Corbin/Olson renovations to begin Fall 2010

Call it “Extreme Makeover: Residence Hall Edition.” As part of Western Illinois University’s University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) Master Plan, Corbin and Olson halls—two of the Macomb campus’s longest-standing residence halls—will be completely rehabbed and renovated beginning October 2010. The project means Corbin and Olson halls will no longer be available for Homecoming or hotel-style housing and should reopen in Fall of 2012 as traditional residence halls. According to UHDS Director of Residential Facilities Matt Biernbaum ‘97 MBA ‘03, renovations and reorganization of the University’s 10 residence halls are two of the primary focuses of the UHDS Master Plan.

As part of the plan, Wetzel Hall closed following the completion of the Spring 2009 semester, and with the start of the Fall 2009 semester, Tanner Hall, once an upper-division hall, was transformed into a traditional double-occupancy building that houses both freshman and upper-division students. Tanner is currently also considered an FYE (First Year Experience) hall.

Since the 2007-2008 school year, UHDS staff worked to develop its master plan for current and future housing facilities. According to Biernbaum, the decision to take Wetzel Hall off-line and renovate Corbin and Olson halls first fit into the plan, as well as into the University’s Master Plan.

“We are implementing changes and renovating facilities to better serve our students by providing outstanding, up-to-date housing options,” Biernbaum explained.

Major upgrades
The Corbin-Olson update, which will be funded through a bond issue, includes renovating the shared dining center and upgrading the heating and air conditioning system, plumbing, lighting, bathrooms and furniture. In October 2009, the WIU Board of Trustees awarded the bid for the architectural design work for the renovations to FGM Architects, Inc., Oak Brook (IL), not to exceed $1.8 million.

John Biernbaum, assistant vice president for student services-student life, said the project will also include security and access control, as well as upgrading common areas and the Fine Arts living communities. In addition, an international floor, which was discontinued in 2004, will be re-introduced as part of the renovation.

Biernbaum added that a programming study was submitted to the state but unpaid 30 days prior to the university’s obligations to state universities as has been promised.”

Last month, a Senate panel endorsed Senate Bill 416, which would allow eight public universities the ability to borrow funds to deal with the current cash flow crisis. The plan, which advanced to the full Senate on an 8-5 vote, would give Western and the other Illinois public universities included in the bill the ability to borrow up to 75 percent of payroll and other expense vouchers submitted to the state but unpaid 30 days prior to the state’s obligations to state universities and students as has been promised.”

A delay in reimbursements from the State of Illinois has many state universities and agencies, including Western Illinois University, operating on reserve funds until state dollars arrive. In Western’s case, as of March 1, the University was still expecting reimbursements from the State of Illinois totaling $30.1 million, which represents nearly 50 percent of Western’s appropriations.

“The lack of state payment is shifting the cost of higher education to our students and their parents,” said WIU President Al Goldfarb. “We are living on our income funds, such as tuition; however, these funds will only be available for so long. It is imperative that the state fulfills its obligations to state universities and students as has been promised.”

Last month, a Senate panel endorsed Senate Bill 416, which would allow eight public universities the ability to borrow funds to deal with the current cash flow crisis. The plan, which advanced to the full Senate on an 8-5 vote, would give Western and other Illinois public universities included in the bill the ability to borrow up to 75 percent of payroll and other expense vouchers submitted to the state but unpaid 30 days prior to the state’s obligations to state universities.

While borrowing would help Western and other institutions pay bills, this is an option of last resort and one we do not wish to use as the University would be charged interest in the repayment of the loan,” he said. “We would take advantage of this borrowing option only if cash flow problems would prevent the University from meeting our payroll obligations and instructional obligations for our students.”
**Director’s Corner**

**News from Your Alumni Association**

**Dear Alumni & Friends:**

As has been the case over the past several months, your University and every area of campus have struggled to deal with the significant cash flow crisis the State of Illinois is facing. You will see in the following pages of Western News that WIU is still going strong despite this difficult time. President Goldfarb continues to communicate with students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends about the situation, and many of you have asked, “What can we do to help?” If you live in Illinois, please contact the Governor’s office to share your concerns. If you live out of state but remain in contact with friends or family in Illinois, we hope you will encourage them to do the same. Finally, your continued financial support of Western is greatly appreciated. All areas of campus life are affected by the budget crisis, so if you are interested in making an additional gift, please consider giving to student scholarships, your department, your college, athletics, the arts or even the Alumni Association. As we have said, the collective strength of our 107,000-strong Alumni Association can have a tremendous impact. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Amy E. Spelman**  
Amy Spelman MS ’98

---

**Western News**

**Spring 2010, Vol. 62, No. 3**  
**USPS 679-980**

Western News is published quarterly (March, June, September, December) by the Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390. Periodicals postage paid at Macomb, IL and at additional mailing offices. Distributed to WIU alumni.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390.

Alumni Association Phone: (309) 298-1914  
A-Association@wiu.edu  
wiu.edu

Editorial staff/contributors:  
Darcie Dyer Shinberger ’89 MS ’98, director of University Relations  
Amy Spelman MS ’96, alumni director  
Bonnie Barker ’75 MS ’77, assistant director of University Relations  
Caren Bordowitz, graphic designer  
Jessica Butler MS ’06, assistant to the vice president for Student Services  
Bryce Dexter, director of development, College of Arts and Sciences  
Michael Jones, assistant Alumni director  
Teresa Koltenburg ’92, public information specialist  
Alison McGaughey, editorial writer  
Schuyler Meixner ’98 MBA ’04, director, communications and external relations, College of Business and Technology  
Dana Moon ’98 MBA ’01, assistant to the dean, College of Education and Human Services  
Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95, director, Foundation communications/donor stewardship  
Cathy Null, assistant to the dean, College of Fine Arts and Communication  
Jessica Ruebush ’99, graphic designer  
Phyllis Self, dean of Libraries  
Amanda Shoemake, associate Alumni director

Have tips, questions or comments for Western News?  
A-Association@wiu.edu  
Westernnews@wiu.edu  
See “Send Us Your News” (page 27)

Need to update your address?  
wiu.edu/alumni  
Tel (309) 298-1914  
Fax (309) 298-2914

Printed by the authority of the State of Illinois.  
3/2010  98,500  100002

---

**WIU Alumni & Friends 2010 Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 2010</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Burlington, IA Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Burlington Golf Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Black Alumni Black Tie Scholarship Gala - MartiniQue Banquet Complex, Burbank, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Grad Prep Day, WIU-Quad Cities, Campus Foyer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Grad Prep Day, WIU-Macomb, University Union Concours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chicago Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Complimentary Social at the Art Institute of Chicago</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Track &amp; Field Reunion in conjunction with Lee Calhoun Invitational, Macomb, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3rd Annual All Leatherneck Reunion AND Leatherneck Football Spring Scrimmage in Chicago - Ballydoyle Irish Pub &amp; Restaurant, Aurora, IL/Naperville North High School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Homewood, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - 5th Quarter Sports Bar &amp; Grill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Libertyville, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Mickey Finn’s Brewery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>LaGrange, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Mambo Room Latin Grill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Arlington Heights, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - La Tasca Tapas Restaurant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>All Greek Reunion - Doc Ryan's Bar &amp; Grill, Forest Park, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28-May 6</td>
<td>Alumni Travel Abroad Program: Annafi – The Divine Coast</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Galesburg, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - McGillacuddy’s</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>Commencement/Distinguished Alumni Award/Young Alumni Excellence Award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-26</td>
<td>Alumni Travel Abroad Program: Italy’s Lake District</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Champagne, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Jupiter’s At The Crossing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Warsaw, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - Warsaw Brewery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Columbus, OH Alumni &amp; Friends Event</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Naperville, IL Alumni &amp; Friends Event - BlackFinn American Saloon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chicago Alumni &amp; Friends Event at The Cubby Bear – Watch the Chicago Cubs vs. Chicago White Sox Baseball Game</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>“The Western Open,” Chicago Area Golf Outing – Seven Bridges, Woodridge, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-23</td>
<td>Alumni Travel Abroad Program: Italy’s Lake District</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Quad Cities Golf Outing – TPC Deere Run, Silvis, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Peoria Area Golf Outing – WeaverRidge, Peoria, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Washington D.C. Alumni &amp; Friends Event</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Black Alumni Reunion Weekend - Chicago, IL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>WIU vs. Purdue Pre-Game Social &amp; Football Game - West Lafayette, IN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Founder’s Day &amp; Honorary Alumni Award Presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-25</td>
<td>WIU Homecoming/Reunion 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Celebrating Town &amp; Gown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**From the President**

As we are midway through the 2009-10 academic year, it is amazing to recall just what has been accomplished this year ... and take a look at what lies ahead.

Before I touch upon our accomplishments, I would be remiss if I did not first discuss the continuing serious cash flow situation facing our great University, along with all other public universities and state-funded agencies in the State of Illinois. Please know that we remain committed to continuing to provide outstanding academic opportunities and services to our students, as well as provide a quality, affordable education. We are also committed to retaining our employees. While the cash flow situation has reached what I believe is crisis-level, the University is doing everything possible to control expenditures and conserve resources. We continue to work with our legislators and other public university presidents and chancellors to keep this dire situation at the forefront. Please know that I greatly appreciate all of the support during these difficult, budgetary times. I encourage you, as alumni and friends of this great institution, to contact Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn and your legislators about this critical fiscal situation [visit www.ilga.gov to obtain the name and contact information for state representatives and senators].

It is truly amazing just what this University has accomplished thus far despite economic challenges and uncertainties. The University began offering its new engineering and nursing degrees in Fall 2009, and we opened our new Multicultural Center prior to the start of the fall semester. The Illinois Board of Higher Education recently approved our request for a new master’s degree in biology with a zoo and aquarium focus, which will include hands-on classes at John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

More than 950 students earned academic degrees after the Fall 2009 semester. Western Illinois was designated a Military Friendly Institution by GI Jobs Magazine, and for the second consecutive year, Western was named to the U.S. President’s Honor Roll for Community Service and Volunteerism. A delegation of WIU resident assistants attended the 2010 Illinois State Resident Assistant Association (ISRAA) conference and came home with several top awards, including “Top 10 Program” and “School of the Year.” Gov. Quinn released capital funding for the Quad Cities Riverfront Campus, and the official groundbreaking for Building One on that campus will be held later this month.

