved purchasing 1,000 Amtrak tickets for accepted new freshmen and a guest to visit campus and experience WIU first-hand.

A third theme that many students shared about their decisions to attend WIU was the influence of alumni stories. Students commented that hearing positive memories and experience of alumni helped them to get excited about attending Western.

Across the country, many students and parents are comparing financial aid awards and making another campus visit to confirm they have made the right college choice. It could be those stories about the Homecoming Parade, a stroll around Lake Ruth, those late night chats with roommates or singing along with the Marching Leathernecks that helps one more future Leatherneck find his or her way through the fields to our hallowed halls. I want to thank you for all that you do to help to recruit future Leathernecks to your alma mater by sharing your story.

wiu.edu/alumni/recommend.php

Alumni at war



L to r: Major Tim Sanders '02, CW4 Michael Carpentieri '95, Stephanie Hoover '04, Shawn McGee '02 MBA '03.

In October 2013, an unexpected multi-class reunion of four Western Illinois University alumni occurred on the other side of the world, Arifjan, Kuwait. Meeting for the first time, from different organizations within the U.S. Army (ammunitions branch), four alumni reminisced of their college experiences and discussed the operations at hand. Major **Tim Sanders '02** (143d ESC chief of munitions), Board of Governors graduate; CW4 **Michael Carpentieri '95** (143d ESC senior ammunition technician), Board of Governors graduate; **Stephanie Hoover '04** (1st TSC Southwest Asia ammunition manager), management graduate and **Shawn McGee '02 MBA '03** (1st TSC Southwest Asia ammunition manager), accounting graduate.

Updates from the Career Development Center

Spring Career Fair A Success at WIU!

The WIU Career Development Center (CDC) hosted 58 companies at the 2014 Spring Career and Internship Fair held Feb. 4. Many WIU students attended in search of job and internship opportunities. The companies were impressed with the quality of WIU students and their professionalism. All alumni are invited to attend any of the WIU Career Fairs as a recruiter, or as a participant seeking a new job. Be sure to save the dates for the

Fall 2014 Career and Internship Fair Oct. 7, and the Law Enforcement & Justice Administration Fair Sept. 16. For more information, contact the CDC at (309) 298-1838 or email careers@wiu.edu.

The week before the Feb. 4 Career Fair, a Professional Clothing Drive was held to distribute more than 400 items of clothing that had been collected during November and December from WIU faculty, staff and alumni. On the day of the clothing distribution, nearly 80 students stopped by to "shop" for free business suits, pants, shirts and shoes.

CLASS NOTE CRITERIA

Information received will be published in the next edition of Western News only if any of the following have occurred in the past 12 months: a job change; promotion; special honor; retirement; marriage/ civil union (include date); births or adoptions (include date).

Information will be listed by year of first degree earned. Due to the high volume of address changes, information will not be published if there simply has been a change of address. All information submitted will be updated in the alumni database and can be viewed in the online alumni directory as well as in the online version of Western News at wiu.edu/alumni.
— WIU Alumni Programs

1956

Nickalos Zombos MS-ED '57, San Bernadino, CA, is a retired professor of business and economics from San Bernardino Valley Community College and is now a board of trustees member.

1959

Rodney Bricker, Bushnell, represented the U.S. Army Korean War Veterans on the 17th Great River Honor Flight.

1968

Ernest Blomquist, Palatine, was recognized in the National Law Journal: 2013 Top Layers in Chicago.

1969

Stanley Hartzler, Luling, TX, is a retired mathematics educator. (hartzlersj@aol.com)

1970

Stephanie Sirotnak Braucht MS-ED '80, Joy, has co-authored the book, "Images of America Mercer County."

1973

Kevin Burdick MS '77, Winnebago, is a test administrator for the Department of the Army-MEPS Chicago. (burdickkevinj@gmail.com)

1974

Debbi Kouzes Burdick, Scottsdale, AZ, was chosen as the Arizona School Administrators Association's All Arizona Superintendent Award winner for Large Districts. (dburdick@ccusd93.org)

1975

Dan Mojica, Denton, TX, is a self-employed beatnik. (dan@dansilverleaf.com)

Susan Chandler Soderlind, Pensacola, FL, is a technology services coordinator at Escambia County School District. (ssoderlind@escambia.k12.fl.us)

1976

Victor Peterson, Malibu, CA, is an environmental sustainability director for the City of Malibu. (vpeterson@malibucity.org)
Chris Mosher Wilson, Manhattan, KS, was recognized as the Kansas Farm Bureau Family of the Year 2013.

1977

Steven Rochon, Mundelein, is the varsity women's volleyball coach at Lake Forest High School. (ssrochon@comcast.net)

1978

William Cannon, Palatine, is the CEO of Monolita Software in Schaumburg.

John Langfelder, Springfield, has become a partner in Heyl Royster's in the Springfield office.

Dave Roeser, St. Paul, MN, is the president of Garden Fresh Farms, Inc. and won the National Sustainability Award at the CleanTech Open Global Forum in San Jose, CA.

Dave Smith, Truth or Consequences, NM, is the store manager at ALCO. (davidsmithbobbie@gmail.com)

Julie Dollar Steigleder, Irondale, AL, is the director of pharmacy analytics at RxBenefits, Inc. (juliedollar@aol.com)

1980

Michael Gallagher, Chicago Ridge, works for the Chicago Public Schools and is a 6th grade reading teacher at Madero Middle School.

1981

David Tendick, Philo, is retired from the Illinois State Police District #10 after 24 years.

1982

Linda Johnson Meyer, Longmont, CO, is a competitive analyst for Insight Global working for Microsoft Bing Maps.