The University banded together following the devastating earthquake in Haiti to raise funds to contribute to Haitian relief efforts, and Western’s Peace Corps Fellows Program, which was the first community development program of its kind in the nation, celebrated its 15th anniversary. These accomplishments are but a few of the many that have occurred on this campus since the Fall 2009 semester, and I am proud of the dedicated faculty, staff, students and alumni for their continual efforts in making WIU an outstanding university.

Thank you for your continued support of Western. I hope to meet many of you at Alumni Association events this summer.

All my best wishes;

Al Goldfarb
Among the outcomes of Fetene Gebrewold’s recent trip to Ethiopia is a memorandum of agreement between Western Illinois University and Haramaya University in Dire Dawa. Gebrewold, a professor in Western’s health sciences department, traveled to his homeland last summer and spent his time there teaching public health courses and visiting health clinics in the Hararge region. The memorandum that resulted from his journey, a research and teaching trip made possible through funds provided by a Rotary Grant for University Teachers, will provide for a structured relationship between the two institutions of higher learning. Gebrewold hopes the memorandum will ultimately build greater understanding between the U.S. and Ethiopia.

“The administrations of the universities agreed upon the objectives identified in the memorandum and signed it, making it official. The agreement will develop the enrichment of teaching and research between Western and Haramaya University, and it will strengthen and expand the contact between the two institutions,” Gebrewold explained.

Gebrewold hopes that expanded contact between WIU and Haramaya University will contribute to international public health knowledge. He noted that the Rotary program brings much-needed help to the people and institutions of this developing country in east central Africa.

“All the areas I visited in Ethiopia have shortages in medical supplies, water and computer resources. As a developing country, it faces many public health problems, including HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health issues, malaria, tuberculosis and malnutrition.”

Gebrewold noted that the causes of the many problems Ethiopia faces include poor sanitation, waterborne diseases, limited access to health care, lack of food and inadequate infant and child feeding practices.

“Child malnutrition is the underlying cause for more than 50 percent of deaths in children under the age of five,” he said. “But there are more positive outcomes expected to materialize in the near future, such as drilling water wells of the various health clinics that I visited. I am hoping the relationship between WIU and Haramaya University will also contribute to many more positive outcomes for my homeland.”

“I hope the relationship between WIU and Haramaya University will contribute to many more positive outcomes for my homeland.”

what the purpose of my trip was, they gave me $30 to give to a needy child. Once in Ethiopia, I gave the money to a contact that could be sustained in order to direct future help. So, through local teachers, I was able to find Tizibit Kasahun, an eight-year-old orphan girl attending third grade. Tizibit lives in a small shack with her grandmother, who has been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.”

Gebrewold noted that Harewa Rural Elementary School is in need of student desks, books, notebooks, pencils, pens, typewriters, computers and, in general, funds for supplies, water and for the possibility of a renovation, which may cost up to $10,000.

“Right now, there are many things in the planning stages, and through the memorandum of agreement, I will continue to work to strengthen and expand the relationship between the institutions. I am grateful for the Rotary Grant I was awarded, as it helped enable the agreement and will, hopefully, ultimately help contribute to a better life for those in Ethiopia.”

According to the Rotary International website, applicants must be sponsored from a local Rotary Club chapter in order to be considered for the competitive grant application. Gebrewold’s application was sponsored by the Bushnell (IL) chapter. The website also noted that at its April 2009 meeting, the Rotary Foundation Trustees decided to end some Rotary programs, including the Rotary Grant for University Teachers.

For more information about how to help Tizibit Kasahun or Harewa Rural Elementary School, contact Gebrewold at (309) 298-1531 or F-Gebrewold@wiu.edu.
Imagine trying to put the finishing touches on a paper you are writing for a college course while sitting on a bathroom floor in a U.S. national park. You are using the electrical outlet to plug in your laptop. Or, maybe, it is one of the only warm places you have been able to find in recent days, and you use it so that you can write with any sort of efficiency. For 12 Western students in Fall 2009—as well as for past students and alumni of the recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA) department’s Environmental Conservation and Outdoor Education Expedition (ECOEE) program—this image is among the many memories they will keep for a lifetime.

Started in 1976 by Frank Lupton, professor in what was then WIU’s recreation and park administration department, the ECOEE program began as a way to provide students with practical experience in outdoor leadership and education and wilderness travel skills. Since then, hundreds of WIU students have completed the ECOEE, a semester-long experience that entails 18 credit hours of coursework, traveling to and camping, as well as working in, locations throughout the U.S., and Canada and Mexico.

“This is the only program in the country that offers this—to take a semester and be on the road for almost the entirety of it,” Jeff Tindall MS ’90, ECOEE coordinator/instructor, explained. “Typically, other university or college programs offer this type of instruction in time blocks during a semester, or offer the wilderness aspect during the summer, but students are in the conventional classroom most of the semester. In our program, students spend most of the semester experiencing the wilderness and learning in the outdoors.”

In addition, Western’s RPTA department, via Lupton, is one of the institutions through which the Wilderness Education Association (WEA) began. Michael McGowan, RPTA professor and WEA vice president, noted the WEA is working toward the accreditation of university curricula in wilderness leadership. The department’s assessment of the students who enroll in ECOEE is, in large part, the model on which the accreditation will be based.

“We are moving to an ‘International Registry of Outdoor Leaders,’” McGowan noted, “that effort is based on a qualitative assessment on which the accreditation will be based.”

“The qualities of being a self-starter, self-confidence, heightened self-awareness, improved understanding of group dynamics, and broader perspective on the field of recreation, and get the opportunity to apply and demonstrate leadership skills.”

The preparation for ECOEE comes in the form of two RPTA prerequisite courses.

“We spend a lot of time telling the students how rigorous the program is,” McGowan noted. “We emphasize that it is academically rigorous, that time management is essential and that the qualities of being a self-starter, a team player and a leader are all necessary to finish it successfully.

While I think most of them hear us, they don’t believe us—until, that is, they are in the middle of the program, and they say, ‘this is the most work I’ve ever done in my entire life!’ But when you ask them if it’s worth it, most say it is,” he added.

**Quantity and Quality: ECOEE ’09**

In Fall 2009, the ECOEE started with a 24-day canoe expedition on the Missinabi River in Ontario, Canada. The students then headed to the western U.S. and worked and camped in Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and Yosemite National Park. They also learned how to rock climb in Joshua Tree National Park in California, backpacked in Santa Teresa Canyon in Baja California in Mexico, went on a sea kayaking expedition in the Sea of Cortez and visited the Grand Canyon National Park. According to Mathew McCabe, a senior RPTA major from Marquette Heights (IL), the group traveled nearly 9,000 miles during the semester.

While it might sound like a fun-filled adventure of a lifetime—and for many of the students, it is—the semester-long expedition is also a great deal of, at times, harrowing work, as the group has to set up and take down their camp sites at almost every location. In addition, the expedition has a demanding academic component, for which students have to maintain their individual load of 18 hours of coursework (hence, writing their papers in a national park bathroom), as well as participate in the rigorous wilderness skills training.

“They not only learn the skills, but they also have to learn and demonstrate that they know how to teach the skills. We go over such camping skills as choosing campsites to hanging bear bags to cooking. There is a real teach, lead and manage component to the wilderness skills portion of the program,” Tindall said.

At the end of every ECOEE, students are not only assessed by Tindall, who is also an RPTA department instructor, but they also have to evaluate one another during the last two weeks of the Fall semester, in addition to a number of exams. They are also required to maintain journals, which help Tindall identify how they are growing and learning from the experiences.

The students also put out a newsletter, through which ECOEE alumni and others can keep track of the current expedition (available online at wiu.edu/RPTA/ecoee/newsletter.)

In one issue, Jacob Boyer, a sophomore RPTA major from Elgin (IL), noted, “Now that we are in the final stages of our expedition, the time has come to evaluate each other once more….The process took roughly three hours for each person and it got pretty intense. We needed to see if each person was a good enough outdoor leader to get certified through the WEA…. We had some laughs and we had some cries, just like we had during the trip. I am never going to forget the time I had on ECOEE, and the awesome experience I have been through.”
LEJA faculty tackles terrorism at NATO Conference

*By Teresa Koltzenburg '92*

How do you stop terrorism? For years, many great minds have considered this difficult question, and recent terrorist- and terrorism-related activities and news reports -- such as those of the “Christmas Day Bomber” and of the U.S. unmanned aircrafts targeting Al Qaeda and Taliban members -- keep it top of mind for many Americans today, almost a decade after the 9/11 attacks on U.S. soil.

Dean Alexander, associate professor in Western Illinois University’s School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration (LEJA), author of two books on terrorism and who has served as a consultant for the U.S. State Department and World Bank, was among many of those expert minds tackling this difficult question at a NATO Centre of Excellence-Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT) conference held in Ankara, Turkey, in January.

Invited to present two lectures at the five-day COE-DAT conference, “Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism,” Alexander delivered, “The Overview of Legal Response to Terrorism” and “Legal Aspects of Cyber-Terrorism,” to the attendees. Most of the conference goers, said Alexander, were military officers from NATO countries, senior government officials from ministries of foreign affairs from many NATO nations.

“The vast majority of attendees were not academicians,” Alexander explained. “This COE-DAT training provided military officers, professionals and civil servants with a better understanding of distinct terrorism-related issues, which strengthened their individual, as well as collective, knowledge base. It also will enable them to incorporate what they learned into practices and policies applied in their respective countries. My presentations touched on some of the more recent reports about terrorism. For example, I discussed the charges against Mr. Abdulmuttalab, a.k.a., “the Christmas Day bomber,” and compared them to the guilty plea submitted by the “Shoe Bomber,” Richard Reid, who attempted a U.S. attack in December 2001, also on an airplane. I discussed the legal instruments that can be used against terrorists, including what has been used in the United States and abroad. I provided case studies to illustrate these points.”

Alexander also noted that the COE-DAT conference had more than 90 attendees from 23 countries, including individuals from Iraq (a non-NATO nation).

“The Iraqi delegation was comprised of military personnel, including a general, and various intelligence and security services personnel. It was the first time NATO had an Iraqi delegation attend, and many of the Iraqi officials who attended commented that they were experiencing terrorism on a daily basis. They seemed eager to incorporate what they learned into practices and policies applied in their respective countries. My presentations touched on some of the more recent reports about terrorism. For example, I discussed the charges against Mr. Abdulmuttalab, a.k.a., “the Christmas Day bomber,” and compared them to the guilty plea submitted by the “Shoe Bomber,” Richard Reid, who attempted a U.S. attack in December 2001, also on an airplane. I discussed the legal instruments that can be used against terrorists, including what has been used in the United States and abroad. I provided case studies to illustrate these points.”

Throughout her career, Phillips served on numerous departmental, college, university, state and national committees. She was a member of several North Central Accreditation teams. She served IAHPERD as chair of the physical education state curriculum committee and as a past president.

Phillips was also an active member of the national American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD). In 2002, she received the AAHPERD College and University Administrators Council’s (CUAC) Honor Award, based on professional involvement at the state, district and national levels. She was cited for her service to the profession through CUAC and her leadership on the American Association for Active Lifestyles and Fitness (AAALF) executive board and awards committee. That same fall, she also was awarded the IAHPERD service award.

The Western Organization for Women (WOW) presented Phillips with its 2004 WOW Achievement Award, which honors women who make extraordinary contributions to Western through mentoring, supporting or promoting women colleagues, coworkers or students.

Phillips was one of two women first inducted into the WIU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989. She was a highly successful badminton coach for 13 years (1971-1983), guiding Western’s teams to eight of nine Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) national tournaments. In each of those appearances, WIU placed in the top six teams. Phillips coached Western to third place nationally in 1972 with Robin (Bender) McGowan ’75 earning second place in singles competition. From 1975-1983, Phillips led more than a dozen competitors to the quarterfinal rounds in AIAW national tournaments. She also served as host and tournament director for two AIAW nationals in Macomb (1975, 1981). She was active in the National Collegiate Badminton Coaches’ Council, which she served a term as chair.

Phillips was a current member of the Board of Directors for Western’s State University Annuitants Scholarship Endowment (SUAA), which she had served as past president. She was also a member of Small Paws® Rescue Inc., a rescue organization for Bichons. She earned her bachelor’s degree in physical education from Eastern Illinois University (1964), her master’s degree in physical education from Western and her Ph.D. from The Ohio State University (1977).

She was a member of the Macomb Road Runners and Western’s Harry Mussatto Golf Course. Memorials may be made to the Donna S. Phillips Scholarship Endowment through the WIU Foundation, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390.
COEHS featured alumnus: Lyneir Cole ’87

What is your current position?
I have been a child welfare specialist at Seguin Services for 10 years and an administrative milieu coordinator at Riveredge Psychiatric Hospital for three years.

What positions have you held since graduating from WIU that have helped you in your journey to your current position?
I have been in mental health since 1993 working with adults and since 1998 I have been working with Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) wards of the state. I became a DCFS worker at Seguin Services in 2000 to help minors, because they don’t have anyone and their family rarely has contact. I also gained experience in individual and group counseling, treatment plans, intake assessments and discharge planning. I have been an assistant residential administrator to several Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILA) homes for developmentally disabled adults. I supervised a staff of 15 individuals to assure that placements provided adequate care to the clients. I have been an instructor of nonviolent crisis intervention through the Crisis Prevention Institute for 10 years. I teach individual techniques on defusing aggressive behavior by using verbal de-escalation skills, and without physically touching a person.

Why did you pursue a degree in law enforcement and justice administration from WIU?
I wanted to become a police officer, lawyer or open a security firm. I feel better served in the field of social work. I feel that I am a servant leader.

Explain your current responsibilities and how your position is personally fulfilling.
At Seguin Services I help to get families reunified and seek out permanency for minors whose parents lose their parental rights. I refer parents and minors for services that assist in reunification, by preparing a service plan every six months that monitors their progress. I attend court hearings, provide updates on the progression of the case and seek recommendations from court personnel. My job consists of working with the parents who are participating in drug/alcohol treatment, domestic violence counseling, medical training, and visitation of their children and parenting skills. My duties include working with parents who are required to have psychological assessments and mental health services. I love my job, because it gives me the opportunity to help children who didn’t ask to be in their position. The majority of the wards of the state don’t have contact with their parents and need some guidance. I feel that providing structure, love and nurturing helps the minors cope with the loss of adult leadership. I treat every child on my case load as if they were my own child. I want to advocate and provide that trust and guidance children seek from adults.

At Riveredge I monitor the behaviors of mental health patients. My position consists of going to several units to verbally deescalate behaviors, prior to them getting out of control. I assess the situation and devise a plan of action with the cooperation of the patients. My goal is to help decrease anxiety in the patient and get them to apply coping skills. I utilize my counseling skills and get the individual to focus on the positive and work towards being discharged from the hospital. This position is fulfilling, because everyone experiences hard times in their lives. I assist them in identifying techniques to get them focused and on-task.

What are some of the most interesting challenges you have had in your career?
My biggest challenge is gaining the trust and respect of a client because the majority of them have been through some sort of traumatic experience. I was talking with a biological parent on the phone, while waiting for investigators to arrive and take custody of her newborn. A parent who has children in the system has to report any additional births, and when the child is born, we may have to take custody due to risk of harm. I had a five-year-old on my caseload who died from her abuse and a disease contracted at birth. I once had to locate a client who gave a plan of suicide, so I located the client, called the police for assistance and the client was placed in the hospital for treatment. A client experienced two traumatic incidents—being beaten by his foster parents, and the death of his sister, who was also in the system. Already knowing the circumstances of the case, I had to maintain professionalism, after watching the video of the minor being beaten for several hours.

What advice would you give to graduating students? To what do you attribute your success?
I would advise graduating students to stay focused and committed to their dreams. They need to be active in achieving their success and always willing to learn new things. Their degree shows that they have the ability to complete a task and they are not just seeking a job, they are looking for a career. Individuals should utilize their support systems to reach their goals. I recommend being active in your University and promoting its success. The gratification of having an impact on another person’s life is very rewarding spiritually and opens doors to your own success.

I personally attribute part of my success to my parents. My mother provided encouragement to stay focused and on-task, and she believed in me, even when I had doubts. My father provided me with a strong work ethic and instilled in me to always be the best at what you do in life, no matter what it is. He often said to me, “Be good at your job and learn the next person’s job in case yours is eliminated.”

I attribute attending Western to my success, because the college experience prepared me to deal with society and its demands. I was trained in the field of law enforcement and administration that prepared me to enter the work force. I learned anything is possible, if you work hard and commit yourself.

Continued from NATO p.5

Alexander’s recent research is concentrated on the radicalization and recruitment of extremists and terrorists, Jihadist activities on U.S. soil and emerging legal issues in combating terrorism.

Learn more about Alexander at wiu.edu/leja/ Faculty_Staff/alexandechtml. Visit WIU’s School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration at wiu.edu/leja. More information about NATO’s Centre of Excellence-Defence Against Terrorism is available at tmnm.tsk.tr.

to learn best practices about how to respond to terrorism.”
Expertise like Alexander’s provides Western LEJA students with the opportunity to learn from an emerging scholar researching anti-terrorism practices. He noted that at the undergraduate level, the program offers a homeland security minor that provides students exposure to various foundational, legal and tactical principles, which can be put into practice once they are employed at law enforcement departments.

“We also offer a graduate course on terrorism,” he said. “After having traveled across the United States and internationally, I believe our students have a better understanding of terrorism than many specialists working in law enforcement departments around the country,” Alexander added.

Alexander noted that he was invited to speak at COE-DAT’s “Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism” through a contact he made at another terrorism-focused conference he spoke at Antalya, Turkey in November 2009. “Terrorism is a global problem that NATO’s Centre addresses through its activities. It was an extraordinary opportunity for me to speak at the conference in January, and the staff at COE-DAT has invited me to speak at other programs in the future,” he added.
Retired educators support future teachers through gift

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Retired teachers Arlington ’53 and Arlene Seymour recently put a capstone on their tradition of generosity by making a $1 million planned gift to Western Illinois University.

Beginning in 1997, the Seymours committed to Western by establishing the Arlington and Arlene Seymour Teacher Education Endowment to provide scholarships for students pursuing careers in teaching. This fall, the Seymours disclosed that they also have provided for a $1 million planned gift for the scholarship.

“We felt that Western provided a personal association for what we wanted to do with our estate for the immediate and long-term future,” said Arlie, who majored in education. “Visiting campus, and having our residence in Macomb from 2004 through 2008, reinforced our confidence in having made that choice.”

Arlie and Arlene Seymour met in California in the early 1960s, where they both were teaching. Arlie taught high school in Springfield (IL), before heading to California in 1962. Arlene graduated from Michigan State, teaching in that state before moving to California in 1964. They married and spent most of their careers in the San Jose Unified School District. The Seymours retired in 1993 with a combined 69 years of teaching spread over five decades.

“We both worked our way through college, with modest help from our parents. This was true of the majority of college people of our generation, the ‘depression babies.’ Need was a criteria for all of us,” said Arlie. “We have seen so many students in education fall through the cracks, and we wanted to help them.”

“We have been exceptionally pleased with the administration of our scholarship awards over the past decade,” added Arlene. “We have received many written communications from the recipients, and during recent years were able to meet many of them personally.”

“The Seymours are very down-to-earth people with a very quiet way about them,” said Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83, director of university development and planned giving. “They have given of their time and resources over the years without drawing attention to themselves. This planned gift was made without fuss or fanfare.”

“We don’t feel that we are doing anything special, and we don’t expect anything in return,” Arlie said. “The impact that we hope to make is for the scholarships to just be there—for them to be available and lend a helping hand to students who need it.”

Arlie added, “We hope our commitment to WIU will persuade other alumni and friends of WIU to do the same.”

38 years, $100,000 and 4 scholarships: The Taylor Legacy

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Most WIU community members will recognize the name Gordon “Gordy” Taylor ’68; he directed Western’s award-winning alumni program for 28 years before retiring in 2006 with more than 37 years of service to the University.

Gordy’s wife, Diane (Paulsen) Taylor ’89 MA ’91, is retired from Spoon River College in Macomb, where she taught English for many years. The Taylors, who have been married for 41 years, met on a blind date at Lake Argyle in 1967.