1983

Linda Dailey Houlis, Warrenville, is the sr vp of metro markets

for the American Heart Association's Midwest Affiliate.

1984

Frank "Brad" Brinkerhoff, Sherman, is an IT manager midwest region for Illinois & Midland Railroad in Springfield. (brad.brinkerhoff@gwrr.com)

James McCabe, Mackinaw, is a license examiner at the Illinois Secretary of State.

Robert Smith, Ponca City, OK, is the executive director of operations at Ponca City Public Schools. (smithb@pcps.us)

1986

Lane Abrell, Oswego, is the superintendent at Plainfield CCSD # 202. (lane5033@hotmail.com)

1987

Carole Beamon Hicks, Edwardsville, is a sr veterans service representative for the Department of Veterans Affairs in St. Louis, MO. (cchicks2001@yahoo.com)

1988

Abdul Ahmad MA, Selangor, Malaysia, is an associate professor and Dean at Universiti Putra Malaysia. (abmuati@upm.edu.my)

Todd Theobald, Geneva, is the director of human resources at Much Shelist, P.C.

1989

Pam Motley Chmielewski MS '94, Latham, is a speech language pathologist for Rehab Care at Fairhavens Christian N Home in Decatur.

Hiroko Yamada, Madison, WI, is an instructor at Madison College. (hiroko@hyartgallery.com)

1992

Mark Frank MFA, Broken Arrow, OK, is the director of theatre at Tulsa Community College.

Patrick Kaler, Leesburg, VA, is the president and CEO of Buffalo Niagara.

Alaine Rovenhagen, Newark, is a preschool teacher at Glory Land Kids Child Care in Seneca.

Steve Sarver, Kirkland, is an administrative assistant at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. (steve@sarverman.org)

Tabreena McCraney Walker, Harker Heights, TX, is an associate dentist at Resolution Dental.

1993

Joseph Clarke, Warsaw, is a special products administrator at Keokuk Steel Castings. (jclarke@mchsi.com)

1995

Sheila Miller-Cobb, Frakes, KY, works as a post master relief for USPS.

Cathleen Barlow Strabala MS-ED, Aurora, CO, is the quality manager for Chenega Corporation in Anchorage, AK.

1996

Andy Roth, Rockford, has become a partner in Heyl Royster's in the Rockford office.

1997

Charles Choate, Alexandria, VA, is a pilot in the U.S. Navy and at the Southeast Asia desk at Joint Staff.

1998

Daniel Brown MS '00, Flower Mound, TX, is the vp of resale operations and customer service at Oldcastle Architectural. (dan.brown@oldcastle.com)

1999

Justin Davis MS'09, Houghton, NY, is the director of instrumental activities at Houghton College and completed a doctorate of musical arts in instrumental conducting from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Scott Salisbury, Sheffield, is a physical therapist at Kewanee Physical Therapy & Rehab Specialists.

2000

Shelby Crabtree Salisbury, Sheffield, is a 5th grade teacher at Bureau Valley School District.

2001

Susan Markunas MS '03, Oswego, is an assistant professor of psychology at DePaul University. (smarkuna@depaul.edu)

2002

Rebecca Zelasko Hardekopf, Elgin, is the program manager at Grand Victoria Foundation.

2003

Elizabeth Evans Doores, Maryland Heights, MO, is the director of student development at Millikin University in Decatur. (ejdoores@gmail.com)

David Kraushaar, Hull, is a district sales manager, CCA for

Boston Alumni & Friends

**Capt's Waterfront Grill, Salem, MA
November 7, 2013**



Seated l-r: Angie Aguilar '98, Krystle Petrie '03, President Jack Thomas, Sue Chiri Buta '84 and Cara Rogala Spalla '82. Standing l-r: Thomas Bragg '89, Rick Marsh '74, College of Arts and Sciences Development Director Bryce Dexter, Marty Conboy '77, Srinivasan Subash '73 '75, Jamie Strand, George Jedras '83 '85, Lori Marena '94, Paul Buta and Eric Adams.

St. Louis Rams vs. Chicago Bears Pregame Social and Football Game

**Edward Jones Dome, St. Louis, MO
November 24, 2013**



Front row l-r: Joel Neally, Assistant Admissions Director Vian Vance Neally '96 M.S. '02, Miranda Edler '06 M.S. '08, Assistant Athletics Director Michael Jones '12, Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kirk Dillard '77, Brian Rittenhouse, Cindy Butler and Greg Butler '85. Front row l-r: WIU staff member Megan Butler Bainter '06 '09 and WIU staff member Kelli Rittenhouse.



L-r: Jerry Holloway, Alumni Council member John Sanders '74, Kathi Coomans Sanders '74 and Charlie Hubbard '76.

Wyffels Hybrids in Geneseo. (dkraushaar@wyffels.com)

2004

Natasha Presswood Kraushaar, Hull, is a marketing supervisor at Rain and Hail, LLC in Johnston, IA. (Natasha.kraushaar@rainhail.com)

Matthew O'Kray MS '06, Geneva, is a sr account manager – metals at CSX. (mlokray@gmail.com)

2005

Chad Duhai, Monroe, WI, is a cheesemaker and owner of Zimmerman Cheese.

Ryan Hardekopf, Elgin, is a preconstruction estimator at Power Construction.

2006

Melissa Calkins Gramling, Temple Terrace, FL, is a sr 1 animal care specialist – elephants at Busch Gardens in Tampa and was featured in the ABC series The Wildlife Docs – a series devoted to the care animals receive at Busch Gardens Tampa.

Ryan Messinger MS '08, Roscoe, is a center director at NorthPointe Wellness. (rmessinger@powerwellness.com)

2007

Brittany Baumann, Milwaukee, WI, is a news producer for Weigle Broadcasting at CBS 58.