Most people associated with both WIU and SRC know of the Taylors’ strong belief in the power of education. What they may not know, however, is that Gordy and Diane have quietly created, funded and planned for a total of four scholarships to benefit Western Illinois University students, including transfer students from Spoon River College.

Gordy and his three brothers established the Dr. Gordon A. and Constance Taylor Scholarship to honor their parents. All four siblings, who graduated from Hinsdale Central High School (Hinsdale, IL), are WIU graduates: David ’64, Gordon Arthur ’68, Douglas ’73, and Gregory ’82. The family scholarship is awarded to an entering WIU freshman from Hinsdale Central High School with a declared major in business.

The Harry and Anna Paulsen Scholarship is named in honor of Diane’s parents. Anna always wanted to be a teacher, but the conditions of the Great Depression prohibited her from fulfilling her dream. She and Harry, a WWII veteran with a Purple Heart, encouraged their four children to pursue higher education after graduation from Zion-Benton Township High School (ZBTHS). Three of their four children went on to receive degrees from WIU: Ruth (Paulsen) Drew ’79, Paul Paulsen ’75, and Diane (Paulsen) Taylor ’89 MA ’91, as did two of their grandchildren: Jennifer (Taylor) Stevenson ’95 and Neil Paulsen ’02.

Anna Paulsen worked 22 years as a bookkeeper at ZBTHS, her son Paul retired as the math department chair, and daughter-in-law Marsha is a guidance counselor. Because of these close ties, and Anna’s unfulfilled dream of becoming a teacher, the scholarship is given to a ZBTHS graduate entering WIU to study teacher education. This scholarship is supported by Harry and Anna, Ruth and Steve Drew, Paul and Marsha Paulsen and Diane and Gordy.

Diane initiated The Gordon and Diane Taylor Scholarship with financial support from WIU alumni and friends upon Gordy’s 2006 retirement as a way to honor his years of service to WIU. The Taylors have structured their scholarship to benefit a new transfer student from SRC with a preference for declared English majors.

“We really appreciate all the support we received from family, friends and colleagues to honor Gordy with this scholarship,” said Diane.

The Gordon and Diane Taylor Alumni Scholarship will be awarded as part of Gordy and Diane’s estate.

The Taylors claim to have “purple and gold running through their veins,” and Gordy’s relationship with alumni has been a highlight of his life. When making provisions for this scholarship, the Taylors decided they would like it to go to a legacy student, or the child of an alumnus, with proven participation and leadership activities.

“The first scholarship was started on a whim, then it took off and impressed us with the good it could do,” Gordy said.

“We both believe that education strengthens individuals, and we embrace the idea of helping students achieve their educational objectives, so we went on to establish scholarships in honor of our parents, who encouraged us to pursue higher education,” Diane added.

“Western has been very good to us,” said Gordy.

Anna Paulsen worked 22 years as a bookkeeper at ZBTHS, her son Paul retired as the math department chair, and daughter-in-law Marsha is a guidance counselor. Because of these close ties, and Anna’s unfulfilled dream of becoming a teacher, the scholarship is given to a ZBTHS graduate entering WIU to study teacher education. This scholarship is supported by Harry and Anna, Ruth and Steve Drew, Paul and Marsha Paulsen and Diane and Gordy.

Diane initiated The Gordon and Diane Taylor Scholarship with financial support from WIU alumni and friends upon Gordy’s 2006 retirement as a way to honor his years of service to WIU. The Taylors have structured their scholarship to benefit a new transfer student from SRC with a preference for declared English majors.

“We really appreciate all the support we received from family, friends and colleagues to honor Gordy with this scholarship,” said Diane.

The Gordon and Diane Taylor Alumni Scholarship will be awarded as part of Gordy and Diane’s estate.

The Taylors claim to have “purple and gold running through their veins,” and Gordy’s relationship with alumni has been a highlight of his life. When making provisions for this scholarship, the Taylors decided they would like it to go to a legacy student, or the child of an alumnus, with proven participation and leadership activities.

“The first scholarship was started on a whim, then it took off and impressed us with the good it could do,” Gordy said.

“We both believe that education strengthens individuals, and we embrace the idea of helping students achieve their educational objectives, so we went on to establish scholarships in honor of our parents, who encouraged us to pursue higher education,” Diane added.

“Western has been very good to us,” said Gordy.

38 years, $100,000 and 4 scholarships: The Taylor Legacy

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Most WIU community members will recognize the name Gordon “Gordy” Taylor ’68; he directed Western’s award-winning alumni program for 28 years before retiring in 2006 with more than 37 years of service to the University.

Gordy’s wife, Diane (Paulsen) Taylor ’89 MA ’91, is retired from Spoon River College in Macomb, where she taught English for many years. The Taylors, who have been married for 41 years, met on a blind date at Lake Argyle in 1967.

Most people associated with both WIU and SRC know of the Taylors’ strong belief in the power of education. What they may not know, however, is that Gordy and Diane have quietly created, funded and planned for a total of four scholarships to benefit Western Illinois University students, including transfer students from Spoon River College.

Gordy and his three brothers established the Dr. Gordon A. and Constance Taylor Scholarship to honor their parents. All four siblings, who graduated from Hinsdale Central High School (Hinsdale, IL), are WIU graduates: David ’64, Gordon Arthur ’68, Douglas ’73, and Gregory ’82. The family scholarship is awarded to an entering WIU freshman from Hinsdale Central High School with a declared major in business.

The Harry and Anna Paulsen Scholarship is named in honor of Diane’s parents. Anna always wanted to be a teacher, but the conditions of the Great Depression prohibited her from fulfilling her dream. She and Harry, a WWII veteran with a Purple Heart, encouraged their four children to pursue higher education after graduation from Zion-Benton Township High School (ZBTHS). Three of their four children went on to receive degrees from WIU: Ruth (Paulsen) Drew ’79, Paul Paulsen ’75, and Diane (Paulsen) Taylor ’89 MA ’91, as did two of their grandchildren: Jennifer (Taylor) Stevenson ’95 and Neil Paulsen ’02.

Anna Paulsen worked 22 years as a bookkeeper at ZBTHS, her son Paul retired as the math department chair, and daughter-in-law Marsha is a guidance counselor. Because of these close ties, and Anna’s unfulfilled dream of becoming a teacher, the scholarship is given to a ZBTHS graduate entering WIU to study teacher education. This scholarship is supported by Harry and Anna, Ruth and Steve Drew, Paul and Marsha Paulsen and Diane and Gordy.

Diane initiated The Gordon and Diane Taylor Scholarship with financial support from WIU alumni and friends upon Gordy’s 2006 retirement as a way to honor his years of service to WIU. The Taylors have structured their scholarship to benefit a new transfer student from SRC with a preference for declared English majors.

“We really appreciate all the support we received from family, friends and colleagues to honor Gordy with this scholarship,” said Diane.

The Gordon and Diane Taylor Alumni Scholarship will be awarded as part of Gordy and Diane’s estate.

The Taylors claim to have “purple and gold running through their veins,” and Gordy’s relationship with alumni has been a highlight of his life. When making provisions for this scholarship, the Taylors decided they would like it to go to a legacy student, or the child of an alumnus, with proven participation and leadership activities.

“The first scholarship was started on a whim, then it took off and impressed us with the good it could do,” Gordy said.

“We both believe that education strengthens individuals, and we embrace the idea of helping students achieve their educational objectives, so we went on to establish scholarships in honor of our parents, who encouraged us to pursue higher education,” Diane added.

“Western has been very good to us,” said Gordy.
In the competitive world of college admissions, colleges and universities are utilizing Facebook for recruiting, communicating with prospective students and providing up-to-date news.

With the use of social networking sites, educational institutions can save money and cut back on their more traditional recruiting methods, such as mass mailings.

Part of the overall recruitment strategy for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Western Illinois University is to utilize Facebook as a marketing and communication tool.

“Over the past year, we have been purchasing ads to target students not only in the state of Illinois, but in Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin where we now offer in-state tuition rates to students coming from those locations,” according to Eric Campbell, director of undergraduate admissions. “We have focused on maintaining a Facebook fan page, uploading pictures, news pieces and videos detailing recent campus events to keep accepted students aware of their next steps in the admission process,” Campbell said. “Our Facebook community has become active and we have a dedicated student worker who uses it daily to communicate with students.

“When we first began using Facebook, we really did not know how effective it would be. Fortunately, we have some terrific and knowledgeable colleagues at WIU. Teresa Koltzenburg ’92, a public information specialist in the office of university relations, gave us great guidance and did a wonderful job making a video to get students interested in our Facebook presence, Campbell added.

“I was also fortunate to hire new staff members who are very well informed about Facebook marketing. We are now able to communicate with prospective students that we could not afford to make contact with if we had used more traditional direct mail campaigns. In fact, over the holiday break we purchased a Facebook ad and sent our message to selected high school and community college students throughout the state of Illinois. The response yielded 2,247,882 ad views. That campaign brought 200 new fans to our Facebook page,” he said.

The video can be found on the Facebook page.

Keeping campus healthy

H1N1 influenza dominated the activities at WIU last semester. Planning for a possible H1N1 pandemic has been ongoing, including hosting a University-wide tabletop exercise conducted in July. This helped the University to identify gaps in the planning, and to establish policies for absenteeism due to flu-like illness.

The pandemic web site wiu.edu/unews/health.sphp is continuously updated with information on the current situation at WIU, self-care instructions, absenteeism policy, prevention measures and links to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and other resources. Sessions have been held with various campus groups to review the basics of H1N1, the attendance policy and prevention strategies such as handwashing and personal hygiene practices.

A "Dr. Rocky" YouTube video was launched in Fall 2009.
Prospective students to head to ‘Camp’

The Division of Student Services is preparing to launch an exciting new initiative in August aimed at student involvement, leadership training, and diversity conversations. Camp Leatherneck is a three-day retreat for first-year students, designed to connect incoming students to their peers and to WIU—before ever attending a class.

The idea for Camp Leatherneck is rooted in the successes of similar programs at benchmark institutions and universities across the nation, according to Adam Ludwig, assistant complex director and current College Student Personnel (CSP) graduate student.

A team of graduate students from Western’s CSP program has been working to incorporate research and student development theory into the program’s design.

The team proposed Camp Leatherneck to WIU students and to the Division of Student Services last spring, and received full funding from the Division of Student Services and Office of the Provost.

“Assessment at the researched institutions has demonstrated increased retention and student involvement just a few short years after the implementation of similar programs,” Vice President for Student Services Garry Johnson said.

The planning team is in the process of recruiting Leatherneck Leaders, current student leaders who will be trained to facilitate sessions at Camp Leatherneck. Registration is also open for prospective students.

For more information, contact the planning team at campleatherneck@wiu.edu or visit wiu.edu/campleatherneck.

WIU adopts soldiers

In January 2009, the men of B Battery 1 321AFA, from Fort Bragg (NC), were assigned a Forward Operating Base (FOB) duty on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border area. The Command Officer of the Battery, 1st Lt. Al Waters ’06, informed his family that some number of his men did not receive letters or packages while they were deployed. His father, Al Waters Sr., director of WIU’s Career Services, initiated an inquiry throughout the campus and ultimately established the “Adopt-A-Soldier-B Battery 1-321 AFA” drive.

“The response from the WIU community was overwhelming,” the senior Waters said. “Within a few days, each of the soldiers had several around campus preparing packages and letters and cards to be sent. The initial purpose was to ensure that during the holidays, each soldier would receive no fewer than two packages.”

Prior to the holidays, each office and individual who adopted a soldier began to send packages. A particular highlight of the adoption program was that the Western community sent WIU “hoodie” sweatshirts to each member of the Battery.

“WIU had quite a presence and visibility at the Camp Clark FOB in Afghanistan,” Waters Sr. said. “The men in the B Battery also received Christmas stockings sent by Sherri ’87 and Pat Whalen of Colchester (IL).”

“The report from my son was that they were surprised and exceptionally thankful for the fact that complete strangers thought so much of them,” Waters Sr. added.

Supporters of the program included offices and individuals from Sherman Hall, the Spencer Recreation Center, the ROTC Office, the Accounting Office, Financial Aid Office, Registrar’s Office, Administrative Information Management Systems, Payroll Office, Admissions Office, Career Services Office, Beu Health Center, Alumni Association, Telecommunications/Westel Services, Billings and Receivables, along with the Macomb Morning Rotary Club, the Masonic Lodge of Macomb, M & M Vending, HyVee and WIU’s Social Work Club. Funding for the massive mailing to the troops came from fundraisers, the collective efforts of personnel who adopted a soldier, and the many individuals who sought out Al Waters Sr. and made cash donations.

“When the men were assembled at Fort Bragg upon their return, the Brigade Commander expressed appreciation to all the contributors to this extensive effort,” said Waters Sr. “This effort was exercised and completed by caring and supportive people who showed unselfish giving for their countrymen who were serving on their behalf in a foreign country.”
Western Illinois leads the Summit League fall academic team

Western Illinois student-athletes not only turned in the best cumulative semester GPA in athletics department history (3.15 in Fall 2009), but the Leathernecks also paced the Summit League with the most selections to the Academic All-Summit League squad.

WIU led the way with 63 selections to the Academic All-Summit League squad, covering the fall sports of: men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s soccer and volleyball.

The Leathernecks edged Oakland (62) and IUPUI (61) for the league’s top spot. Centenary had 52 student-athletes on the list, followed by North Dakota State (50), IPFW (48), Oral Roberts (48), South Dakota State (47), UMKC (41) and Southern Utah (39). Of the 511 student-athletes honored, 70 posted a perfect 4.0 GPA.

In order to be selected to the Academic All-Summit League Team, a student-athlete must have a 3.0 or better grade-point average in the semester in which they compete and must use a year of eligibility.

The women’s cross country team was one of 12 Western Illinois sports programs (out of 20) to post a cumulative 3.0 GPA in Fall 2009, leading the way with a 3.50. The other fall programs include: volleyball (3.44), women’s soccer (3.37) and men’s cross country (3.26).

Matthew Barr Named WIU’s Lincoln Student Laureate of Illinois

Emily Harrison, an early childhood education major with a cumulative 4.0 grade point average, is among the Leathernecks who helped earn the distinction. Harrison was also named to the CoSIDA/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District V Second Team.

Western Illinois Student Laureate of Illinois Matthew Barr Named WIU’s Lincoln Student Laureate of Illinois

Matthew Barr, a premier WIU student-athlete, was the University’s recipient of the 2009-2010 Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate Award.

The prestigious award is presented annually to an outstanding senior from each of Illinois’ four-year degree-granting institutions to honor them for overall academic excellence and extracurricular activities.

Barr, a senior accountancy major and a Fighting Leathernecks quarterback from Belvidere (IL), received the Student Laureate Medallion, a certificate of achievement and a check for $150 at an awards ceremony Nov. 7 in the Old State Capitol in Springfield. It included participation in a processional of state, civic and academic leaders, with an appearance by Gov. Pat Quinn, president of the academy, who presented the awards. Barr also participated in a luncheon held at the Executive Mansion.

“Being a student-athlete at a Division I institution (Football Championship Subdivision, formerly known as Division I-AA) has allowed me to both learn the necessary skills to become an exemplary student and reinforce the attributes that have been instilled in me since I was young,” Barr said.

Barr, voted a team captain in 2008 and 2009, has been the starting quarterback since the 2007 season. He started four games this year, but he suffered a season-ending injury against Southern Illinois University, forcing him to the sidelines for the remaining seven games of the 2009 season. Barr was awarded Player of the Week honors this fall by the College Sporting News National Football Championship and the Missouri Valley Football Conference after the season’s opening win at Sam Houston State, where he set the second-best passing game yardage in Western Illinois history, throwing for 437 yards and three touchdowns.

A season-opening game at Hanson Field, one of six home games in all, and a game at Big 10 Conference member Purdue highlight the 2010 Western Illinois Football schedule. Tim Van Alstine, assistant vice president for Student Services/director of Athletics, made the announcement Jan. 12.

Kickoff times and ticket prices will be announced at a later date.

The Fighting Leathernecks open the season at home Thursday, Sept. 2, against Pioneer Football Conference member Valparaiso (IN), the first-ever meeting against the Crusaders. On Saturday, Sept. 11, Western travels to Purdue for the first-time meeting against the Boilermakers. The following Saturday (Sept. 18), the Leathernecks play host to Sam Houston State. Last year Western won a thrilling 35-28 decision in Huntsville (TX).

Missouri Valley Football Conference play begins at Hanson Field on Sept. 25 against Indiana State. The game will be part of Homecoming 2010 festivities.

Western Illinois will make consecutive road trips over the next two weekends, Oct. 2 at North Dakota State and the 9th at South Dakota State.

The Leathernecks return home Oct. 16 to face Youngstown State for Family Weekend. After a road game at Missouri State (Oct. 23), Western returns home to battle Illinois State (Oct. 30).

A bye week (Nov. 6) precedes a road game at Southern Illinois (Nov. 13) before closing out the regular season at Hanson Field against Northern Iowa (Nov. 20). The first round of the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision playoffs begin on November 27th.

Save the Date! April 10, 2010

Third Annual All Leatherneck Reunion and Leatherneck Football Spring Scrimmage in Chicago Details on p. 28
Athletics department implements ‘Rocky’s Reach’ program

Western Illinois University student-athletes are once again volunteering their time in the Macomb and area communities. Through a new program, “Rocky’s Reach,” Leatherneck student-athletes interact with elementary-age children, participating in such activities as playing board games, recess activities and mentoring.

For two days per week, representatives from Western’s sport programs volunteer time at two local schools. “Rocky’s Reach” is part of the athletics department philosophy for student-athletes to give back to the community and to individuals who are in need through a clearly defined program of service, and develop the foundation of a lifelong commitment to volunteerism.

“One of Western’s four core values is social responsibility, so as an athletics department, we stress to all of our student-athletes the importance of this commitment,” said Lisa Melz MS ’94, director of Athletic Academic Services. “We challenge our student-athletes every semester to serve as a resource for community development locally, in our region and beyond. The weekly programs we are conducting at both Lincoln Elementary and MacArthur Early Childhood Center are both evidence of that.”

Over the past three academic years, Western Illinois student-athletes have logged nearly 3,000 hours of community service annually, and since 2003-2004 year, have raised at least $12,000 for charity.

Pankratz lends a hand in Costa Rica

Senior Lori Pankratz with two children from Los Guidos, Costa Rica, during her recent mission trip to the country. Our work in Costa Rica is done for now. We continued volunteering their time in the Macomb and area communities. Through a new program, “Rocky’s Reach,” Leatherneck student-athletes interact with elementary-age children, participating in such activities as playing board games, recess activities and mentoring.

For two days per week, representatives from Western’s sport programs volunteer time at two local schools. “Rocky’s Reach” is part of the athletics department philosophy for student-athletes to give back to the community and to individuals who are in need through a clearly defined program of service, and develop the foundation of a lifelong commitment to volunteerism.

“One of Western’s four core values is social responsibility, so as an athletics department, we stress to all of our student-athletes the importance of this commitment,” said Lisa Melz MS ’94, director of Athletic Academic Services. “We challenge our student-athletes every semester to serve as a resource for community development locally, in our region and beyond. The weekly programs we are conducting at both Lincoln Elementary and MacArthur Early Childhood Center are both evidence of that.”

Over the past three academic years, Western Illinois student-athletes have logged nearly 3,000 hours of community service annually, and since 2003-2004 year, have raised at least $12,000 for charity.

Arthur Dufelmeier

Former Leathernecks Head Football Coach Arthur Dufelmeier MS-ED ’52, age 86, of Havana (IL), passed away Feb. 4 in Havana.

He served as the assistant head football coach at Western from 1949-1960, and served as head coach from 1960-1968. He also coached tennis and taught PE classes until he retired in 1969. He was inducted into Western’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 1986. After Western, Dufelmeier had a 17-year stint as the Havana High School head coach. Along with coaching at these schools, he was a lifelong educator.

Dufelmeier graduated from Beardstown High School and attended the University of Illinois on a basketball scholarship. He left the University of Illinois in 1943 to serve his country during World War II, and was a prisoner of war for 11 months. He was liberated on May 2, 1945. He returned to college five months later and was elected captain of the football team that won the Big 10 and beat UCLA in the 1947 Rose Bowl. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois and his master’s degree in 1952 from Western.