Justin Faletti, Grand Rapids, MI, is a field claims supervisor at Farmers Insurance.

2008

Ali Haleem, Mokena, is the campus safety and security manager at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

David Halstead, Naperville, is the materials manager at Wynright Corporation, a Daifuku-Webb Company in Elk Grove Village. (dhalstead@wynright.com)

Kevin Hess, Lombard, is an accounts receivable manager at Travelliance in Arlington Heights.

Melissa Jamrok Hess, Lombard, is a sr admissions advisor at DeVry in Addison.

Mark Stanley, Las Vegas, NV, is a licensed clinical social worker for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

2010

Kofi Anyage MA, Moline, is a political science adjunct faculty at Black Hawk College. (kofianyage@yahoo.fr)

Kate Grahl, Chicago, is an attorney at Galarnyk & Associates, Ltd.

James Gransta, Austin, TX, is a sr consultant at The Kenrich Group, LLC.

Jenna Keane Granstra, Austin, TX, is an air quality scientist for URS Corporation.

Robert "Bill" Pherigo, Virden, is the vp at Brown County State Bank in Mt. Sterling.

Marissa Tesiorna Stanley, Las Vegas, NV, is an environmental health specialist at Southern Nevada Health District.

2011

Beka Ciolek, Downers Grove, is a sales assistant at Disney Destinations Resort Sales Team.

2011

Derek Himan, Warsaw, is a police officer for the City of Warsaw.

2012

Nick Knuffman, W. Des Moines, IA, works at HyVee, Inc. in the training department at the corporate office.

Zaida Quinones-Gonzalez, Aurora, is a 2nd/3rd grade bilingual teacher at Yorkville School District # 115.

2013

Jennifer Wilson, N. Liberty, IA, is an administrative assistant at Noel-Levitz in Coralville, IA.

Marriages

Lorraine Shell Alwood '86 MS-ED '92 and Frank Willis '87, Feb. 14, 2013.

Deanne Donley '13 and Chris Corzatt, June 15, 2013.

Michele Gertz '11 and Ryan Newbrough '10, Oct. 11, 2013.

Haily LaBorde '06 and Fred Carvalho, Oct. 27, 2013.

Dana Remick '11 and Marcus Loyd, Sept. 28, 2013.

Cara Smith '08 and Josh Dillabough, Sept. 21, 2013.

Births and Adoptions

Stephene Lewis Aden '04 and Michael Aden '02, son, Garrett LaRoss, Sept. 22, 2013.

Matthew Clark '98 MA '07 and Patrisha Fillenwarth Clark '98, a son, Koltton Dennis, Dec. 8, 2013.

Jamie Skjoldager Coan '04 and Jake, a daughter, Sienna Lynn, Dec. 17, 2013.

Brian Crowley '06 MS '08 and Holli Sterner Crowley MS '09, a son, Brayden Andrew, Sept. 28, 2013.

Chicago Western Wednesdays

Cortland's Garage, Chicago

December 4, 2013



Seated l-r: Brittany Lane '07, Erika Lowe '09, Katie Butson '10 and Kelsey Butson '07. Standing l-r: Gianpaolo Magnelli '10, Marissa Davis '11, TJ Larney '10, Emory Patterson '10, John Walcher '08, Mark Carlson '81, Steve Sraga '04, Carol Lewis Scott '70 and Tim Stassi '81.



L-r: Kelsey Butson '07, Marissa Davis '11, Brittany Lane '07, Erika Lowe '09 and Katie Butson '10.

San Diego Alumni & Friends

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, San Diego, CA

January 16, 2014

Thank you to the following alumni and friends (some of whom are pictured below) for joining us in San Diego: Athletics Director Tommy Bell, Vice President for Student Services Gary Biller, OJ Clark '77 '85, Dorlene Clark, Andrew Crossan '95, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Joe Decker '98, Nicole Decker, Jules Fijolek '12, Ryan Kalb '02, Mickey McGuire '84, Adrienne Moch '81, Thomas Pierce '79, Debbie Pierce, Keith Poole '84, Rich Rothe '76, Ellen Thompson Rothe '76 and Judy Wagner '72.



Brock Flesner '12 and Stephanie Travis Flesner '11, a daughter, Aubrey Lynn, Nov. 25, 2013.

Jean Rekowski Garcia MS '05 and Matthew, a son, Charles "Charlie" Andrew, Aug. 15, 2013.

Michelle Moran Geary '02 and Patrick Geary '04, a son, Marshall John, June 5, 2013.

Paul Gould '94 and Jovy, a son, Jaxon, Oct. 17, 2013.

Nicole Bielarz O'Kray '04 and Matthew O'Kray '04 MS '06, a son, Noah, Nov. 13, 2013.

Shelby Crabtree Salisbury '00 and Scott Salisbury '99, a daughter, Quinn Elyse, Oct. 12, 2013.

Amanda Voight Schulz '03 and Geoffrey, a daughter, Avery Kay, Aug. 26, 2013.

Steve Whitson '05 and Jill, a daughter, Baya Irelan, Nov. 20, 2013.

Sarah Swain Worthington '05 and Stephen Worthington '05 MS '09, a son, Jaxon Stephen, Sept. 19, 2013.

Deaths

Robert C. "Bob" Anderson, Ohio, Jan. 11, 2014.

Harry N. Barnes, Jr., Davenport, IA, Feb. 19, 2012.

Lois Beard, Roseville, Oct. 27, 2013.

Glen L. Bellows, Bettendorf, IA, Aug. 28, 2012.

Roland W. "Rollie" Best, Decatur, Feb. 16, 2013.

Robert W. "Bob" Bortman, Dixon, Apr. 17, 2012.

Raymond W. "Ray" Bouslough, Jr., Milan, Dec. 11, 2013.

Everett W. Bray, Jr., E. Moline, Apr. 7, 2013.

John Burgess, Mountain Home, AR, July 22, 2010.

Treva M. Burgess, Mountain Home, AR, Mar. 27, 2012.

Joyce E. Marshall Cate, Savanna, July 28, 2013.

Pauline "Polly" Chatterton, Macomb, Nov. 6, 2013.

Jack E. Chick, Clinton, Dec. 25, 2013.

Rebecca L. Clark, Colchester, Nov. 2, 2013.

Walker M. Cox, Galesburg, May 27, 2012.

Warren M. Daley, Clinton, WI, Nov. 8, 2013.

James V. DeRosa, Colchester, Jan. 13, 2014.

Clifford J. "Babe" Doss, Jr., Kewanee, July 26, 2013.

Dina Durward, Morrison, Oct. 23, 2011.

Carmen C. Covey Elkin, Macomb, Nov. 12, 2013.

Meredith L. "Mert" Flatt, Media, Nov. 8, 2013.

Robert A. Fritz, Davenport, IA, Mar. 28, 2012.

Jack W. Garinger, Geneseo, Nov. 5, 2012.

Thomas G. Getz, Moline, Jan. 15, 2012.

Enid L. Walters Gible, Dahinda, Oct. 7, 2013.

Richard W. Grask, Naperville, May 2, 2011.

Michael J. Gullede, W. Dundee, May 16, 2010.

Sharon A. Harker, Kewanee, Mar. 1, 2013.

Margo Harper, Moline, May 23, 2013.

Volmer B. "Brooke" Haurberg, Walnut, Dec. 12, 2013.

Lillian A. Hultgren, Moline, May 17, 2012.

Sandra L. Vehmeier Jennings, Rock Island, Dec. 19, 2013.

James E. Johnstone, Moline, Feb. 19, 2012.

James R. "Jimmy" Jones, LaFayette, Apr. 29, 2011.

Dorothy M. "Doris" Kellis, Woodburn, OR, May 21, 2013.

Dorothy A. Klemptner, Morton Grove, Jan. 6, 2010.

Walter J. Martens, Reynolds, Apr. 4, 2013.

Stephen R. McKane, Florence, AZ, Oct. 8, 2013.

Derek F. Moore, Jefferson City, MO, Nov. 1, 2013.

Robert L. Moore, Moline, Aug. 5, 2012.

Frances B. Morgan, Muscatine, IA, Oct. 31, 2012.

Wayne W. Mounts, Macomb, Nov. 10, 2013.

Harold Murfin, Adair, Nov. 9, 2013.

Paul M. Muskopf, Rock Island, Mar. 22, 2012.

Michael J. Nares, Davenport, IA, Aug. 26, 2013.

Richard F. Nicaise, Galesburg, Dec. 7, 2011.

Lynn Painter, Rushville, Dec. 16, 2013.

Tommy E. Parker, Plymouth, Nov. 25, 2013.

Louretta S. Peters, Columbia, MO, Sept. 20, 2013.

Burton M. "Burt" Phillips, E. Moline, Dec. 30, 2013.

Mack A. Pullman, Geneseo, Aug. 18, 2013.

Jim Quesenberry, Quincy, Nov. 22, 2013.

Cora Lee Reynolds, Hamilton, Dec. 14, 2013.

Diana E. "Di" Robison, Quincy, Dec. 5, 2013.

Barbara L. Yeast Roy, Davenport, IA, Nov. 17, 2013.

Marvin A. Salmonson, Silvis, May 14, 2013.

Robert L. "Sandy" Sanderson, Galesburg, Oct. 7, 2013.

Eleanor F. Scheppers, Jefferson City, MO, May 6, 2012.

Joshua G. "Josh" Schick, Moline, Jan. 4, 2014.

Loyal L. "Buck" Schreiner, Savanna, Oct. 13, 2012.

Samuel "Sam" Singer, Clermont, FL, Oct. 17, 2013.

Donald L. Sipe, Sterling, Sept. 11, 2011.

Susan G. "Susie" Slivken, Lady Lake, FL, May 13, 2013.