Online memorial messages may be left for his family at hurleyfh.com. Services were held in February in Havana (IL).
New CAS Political Science Gallery features Apollo, Nixon-era items

Moreno publishes new book on Nevada mysteries and legends

Focus magazine to be delivered online

Save the Date!
Alumni authors memoir on journey through dark ‘land’

‘89 graduate hopes to reach those who might be struggling with depression

By Alison McGaughey

When Robert Smola ’89 was a student at WIU, he was better known as “Boober,” a Delta Sigma Phi fraternity member who was fairly involved in campus activity.

“If you asked people who knew me at that time, they’d tell you I was cocky,” he said.

So it may come as a surprise to some to learn that Smola’s post-college path led not to law school, as he had planned, but instead to a downward spiral of depression—one that eventually led him to an extended stay in a mental hospital.


“I wrote this manuscript when I got out of the hospital,” he said. “I wrote it as a cathartic exercise to come to peace with what had happened.”

Smola is now able to see “what happened” from the perspective of having been helped by therapy and medication.

After graduating from Western with a degree in political science, Smola struggled with feeling directionless. His relationship with a girlfriend became dysfunctional. His future plans vacillated between law school and finding a job.

“All that change….that’s when things just kind of spiraled out of control,” he said. “I couldn’t eat. I couldn’t sleep,” he said. “All I did was worry. I couldn’t function.

“I’m very stubborn, and there’s this proud Italian part of me that says, ‘You can pull yourself up by your bootstraps, you can get over it.'”

Eventually, Smola attempted suicide. He then spent more than four months in a mental health facility. With the help of treatment, Smola now knows that he has a chemical imbalance of serotonin, and that depressive episodes can be triggered by the kinds of stressors he described. And he has learned how to identify the symptoms and causes of clinical depression—the latter of which has re-occurred but been largely in remission throughout his adult life.

“Thaat’s the thing that I want to tell people: the bottom line is, with the help of medication and/or therapy, you can recover from this. I wanted to show that you could have a horrible episode like I experienced and that I describe in the book, but that you can still live a normal, productive life if you get treatment. I want to remove the stigma associated with depression.”

Smola has been a social worker since the first job he took after being released from the hospital, working with developmentally disabled adults as a training counselor. He went on to earn a master’s degree at the University of Illinois-Chicago in 1994. He’s now a vice president of program operations at Chrysalis Consulting Group in River Grove (IL).

He is also a husband and father of two children. He is married to Lisa (Toland) Smola ’89, whom he had originally dated at Western before the aforementioned troubled relationship.

“When I started to have my issues, before going into the hospital, I had told a mutual friend, Lisa (Riehm) Schomer ’89, ’Tell Lisa (Toland) to hang in there, she’s a smart girl.’ Well, Lisa (Riehm) Schomer passed that message along. By then, Lisa (Toland) was trying to reach me; she got my number from my mom. She reached me in the hospital. I got out in February of 1990, we got married after that, and we’ve been married for 19 years.”

It has also been nearly 19 years since Smola began work on the process of getting “La La Land” published.

“When I got out of the hospital, I wanted to come to some sort of peace and understanding, and I wrote it, literally, one page at a time. It took me about a year to finish. My goal was just to get it on paper. And then it was to help others.

“Every time I wanted to quit, I got a little piece of encouragement,” Smola said. “Finally, a year ago, I made a decision: I’ve gotta give it one more shot. I found this website of publishers, and eventually found a small publisher in Minnesota.”

Since then he has spoken to some college psychology classes, something he hopes to do more of, in conjunction with students reading his book.

“I loved my experience at Western,” he said. “I can’t speak more highly of my teachers, and of my experience there. In fact that’s one of the reasons I speak to college students. I think they’re vulnerable, because… I tell them, ‘College is hard work, but it’s the time of your life. You have this great set of friends, you blossom…. and then one day it’s over. You start going. Where’s my big job? Where are my friends? You know what, it’s hard.’”

Smola’s book can be found online through Amazon.com or through the publisher’s website at kirkhouse.com/Books/A-Waltz-Through-La-La-Land.

IBHE approves master’s in biology at Shedd Aquarium

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) in January approved Western Illinois University’s requests to offer a Master of Science in Biology, with an emphasis in zoo and aquaria studies, at John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, and to upgrade the University’s heating plant and to replace steam lines.

Students enrolled in the 32-semester-hour Shedd program, which was approved by Western’s Board of Trustees in October 2009, would complete some coursework and conduct research at The Shedd Aquarium as well as at Western’s Macomb and/ or Quad Cities campuses. The program, which will be delivered at Shedd Aquarium beginning Fall 2010, is the only master’s degree program in the state of Illinois that provides a zoo and aquaria studies concentration.

According to WIU Provost and Academic Vice President Jack Thomas, the degree program at the Shedd is designed to prepare students for highly competitive careers in zoos and aquariums and builds upon the strengths of the University’s existing bachelor’s and master’s biology degree programs.

“We created this particular graduate degree program to provide graduates with greater career possibilities and to fill an area of need. Students were asking for this concentration,” Thomas added. “We are pleased to offer this new academic option to our students.”

Fall enrollments are projected to grow from 10 in the first year to approximately 16 in five years.

“Western’s biology faculty began offering a biology graduate-level course at Shedd Aquarium in 1991. Nine years later, faculty recognized that students want careers in zoos and aquariums, so we created a post-baccalaureate certificate in response to the need,” said Susan Martinelli-Fernandez, CAS interim dean. “The partnership between Western and Shedd Aquarium has been successful throughout the years, and this new degree program further builds upon that success.”

For more information about the Master of Science in Biology, with an emphasis in zoo and aquaria studies at John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, contact Western’s department of biological sciences at (309) 298-1546, or visit wiu.edu/biology.
**College of Fine Arts and Communication**

**TV screen shots inspire art alumnus ’72 graduate’s project now featured in Sallee**

Western Illinois University alumnus Thomas C. Jackson ’72 has donated eight framed images documenting the 2004 national political conventions. The 49” x 32” images are hung in the hallway of the broadcasting department at Sallee Hall.

Jackson named his work “Visual Analysis of Imagery used in American Presidential Politics,” and each board represents one night of the conventions, split equally between the Republican and Democratic convention.

Jackson said since Sept. 11, 2001, he “has been strongly impressed by images in the news. I began thinking about what this meant for my artwork.”

“By 2004 I became interested in how the political parties, as well as the media, were using images to promote their policies and point of view. I shot photos from the TV screen and put them together in this exhibit. While I consider these composite photographs commentary and analysis, and not artwork, the activity of producing them became a pivotal moment in my art career. With this work I wanted to generate discussion, and am delighted that the resulting studies are seen in an academic setting in the broadcasting department at WIU,” Jackson said.

Jackson’s work has been exhibited in numerous juried exhibitions, group and solo shows. Jackson’s work most recently appeared in “Artists Talk on Art FUSION,” an exhibition of the winners of the 2009 annual curatorial contest at the Tenri Cultural Institute in New York City. The mission of Artists Talk on Art (ATOA) is to provide a forum for critical discussions in the visual arts. After more than 30 years, it is one of the longest-running art discussions in which artists are willing to talk about their work share their art with others and volunteer their time.

**New exchange program with Wales established**

Western Illinois University art students can experience a new artistic and cultural opportunity through the recently established Welsh-American Printmaking Scholarship exchange program with Cardiff College of Art and Design in Cardiff, Wales. Cardiff is a major tourism city and has a distinguished history as a cultural center.

The new study abroad program will allow seniors or juniors in good academic standing majoring in art-printmaking to travel from WIU to Wales in the spring semester; students from Wales will enroll in the fall semester at WIU. The scholarship is the brainchild of professor emeritus Fred Jones. Because Jones’ own experience of studying abroad was pivotal in his life, he generously wants to make this possible for printmaking students at Western. During the fall 2009 semester, Jones organized a silent auction of prints created by his colleagues and WIU students. All sales benefitted the scholarship fund for WIU students to study abroad in Wales. The scholarship is still seeking funds for endowment. Anyone interested in contributing to the scholarship may contact Mick Cumbie at (309) 298-2620 or via mail at Browne Hall 116, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455.

**Music business students get a foot in music industry door**

Three senior music business majors have recently gained real-world experience working in the music industry, thanks to receiving prestigious internship opportunities and scholarships from the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM).

Michael Musto of Naperville (IL), who is president of the WIU Music Business Association, received a $2,500 Industry Tuition Scholarship, as well as the Innovation Award, which provided $600 to use toward traveling expenses to the NAMM convention in January, the largest international music products convention in the world. More than 70,000 attend the conference, which is not open to the general public.

Kathleen Sieracki of McHenry (IL) and Daniel Reem of Macomb each received six-month internships with NAMM, in Carlsbad (CA). Sieracki interned from last August through January, and Reem recently began his internship.

Both are students of Courtney Blankenship, music instructor, whose encouragement and letters of recommendation helped them to receive these prestigious internships. According to the internship agreement, “The NAMM internship program is designed to offer NAMBI (National Association of Music Merchants-Affiliated Music Business Institutions) students a unique alternative to the classroom curriculum of their college or university, so that they may participate in the Association aspects of the music products industry.”

“Having the opportunity to work as an intern for NAMM has been life-changing to say the least,” said Sieracki. “The most amazing part of it all was being able to see a successful trade show and to hear all the wonderful comments members and attendees had to say.”

“To put it into perspective, about 70 NAMM employees host a show for more than 85,000 attendees and 1,500 exhibitors flying in from all across the world,” Sieracki added. “It is truly a privilege to be a part of their organization. I have met some of the most talented and professional people here and I am excited to move onto the next chapter.”

“I am absolutely thrilled to have been given the opportunity to represent Western Illinois University through this internship,” Reem said. “The knowledge and support given to me by the faculty and staff of WIU have prepared me with the skills and confidence I will need to excel as I begin the next chapter of my life in Carlsbad, and for that I am grateful beyond words.”
WIU Libraries receives subcontract that can help with your health

As we all know, information is everywhere, especially when it comes to health care. You cannot turn on the TV, glance through a magazine, or search the World Wide Web without seeing an ad for a new pharmaceutical product that will cure your aches and pains. Finding information is not difficult; the difficulty is determining if the information you have is reliable, unbiased, and easy to understand. Who better to make this determination than the WIU Libraries?