Roger O. Smith, Moline, Aug. 2, 2013.
 Betty Syverud, Pleasant Valley, IA, June 18, 2012.
 Edward J. VanMeir, Elmhurst, Mar. 2, 2013.
 Joseph M. "Joe" Waechter, Davenport, IA, Mar. 25, 2013.
 Richard P. Weil, Galesburg, Dec. 4, 2010.
 Thomas G. West, Galesburg, Nov. 24, 2011.
 Joseph H. Whalen, Colchester, Dec. 22, 2013.
 L. Gordon Young, Erie, Nov. 13, 2011.
 Norman D. Zuspahn, Warner Robins, GA, Nov. 2, 2013.
 1933 Hazel M. Myers Willey '56, Bartlett, Nov. 1, 2013.
 1937 Martha Horning Baecker, Monroe City, MO, Nov. 11, 2013.
 1937 Alice E. Boyer Hauser, Denver, CO, Oct. 29, 2013.
 1940 Annabelle A. McKay Crawford, Yampa, CO, Dec. 9, 2013.
 1941 H.D. "Hap" Miner, Macomb, Jan. 11, 2014.
 1941 Willard G. "Bill" Warrington, E. Lansing, MI, May 23, 2013.
 1943 Robert L. "Bob" Hodges MA '48, Urbana, Mar. 10, 2012.
 1945 Virginia L. "Gini" Hankins Huson, Peoria, Mar. 3, 2012.
 1947 Mary L. Moore Bollers MS, Bloomington, Nov. 3, 2009.
 1949 Charles Blines, Jr., Bloomington, Dec. 1, 2009.
 1949 Paul H. Cuba, Galesburg, Feb. 28, 2013.
 1949 Albert C. Miksis, Schuamburg, Feb. 4, 2012.
 1949 Leo H. Pryor, Jr., Lockport, Apr. 18, 2012.
 1950 Harvey G. Battrell, Kankakee, May 15, 2013.
 1950 James R. "Jim" Garner, Macomb, Jan. 26, 2014.
 1950 Karmy J. Kays, Garland, TX, May 24, 2010.
 1950 Ernest E. Lester MS-ED '51, St. Charles, MO, June 5, 2012.
 1951 Floyd L. Barnhouse, Winamac, IN, Oct. 9, 2013.
 1951 Vincent L. Brierley, Costa Mesa, CA, Jan. 15, 2011.
 1951 Karl M. Henry, Peoria, Dec. 1, 2013.
 1951 Norma J. Miller Portlock, Anchorage, AK, Dec. 19, 2012.
 1952 Gerald J. "Chic" Anderson, Palatine, Dec. 4, 2013.
 1952 Milo H. Hansen MS-ED, Gibson City, Jan. 4, 2013.
 1952 Harold D. Willard MSE '53, Moline, Mar. 16, 2012.
 1953 Robert L. "Bob" Atkinson, Port Byron, Mar. 18, 2012.
 1953 Edwin H. "Ed" Engelbrecht, Jacksonville, Dec. 24, 2013.
 1954 Joetta M. Cramm, Ellicott City, MD, Aug. 18, 2013.
 1954 Paul "Fred" Mattingly, Normal, May 7, 2013.
 1955 Pearl Nooner Campbell, Taylorville, Mar. 5, 2010.
 1955 June A. Wortman MS-ED '76, E. Moline, June 13, 2009.
 1956 Jane E. Rust, Washington, June 30, 2011.
 1957 Wellesley C. "Wes" Goodwin MS-ED, Surprise, AZ, Nov. 27, 2013.
 1957 Herbert R. "Herb" Hurt, Henry, Dec. 13, 2013.
 1957 William G. Matlack, Springfield, Dec. 8, 2012.
 1958 Jack T. Engel MSE, Augusta, Dec. 22, 2013.
 1958 Gerald L. "Chips" Giovanine MS-ED '61, Princeton, Jan. 11, 2014.
 1960 Wilfred R. Johnson, Gilson, Aug. 30, 2013.
 1960 Charlotte A. Williams, Dahinda, Apr. 17, 2013.
 1961 William R. "Bill" Robison, Sheffield, Dec. 27, 2013.
 1961 Kenneth C. Williams, Payson, AZ, Nov. 1, 2013.
 1962 Elizabeth L. Grider, Rushville, Oct. 25, 2013.
 1962 Raymond E. "Ray" Stotler, Makanda, Dec. 4, 2013.
 1963 Edgar D. Butterfield MS-ED '67, Rock Island, Nov. 24, 2013.
 1963 Robert V. "Bob" Fairman MS-ED, Rock Island, Mar. 16, 2013.
 1963 Pauline VanEaton MS-ED, Rock Island, Jan. 10, 2013.
 1965 Judith A. Hollenberg, Roseville, Dec. 25, 2013.
 1965 Wilburna J. Hart Wakefield, Rock Island, Nov. 23, 2011.
 1966 Gary L. Bushman MS-ED '69, Clearwater, FL, Oct. 16, 2011.
 1967 Martha L. Dawson Boettger, Galesburg, Mar. 5, 2013.
 1967 Robert A. "Bob" Chapman III MA'68, Davenport, IA, Nov. 21, 2013.
 1968 Terry L. Dillard MS-ED, Mt. Sterling, June 14, 2012.
 1969 Steven J. "Steve" Borbely MA, Lincoln, Aug. 24, 2013.
 1969 Wilma L. Bowen Snider, Keokuk, IA, Aug. 17, 2012.
 1970 William M. "Bill" Deen, St. Louis, MO, Nov. 16, 2013.
 1971 Mary Elin Barnish, Glen Ellyn, Dec. 22, 2013.
 1971 Richard J. Krbavac, Mesa, AZ, Dec. 23, 2013.
 1972 Ronald F. Inns, Las Vegas, NV, Nov. 7, 2010.
 1973 Alan R. Steele, Winter, WI, Jan. 1, 2014.
 1974 Robert E. "Bob" Leiner, Chillicothe, Dec. 13, 2013.
 1974 David M. Neathery, Springfield, July 7, 2013.
 1975 John R. Livingston, Lewistown, Dec. 10, 2013.
 1976 James D. Alvey ED SP, Glasford, May 4, 2010.
 1976 Sidney L. Harmon, Abingdon, Dec. 21, 2013.
 1976 Laura H. Symon Koritz, Springfield, Mar. 7, 2013.
 1977 Marcia D. Miller, Good Hope, Oct. 21, 2013.
 1977 Jack A. Thurman, Macomb, Dec. 4, 2013.
 1978 William R. "Bill" Marcuzzo, Jr., Wood River, Nov. 20, 2013.
 1978 Arthur M. Zalecki, Madison, WI, Oct. 27, 2010.

1979 Kenneth A. "Ken" Karman M.ACCT, Chillicothe, July 1, 2013.
 1979 Cathy A. Wolf Spitzfaden, Moline, Dec. 15, 2013.
 1979 Donna J. Wheeler, Gurnee, Jan. 28, 2013.
 1980 Carol M. Hansen Anderson MS, Aledo, Nov. 14, 2013.
 1980 Juanita M. Bryan MS-ED '86, Libertyville, Jan. 1, 2014.
 1980 William P. "Bill" McCamey MA '82, Cuba, Nov. 19, 2013.
 1981 James M. "Jim" Drozd MA '90, Hamilton, Dec. 29, 2013.
 1981 Douglas J. Schnicker, Burlington, IA, Feb. 11, 2013.
 1983 Joseph R. "Joe" Withers, Peoria, Nov. 3, 2013.
 1984 Merle L. Cooper MA, Davenport, IA, Jan. 8, 2014.
 1985 William D. "Bill" Hasting, Nashville, TN, Apr 3, 2013.
 1986 Kevin J. Burke, Lombard, Nov. 28, 2013.
 1986 Sherrill D. Olson, Bettendorf, IA, Dec. 20, 2013.
 1987 Diosdado O. Mongomo, Apdo, Equatorial Guinea, Dec. 25, 2013.
 1988 Thomas A. Ascitutto, Round Lake, Dec. 4, 2013.
 1988 Amy L. Heiser Cassimatis, St. Clair, MO, May 16, 2013.
 1988 Mary D. McLaughlin Laue, Auburn, CA, July 7, 2011.
 1990 Larris R. Larsen, Sandwich, July 27, 2013.
 1991 John H. Ernst MA, Palm Coast, FL, June 29, 2013.
 1998 Mario M. Ricchio MA, Chicago, Aug. 2013.
 2002 Yingru Chen MS, Champaign, July 7, 2012.
 2006 Brian J. Affrunti, Manhattan, Dec. 28, 2013.
 2008 Ross L. Erdmann, Macomb, Nov. 14, 2013.
 2009 Eric T. Diederich, Arlington Heights, Sept. 13, 2013.

Washington Western Wednesdays Tuscana West, Washington D.C. January 16, 2014



L-r: Bob Klannukarn '90, School of Distance Learning, International Studies, and Outreach Director Rick Carter, Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and President's National Advisory Council member Gary Baise '63, Laura Bon-Durant '88 '93, President Jack Thomas, Carmen Kent Bruner '91 and Lacey Allaman Roderick '03.



L-r: Dave Harlow '82, Rob Rieke '98, Sam Howard '93, President Jack Thomas, Christina Hickey Mann '05, Mary Ann McGee '72, Derek Steele '03 and Seth Roderick.

Macomb Alumni & Friends: "A New Deal for Illinois—The Federal Art Project Collection of Western Illinois University" Exhibition & Social Sherman Hall & WIU Art Gallery January 21, 2014



Seated l-r: Retired WIU staff member Tate Lindahl, Sharon Lindahl, Phillip Richmond, Field and Clinical Experiences Coordinator Jacqlin Reese Richmond '73 '87, Alice Davenport, Art Gallery Director Ann Marie Hayes-Hawkinson and Honorary Alumni Award recipient Lisa Ward. Standing l-r: Greg Gilbert, Alumni Council member and Residential Facilities Director Joe Roselieb '07 '09, University Relations Director Darcie Dyer Shinberger '89 '98, Shannon Price, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs Assistant Director Tim Collins, Janet Hopper, Steve Hopper, Bill Davenport, College of Business and Technology Dean Tom Erikson, Instructor William Suter, Wendy Moustakas and Mike Inman.



Seated l-r: Randy Sollenberger '71 '75, Retired Advisor Patti Jones '70 '81, President Jack Thomas, Lois Madsen Lueck '72, Mary Ann Giffin and Alumni Achievement Award recipient and Vice President Emeritus Jackie Speer Thompson '85, '94. Standing l-r: College of Fine Arts and Communications Dean Billy Clow, Michelle Floersch-Clow, Facilities Management Director Scott Coker, Barb Coker, Kathleen O'Donnell Brown '90, Honorary Alumni Award recipient and Faculty Emeritus Gil Belles, Retired Institutional Research and Planning Director Lowell Lueck, Ray Krey '72 '76, Professor Emeritus Bill Griffin, Nancy Poppleton Krey '71 '81, Professor Emeritus Si Young Park, Document and Publication Services Director Sean O'Donnell Brown '91 '01 and Provost and Academic Vice President Ken Hawkinson '78 '79.

Alumni Travel Programs 2014-2015

Normandy, 70th Anniversary of D-Day

April 1-9, 2014

On June 6, 1944, a heroic formation of Allied troops achieved the largest coordinated military invasion in history on the beaches of Normandy, triggering the beginning of the end of World War II. Walk through history on this exclusive journey through Normandy, featuring two full days of exploration that highlight this important victory during the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Visit the American Military Cemetery, the Peace Memorial at Caen and the commune of Sainte Mère Église before concluding at the majestic Mont-Saint-Michel.

Cradle of History

May 4-15, 2014

Follow the echoes of ancient civilizations as you cruise the Mediterranean. Immerse yourself in the ancient legends, traditions and cultures of Turkey, Greece, Cyprus and Israel. Begin in Istanbul and take in its legendary sites before departing for Kusadasi. Cruise to the Greek island of Rhodes and then on to Limassol and Cyprus. More wonders await in Jerusalem before concluding in Patmos and Athens.



Italian Inspiration

May 14-22, 2014

Let Italian-influenced towns and islands inspire you as you cruise to captivating ports in Italy, Croatia and Greece. Set out from Civitavecchia and journey south along Italy's shores. Explore Sorrento or travel to Capri. Cruise further down the scenic Amalfi Coast and visit Amalfi or Positano before heading to Sicily's northeastern tip. Discover the island of Corfu and then step back in time in Dubrovnik before concluding in Venice.

Apulia~Undiscovered Italy

June 10-18, 2014 (Please note the new date.)