Recognizing the need to provide accurate information to the citizens of western Illinois, where health care services can be limited, Phyllis Self, dean of University Libraries, sought a grant through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine for the initiative called “Building the Future with Community Health Information.” According to Self, “The subcontract funding will enable us to provide information and instruction about the MedlinePlus database to health providers, consumers in the general public and to librarians in the area. In order to reach a wider audience, we are also partnering with the Alliance Library System, which has a service area of 16 counties in our region.”

MedlinePlus is a website created for consumers by the U.S. National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. It is a free web site that does not allow any advertising of any kind, and provides the most current and accurate information on a variety of topics. Encouraging the use of this web site to medical providers, librarians and consumers will increase the benefits of health messages.

For more information about the “Building the Future with Community Health Information” initiative, contact Self at (309) 298-2762 or P-Self@wiu.edu.

This project has been funded by the National Library of Medicine under Contract No. NO1-LM-6-3503 with the University of Illinois at Chicago, Library of Health Sciences.

Libraries student assistants receive scholarships

Kylene Davenport, a senior liberal arts and sciences major of Macomb, and Sara VazQuez Melendez, a junior sociology and Spanish double major of Macomb, are the 2010 recipients of the William H. and Eva Little Graham Student Assistant Scholarship. The Graham Scholarship was established through a bequest from Louis and Maxine Haertle ’41, and is named after Maxine’s parents. The Grahams have long been associated with Western Illinois University. Eva Little Graham was a student in 1903-1904 and many of her children and grandchildren attended WIU. Her daughter, Peggy Graham, worked at University Libraries for 16 years. The scholarship provides worthy students with a tuition grant and offers an annual opportunity for acknowledging the generosity of the Graham and Haertle families to WIU and University Libraries. Both Davenport and Melendez have outstanding academic and job performance records. They each received $500 scholarships for tuition for the Spring 2010 semester. Davenport works in the Reference Unit and Sara works in the Physical Sciences Library.
Reap the Benefits!

**Class Rings**
The WIU class ring is a tangible symbol of the bond between all WIU graduates and the institution that contributed to shaping their future.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/ring.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/ring.php)
(866) BALFOUR • (866) 225-3687

**Diploma Frames**
Choose from a variety of designs to commemorate your outstanding collegiate accomplishment.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/diploma.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/diploma.php)
(800) 653-0579

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

[RockeNetwork.wiu.edu](http://RockeNetwork.wiu.edu)

**Insurance**
Our partnership with American Insurance Administrators offers a variety of programs, including comprehensive short-and-long-term medical, disability, dental, and travel insurance.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/insurance.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/insurance.php)
(800) 922-1245

**Liberty Mutual Partnership**
An exclusive discount of up to 15 percent off home and auto insurance rates and much more.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/liberty-mutual.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/liberty-mutual.php)
(800) 981-2372

**WIU License Plate**
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 WIU ID and Parking Office to update information and issue permits. [wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/license-plate.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/license-plate.php)
(309) 298-2773

**Recreation Center Memberships**
WIU alumni and their spouses and domestic partners may purchase memberships.

[wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/campusrec.php](http://wiu.edu/alumni/benefits/campusrec.php)
(309) 298-2773

---

**Want WIU news?**
We’ve got an app for that

Users of the Apple iPhone or iTouch can now get news from WIU via University Relations’ new “WIU News” app (application), available through Apple’s App Store and iTunes.

Developed through AppMakr (from the company PointAbout, Inc.), the WIU News app provides a quick way for iPhone or iTouch users to get the latest news from Western.

**To install the WIU News application, search for “WIU News” in the Apple’s App Store via your iPhone or iTouch device or through iTunes.**

**STARS and password notice for alumni**

In Western Illinois University’s ongoing efforts to provide students, faculty, staff and alumni with safe and secure access to their University records, a new password policy has recently been implemented. All alumni seeking access to their University records in order to request transcripts or other information will now need to change their current four-digit password to an eight-digit password through WIU’s Student/Alumni Records System (STARS).

“With the new policy, when alumni wish to access their records and have not yet changed to an eight-digit password, they will be notified that their PIN has expired and a new one must be created including at least one letter and one number,” said Director of Alumni Programs Amy Spelman MS ’98. “We have continued the process of having two security questions and answers on file to make it easier for alumni to update their passwords when they are ready. The WIU ID number given to students when they begin at WIU remains the same, and as for alumni, if they do not have an ID number from when they were students, one has been assigned to them. Call (309) 298-1914 and we will be happy to provide the number to you or reset your password for you.”

For more information visit [mvs.wiu.edu/stars.html](http://mvs.wiu.edu/stars.html).
For two-and-a-half weeks last fall, two Western Illinois University engineering technology majors and one engineering technology department professor spent most of their free time in a third-floor Knoblauch Hall laboratory. David Siedal, a senior from Batavia (IL); Andrew Brophy, a sophomore from McHenry (IL); and Professor G. David Hunter ’88 MS ’90, logged long hours in the lab, as they feverishly worked on a digital signal processing system. The three, along with many of their fellow students and colleagues in the department and in the College of Business Technology (CBT), were on a mission: to finish the project before Siedal and Hunter were to fly to Tainan City, Taiwan Nov. 17 to present their project and compete in the International Digital Signal Processing Competition later that week.

Their long hours paid off. Their “Part Identification Using Opposed Sensor Triangulation” project garnered a fourth place technical award in the international competition. Not only was this the first time that any of Western’s engineering technology students competed in the invited competition, but almost all of the other students who competed and won hailed from engineering schools throughout Asia. Hunter noted that perhaps even more noteworthy is that many of the other student competitors had likely been working on their projects for the better part of the year. Hunter, Siedal and Brophy only first learned they would be attempting to compete in the competition in late October.

“We didn’t have a whole lot of time to work on it,” Siedal said. “But we put some really long hours into it, something like eight to 10 hours a day for two weeks straight. We ended up finishing it barely in time,” Siedal said.

Western’s engineering technology department was invited to propose a project to compete in the competition through Ray Dietz’s involvement with it via the University of North Dakota and National Kaohsiung Normal University in Taiwan. Dietz, who was named chair of the department last July, served as a department chair, assistant and associate professor and lead instructor in the University of North Dakota’s technology department, and he served as an international visiting professor at National Kaohsiung Normal University.

“We had about a week to develop a paper to be reviewed, and the project had to be reviewed and approved before we could even get permission to go,” Hunter explained. “So Dave, Andrew and I went to the library and we spent a lot of time reading. Eventually, we decided to base our project on another graduate student’s project, which we modified for the competition. I obtained permission from her, and after she agreed, we started ordering parts and figuring out how to put it together.”

Siedal and Brophy explained that much of the work on their project was negotiated between the two of them. Professor Hunter also helped them with the programming work, and Hunter added that many in the department and college—including other students; Bill Cupples, retired engineering technology faculty member, and School of Agriculture Associate Professor Kevin Bacon—assisted. Hunter also noted he was grateful for the financial support provided to the project via Dietz and CBT Dean Tom Erickson.

**On the Right Track**

“The system we built uses multiple sensors to measure the length and the height of a box or an object going down a conveyor belt,” Siedal noted. “That information is translated into a part name, and then the information is sent to an inventory system. It lets you know where a particular part is in the manufacturing process.”

According to Hunter, the system could provide a way for manufacturers to keep track of their products in process without investing in expensive camera-visioning systems. He noted it could help manufacturers get real-time information about their products as they are being produced.

“Currently, industry puts a lot of money into trying to identify work in process, and it is common to utilize a vision system. But vision systems can be fairly expensive—they are about $20,000 to $30,000 per workstation,” Hunter said. “This type of system, if we were to upgrade it, could basically do the same thing for about $1,000 to $1,500. So a manufacturer could afford to invest in more systems of this type, perhaps put them in places in which they wouldn’t traditionally have a vision system.”

Hunter explained that he asked Siedal and Brophy to work on this project not only because they were both bright, hard-working students in his Manufacturing Engineering Technology (MET) 271 class, but they also both had some background in programming, which was a significant part of the work that needed to be done in order for the system to work.

“I was enlisted in the active-duty Army for seven-and-a-half years, and in the Army, I worked on satellite communications, which involved different electronic courses, troubleshooting and signals for that equipment. So some of my programming background came from that experience,” Brophy said. “Some of the concepts I was also learning in Dr. Hunter’s class had to do with the programming side of it. So, Dave had the task of programming the stepper motor, and I was reading about how to program the LCD screen. I did a lot of research on the specific LCD screen we used, and I figured out different ways to display messages and different ways to hook it up,” he added.

Once their paper was accepted, the sponsoring university, Southern Taiwan University, invited one of the students who worked on, and the academic advisor for, the project to travel to Tainan City to compete. The Taiwan Ministry of Education paid the airfare and hotel expenses, as well as provided food during much of the trip for Hunter and Siedal.

Because Siedal is a senior, Hunter noted that the team decided he should be the student to go. Siedal plans to attend graduate school to continue his engineering technology studies.

Hunter hopes to have students invited back to compete in the 2010 Digital Signal Processing Competition later this year.
John Carroll, standing in a field of cotton on the family farm in Brazil, had never seen a cotton plant until he moved to the South American country. The bulk of the family's acreage is planted to cotton, which is a high profit crop. The family owns a cotton gin and ships cotton to Vietnam, Korea, China and Pakistan. (Submitted photo)

U.S. landowners in the state of Bahia, about five hours northeast of Brasilia, the country's capital.

As the operation grew, so did Carroll's responsibilities.

"My workday is quite a lot different than when I moved to Brazil. When I first went, I was driving a tractor. Now nine managers report to me," he said. "A lot of my time right now is spent getting the right people involved and the good and the bad.

The problem here in the Midwest and western Illinois is there just isn't land available for expansion at any price. So we decided we needed to try somewhere else," Carroll said.

Three generations of the family — grandfather Darel, dad Dan, uncle David and Carroll — made several trips to Brazil over 18 months and bought their first land in 2002 when prices were $3,000 per acre here and $300 there.

"Today, land prices increased quite a bit there. It's 1,800 per acre and $7,000 there, but the main thing is if you have capital, you can get all the land you want," Carroll said. "If you went and paid your neighbor 5 or 10 percent over market price in Brazil, he'd sell it to you and he'd go somewhere else and buy a farm. That scenario doesn't exist here."