From Polignano a Mare, travel along the Apulian coast. Discover views from the Via Venezia in the ancient Greek port of Bari. See unusual dwellings at the Sassi cave houses and the conical, limestone Trulli, and visit the Castel del Monte. Savor the region's vintages on a winery tour, and visit a family-run olive mill.



Baltic Treasures

August 21-September 1, 2014

Discover distant monarchies, Baroque palaces and stunning harbors as you cruise the Baltic Sea to Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Russia, Estonia and Sweden. Beginning in Copenhagen, sail to Warnemünde or take a short drive to Berlin. Cruise to Lithuania and then on to Latvia's capital Riga. Head to Helsinki and then spend almost three days in St. Petersburg before concluding in Stockholm.



Cruise the Mosel, Rhine & Main Rivers

September 22-30, 2014

See picture-perfect villages and pristine German countryside during a journey down the Mosel, Rhine and Main rivers. Along the Mosel, discover Bernkastel-Kues, admire medieval architecture and Roman ruins in Trier, and visit Cochem. Explore the historic town center of Koblenz and see the legendary Loreley Rock on the mighty Rhine. Cruise the Main River, explore the university town of Heidelberg and marvel at the architectural treasures of Würzburg.

Treasures of Southern Africa

October 15-29, 2014

Embark on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to southern Africa. Begin your journey in Cape Town, South Africa. Walk in Nelson Mandela's footsteps on Robben Island. Ascend Cape Point and marvel at the panoramic view of the ocean. The luxurious Rovos Rail will take you on a two-night deluxe train journey across the country to Pretoria. Bring to a close this exceptional program by experiencing the power and majesty of thundering Victoria Falls.

China and the Yangtze River

October 20-November 3, 2014

Discover one of the most fascinating and dynamic nations in the world. Travel to famous landmarks, including the sprawling Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall. Walk through sprawling Tian'anmen Square, and step inside the massive walls of the Forbidden City. Volunteer for a day at the Chengdu Panda Base and cruise the Yangtze River to marvel at the spectacular Three Gorges.

Pearls of the Mediterranean

November 7-15, 2014

Discover some culturally-rich pearls of the Mediterranean, as you cruise from Monaco to Spain. Depart Monte Carlo for Portofino. Journey to Rome before heading inland from the port of Livorno and experience the Tuscan countryside and the legendary cities of Florence and Pisa. Savor the port city of Marseille before heading to Port Vendres. Continue to Palma de Mallorca, Spain before your voyage concludes in Barcelona.



Cruise the Panama Canal

November 19-30, 2014

Set sail on Crystal Serenity and escape the chill of November for the sandy beaches, sunny skies and easygoing spirit of the Caribbean. Embark the ship in Miami and cruise to Key West. Continue to Cozumel, Mexico's island paradise, and Costa Maya, famous for its ancient Mayan ruins. Celebrate the centennial of the Panama Canal as you traverse this famous man-made marvel. Conclude your adventure in Caldera, Costa Rica.

Mayan Mystique

January 6-16, 2015

Experience awe-inspiring, tropical lands infused with vibrant cultures and riveting ancient ruins as you cruise the Caribbean. Depart from Miami and savor the British charms and powdery white sands of Grand Cayman, behold captivating Mayan ruins in Mexico and admire cultural and natural treasures in Belize. Witness quaint native villages in Guatemala, savor breathtaking scenery on the island of Roatan, and stroll palm-lined streets in Key West.

Polynesian Paradise

March 15-25, 2015

From luxurious white-sand beaches fringed by gently swaying palms to velvety emerald mountains towering over translucent lagoons, indulge your senses with the wonders of French Polynesia. Admire kaleidoscopic lagoons surrounding Moorea and discover local legends on Raiatea. Be engulfed by endless tropical beauty on sun-kissed Bora Bora and experience a blend of black-sand beaches and sparkling waterfalls on Nuku Hiva before returning to Papeete on the lovely island of Tahiti.

Save the Dates

Mediterranean Marvels

April 24-May 3, 2015

Baltic Marvels

June 16-24, 2015

Pearls of the Mediterranean

June 22-30, 2015

Coastal Alaska

July 7-14, 2015

Greek Isles Odyssey

September 26-October 5, 2015

For additional trip information, visit wiu.edu/alumni/travel.php.

Refer a Student to Western Illinois University



Do you know a student who would be a great fit for Western Illinois University? Let us know by completing the form below. We also welcome recommendations for students who may wish to transfer to WIU.

The WIU Admissions Office or School of Graduate Studies will personally follow up with the student and give him/her the option of registering as a prospective student. The student will receive information from WIU, will be added to our contact list and will be invited to special events in his/her area and in Macomb. The student will also be notified that you took the time to refer him/her to Western Illinois University (if you would like us to share that information).

STUDENT'S INFORMATION

First Name: _____
 Last Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 School Currently Attending: _____
 Expected Graduation Date From Above: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Gender: Female Male

REFERRED BY

First Name: _____
 Last Name: _____
 WIU Graduation Year: _____
 Relationship to Student: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Cell Phone: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

**Why would this student be a good candidate for WIU?*

Yes, I would like to pay the application fee (\$30) for this student when he/she applies.

If this student chooses not to apply:

Please use the application fee for another deserving student.

OR

Please refund me.

Yes, I would like this student to know I recommended him/her.

No, I would prefer this student not know I recommended him/her.

Please mail form to: WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb IL 61455-1390, or visit wiu.edu/alumni/recommend.php to complete the form online.

Send Us Your News

Full Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Grad. Year _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Is this a new address? Yes No Prefer Home Business Cell
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Prefer Home Business E-mail
 Do you want email published in the Western News? No Yes Spouse's/Domestic Partner's? No Yes
 Home E-mail _____ Business E-mail _____
 Title/Position _____ Employer _____
 Employer Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Business Phone _____
 Marital Status: Married Single Divorced Widowed Domestic Partner
 Is spouse/domestic partner a WIU graduate? No Yes, Graduation Year _____
 If yes: Spouse/Domestic Partner Full Name _____ Maiden Name _____
 Title/Position _____ Employer _____
 Employer Mailing Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Business Phone _____ Prefer Home Business E-mail
 Home E-mail _____ Business E-mail _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Prefer Home Business Cell Do you want to receive text messages from the university? No Yes
 Include Information in Western News? Yes No
 Additional Information for Western News: _____

Send Us Your Feedback Western News wants to know! How are we doing? What items are your favorites, or which items don't you read, in Western News? Tell us what you think.

Please accept the enclosed gift to assist with printing and postage of the Western News.
 Send updates and feedback to: Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb IL 61455-1390, fax (309) 298-2914, or online at wiu.edu/alumni
 * NOTE: Information will be included in Western's online directory and in the online Western News.

SAVE the DATE
WIU CHICAGO
HOME COMING
WIU VS. NORTHWESTERN
Saturday, Sept. 20
Evanston, IL
 Including week-long events in the Chicagoland area Sept. 15-20

SAVE the DATE
HOME COMING
& REUNION 2014

Oct. 3 - 4
Macomb, IL
 Visit wiu.edu/alumni for the tentative schedule



2014 Golf Outings: Unlike anything you've ever played in beFORE!



The Western Open Alumni & Friends Golf Outing

Monday, June 9, 2014

Seven Bridges Golf Club

One Mulligan Drive, Woodridge, IL

11:00 a.m. Registration; 12:30 p.m. Shot Gun Start

4 Person Scramble

5:00 p.m. Social; 6:00 p.m. Dinner

18 holes, Social, Dinner, Cash Bar - \$120

Social, Dinner, Cash Bar - \$22

Proceeds to support the President's Scholarship Fund

Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Golf Outing

Monday, June 16, 2014

TPC Deere Run

3100 Heather Knoll, Silvis, IL

10:30 a.m. Registration; 12:00 p.m. Shot Gun Start

4 Person Scramble

5:00 p.m. Social; 6:00 p.m. Dinner

18 holes, Social, Dinner, Cash Bar - \$100

Social, Dinner, Cash Bar - \$23

Proceeds to benefit Scholarships

Both Outings Include:

- Registration gift for all players—golf glove with custom WIU magnetic ball marker
- Prepay option for activities all day - (2) mulligans; (5) 50/50 raffle tickets; (1) hand for Par 3 Poker Challenge; & (1) chance at water game—\$40
- Silent auction—WIU golf bag, custom WIU portable bar, umbrella & chairs, WIU cooler
- Proximity games & prizes
- Par 3 Poker Challenge
- Quad Cities—Hole Sponsorship \$500
Flag sponsorship \$100
- Chicago—Hole Sponsorship \$1000
(Includes golf, dinner for 4 & signage)
Flag sponsorship \$100

New & exciting changes this year... including:

Questions or to register: 309-298-1914 or visit www.wiu.com/alumni. Unable to join us for golf? Then please join us for socials, dining and silent auction. Visit wiu.edu/alumni/golf for details and photos of the WIU golf glove, WIU golf bag, WIU custom portable bar with umbrella and chairs and the WIU cooler!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Western Illinois University Alumni Association will return to the great state of Florida in January 2015 to host our annual Alumni and Friends Socials. We hope you'll mark your calendars and plan to join us! If you have suggestions of cities you'd like us to visit or venues you think would be fun and exciting, please email A-Association@wiu.edu or call (309) 298-1914.

CHICAGO WESTERN WEDNESDAYS

April 2

Downtown Chicago at Emerald Loop Bar & Grill

June 4

Plainfield, IL, at Nevin's Brewing Co.

August 6

Downtown Chicago

October 1

Libertyville, IL

Your WIU Alumni Association started a tradition more than a year ago with the first of many Western After Hours! Alumni joined us for great food, great conversation and a few beverages! We now continue our tradition on a bimonthly schedule... Join us on the first Wednesday of every other month in the Chicago area! We'll meet you there from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. for our social, complimentary light appetizers while they last and cash bar. Pre-registration is preferred, however walk-ins are welcome. To pre-register or for more information, call 309-298-1914 or email A-Association@wiu.edu.

WASHINGTON D.C. UPCOMING WIU ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

Announcing WIU Washington Western Wednesdays...if you live in the Washington D.C. area or are traveling there on the last Wednesday of every other month, we hope you will join other WIU Alumni & Friends in the area for great food, great conversation and a few beverages! Watch your Western News, your mail, Facebook, Twitter and your email for updates on locations throughout the D.C. area!

March 27 – Alexandria, VA, at Hard Times Cafe

May 29 – Downtown D.C.

July 31 – D.C. Area

September 25 – Downtown D.C.

October 27 – D.C. Area



Registration Form for WIU Alumni & Friends Events

Payment options:

- Online wiu.com/alumni
- Phone (309) 298-1914
- Check Payable to **WIU Alumni Association**
- Credit card Please provide credit card information

Name _____ Class year _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Home phone _____ Home e-mail _____

Cell phone _____ Do you want to receive text messages from the university? No Yes

Name of business _____ Job title _____

Work phone _____ Work e-mail _____

Work address _____ City, State, Zip _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

Card #: _____
Three digit security code _____ Exp. date: _____
Name on card: _____
Signature: _____

Fax form to: (309) 298-2914 or mail form to:
**WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle,
Macomb, IL 61455-1390**

Name of event:	Number attending/Name(s):	Price:

Total: _____