They planted 4,400 acres of soybeans the first year in Brazil, sticking with a familiar crop, before shifting the bulk of the acreage to the high profit, but unfamiliar, cotton.

"I'd never seen a cotton plant until I went to Brazil," Carroll said.

Carroll Farms Brazil now owns 8,000 acres and share-crops the rest with U.S. landowners in the state of Bahia, about five hours north of Brazil's capital city, Brasilia.

"My dad spends several months a year down there. When I'm gone, he's down there," Carroll said.

The Carrolls plan to continue farming in Brazil, but Carroll may spend more time back home.

"I have ambitions here in the U.S.," he said. "I'm the first of the next generation. I've got some cousins coming up that are still a few years out. I'd like to see this operation grow and prosper."

**Fast Facts about Carroll Family Farms**

- Carroll Family Farms has about 20,000 acres of cotton and 9,000 acres of soybeans in Brazil. They tried 250 acres of peanuts for the first time this year in an area where nothing else will grow because of nematodes.
- The cotton crop provides about 90 percent of the farm's income. The family owns a cotton gin, and ships cotton to Vietnam, Korea, China and Pakistan.
- The farm is in the state of Bahia, about an hour south of Luis Eduardo, a town of about 50,000 people, and about five hours north of Brazil's capital city, Brasilia.
- The farmland is all flat and the fields large, ranging in size from 500 to 11,000 acres.
- Growing seasons are reversed from the Midwest.
- Harvest in Brazil begins in March.
- The temperature is 80 degrees year-round, but there are distinct wet and dry seasons. About 70 inches of precipitation falls between November and April, then nothing the rest of the year.
- The farm uses the latest technology — autosteer on equipment, grid sampling for variable rate fertilizer, insect-resistant crops, and for the first time this year, herbicide-tolerant crops. Equipment is large-scale, including two 108-foot planters.
- More information: carrollfamilyfarms.com

**Ethics Day 2010: ‘The Ethics of Debt’**

From considering the implications of national debt to student debt, "The Ethics of Debt" was the topic at hand for students, faculty, local business leaders and the campus community during Ethics Day 2010, which was held Feb. 10 in Stipes Hall. Ethics Day is an event co-sponsored by the College of Business and Technology and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The day included a series of lectures and panel discussions regarding the ethics of debt and student lending. Speakers included WIU’s William Polley, associate professor of economics; William Koch, assistant professor of economics; Terri Hare, director of financial aid; and Joseph Bryant, a former CEO and board member of publicly traded lenders and financial services companies, and currently managing member of JP Bryant and Associates, a financial services consulting firm headquartered in Jacksonville (FL). A panel discussion and question-and-answer session followed the presentations.

"By debt, we meant and included debt with a capital ‘D’—sovereign debt, including U.S. debt and that of developing countries; credit card/consumer debt; commercial loans; student debt; and finance mechanisms that bundle loans, securitize them and essentially pass the debt to buyers who have little recourse and even less knowledge of the debtors' ability to repay," explained Frederick Perry, associate professor of management. "The day’s discussions also explored the student loan industry, looking at it from a variety of positions, student and lender and the good and the bad.

Another goal for the day was to examine the ethics and sustainability of certain business models, some of which seem designed to destroy their own customers—like the practice of overcharging by credit card companies, that is, raising interest rates for those who cannot pay the lower rate he said.

Ethics Day, in its 18th year, is an annual component of College of Business and Technology Week, and sponsored by the Program for the Study of Ethics (PSE), which was established at Western Illinois University in 1997 as a joint program of the College of Business and Technology and the College of Arts and Sciences. It serves as a special ethics resource for the University and community at large. The program staffs and continually develops an Ethics Resource Center in Stipes Hall 410 for use by faculty and students across the curriculum.

For a week prior to Ethics Day, the Program for the Study of Ethics also hosted a series of movies on debt and its impact in Morgan Hall 109, including the documentary "Maxed Out," the director of which, Morgan Scurock, spoke on campus in Fall 2009 as part of the 2009-2010 University Theme “Dollars and Sense: Personal Finance to World Poverty” Speaker Series.
College of Business and Technology

Eastern Opportunities

Student collaborates with faculty on ethanol-related research trip to Russia

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92

While many individuals get their first exposure to international experiences as college students, it’s not so often that they participate as one of the lead researchers on an international research trip to help investigate and foster emerging markets for U.S. products. But senior marketing major Anthony Staggs found himself in just such a role this past August, when he traveled to Russia with WIU School of Agriculture faculty John Carlson and Kevin Bacon. The purpose of their trip: to present the possibilities of DDGS (distiller’s dried grains with solubles)—a co-product of drymill ethanol production—for high-protein feed for Russian livestock.

Along with Carlson and Bacon, Staggs, a Chicago native, traveled to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and other Russian cities to gather information about livestock feed practices and to provide livestock-industry professionals with information about the benefits and availability of DDGS from ethanol producers in Illinois.

“Right now, about 80 percent of the livestock in the U.S. is being fed this product,” explained Carlson. “If Illinois-based ethanol producers want to expand the ethanol industry, they will need to find ways to utilize the remaining available supply of DDGS. It also would help keep the price of ethanol competitive, as producers would have a way to utilize the co-product. I’ve been to Russia numerous times, and based on my experience there, I have become aware that they need a good, high-protein livestock feed. They really just don’t have one,” Carlson explained.

According to the U.S. Grain Council’s “DDGS User Handbook” (available at www.grains.org/ddgs-information/217-ddgs-user-handbook), DDGS is a valuable feed ingredient: “In ethanol production, the starch is fermented to obtain ethyl alcohol, but the remaining components of the grain kernel (endosperm, germ), preserve much of the original nutritional value of the grain, including energy, protein and phosphorous. Drymill plants recover and recombine these components into a variety of animal feed ingredients. DDGS is a popular dried form of these combined components, available to domestic and international customers as an ingredient for livestock and poultry rations. As the U.S. ethanol industry continues to grow, a greater quantity of DDGS will be available for feeds in the domestic and export market and a wider diversity of distiller’s co-products with different nutritional characteristics will become available for specific animal feeding applications.”

The trip to Russia, DDGS Russian market research and resulting marketing plan, are the result of a sub-grant awarded to Carlson via the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA), which is housed at WIU.

“The funding from the IIRA was provided through a grant its Illinois Value-Added Sustainable Development Center received from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity,” Carlson noted. “The award was based on our proposed investigation of the possibilities for alternative energy forms, specifically ethanol. With the funding, we examined DDGS and the possibilities for Illinois ethanol producers, DDGS and the Russian livestock industry.”

Staggs became involved in the project through a marketing research class, by John Drea, chair of Western’s marketing and finance department.

“This project started out as one that would involve Dr. Carlson and me,” Drea said. “When it became clear that the Russian trip wasn’t going to work out with my schedule, Dr. Carlson’s first question was, ‘Do you have a student who would be a good fit for this?’

“I thought about Anthony almost immediately. He is extremely bright and very detail-oriented,” Drea said.

Staggs noted that while he had never been out of the country before the trip with Carlson and Bacon, he felt prepared via Carlson’s help.

“I still experienced a little bit of culture shock, but Dr. Carlson shared some of his experiences with me, and provided information about various cultural differences and language-barrier issues. And then there was the fact that I’m not an agriculture major, so I also had to deal with some of the terminology issues in regard to agriculture and marketing,” Staggs said.

Despite the barriers, Staggs was able to provide Carlson with significant help during the 12-day trip. He not only delivered presentations, he also helped tweak the survey instrument designed by Carlson and Drea.

“The survey basically serves as the backbone for the marketing plan. We needed to gather data about what other kinds of feed sources they currently use and what would it take for them to switch from one thing to the other,” Drea said. “So Dr. Carlson and I worked on that, and I brought Anthony in as well. He made some additional editorial changes to the survey we designed. That’s always kind of an adjustment process, frankly, for the professor—to have the student giving you a critique on what you’ve developed. But that has to happen for a student in a project like this. Anthony had to be able to step out of that student role and collaborate as an equal participant,” he added.

Throughout the fall semester, Staggs continued his work on the marketing plan. As of mid-November, he was busily reviewing secondary resources to help him validate the primary data obtained through the initial survey. While the survey did not result in as much primary data as Carlson and Staggs initially hoped for, Carlson noted the trip provided them with a valuable opportunity for establishing contacts in Russia and has indeed resulted in significant interest in the project.

“Overall, I would say the response has been really positive,” Carlson said. “We have three or four companies that are pretty serious about buying DDGS from Illinois-based ethanol producers.”

The trip and research project not only provided Staggs with a valuable hands-on learning opportunity in his field of study, but it also gave him a memorable way to start off and end his final undergraduate semester at WIU. He will finish his bachelor’s degree after just three-and-a-half years. He plans to pursue a master’s degree in sport management.

“This was an amazing opportunity for me. I found it to be a very eye-opening trip, and it has provided me with practical experience that I will be able to utilize in my future education and/or career plans,” he said.

For more information about the project, contact Carlson at (309) 298-1611 or JP-Carlson@wiu.edu. To learn more about IIRA’s Illinois Value-Added Sustainable Development Center and its ethanol-related research and projects, visit value-added.org/renewableEnergy/ethanol.

Nonda Lavyon Cheatham

Nonda Lavyon Cheatham, a former faculty member in business education at Western Illinois University, passed away in Macomb Dec. 12, on her 85th birthday.

Cheatham joined Western’s business faculty in 1968. For 10 years prior, she had worked as the trust department secretary at Union National Bank.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in business (1945) at Midland College (Freemont, NE) and her master’s degree in secondary education (1950) at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln. Cheatham also took advanced graduate courses at Northwestern University and the State University of Iowa (now The University of Iowa). She received tenure and was promoted to assistant professor in Fall 1972. She retired in May 1988 from the management information resources department.

Cheatham was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church of Macomb, Grace Fellowship and United Methodist Women, and served two terms as trustee and secretary of the Fellheimer Trust through Wesley United Methodist Church. She was a past president of the Theta Chapter, Lambda State of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a professional society for women educators; and she was a life member of Delta Pi Epsilon, National Honorary Professional Graduate Society in Business Education. Cheatham was a former member of National Business Education Association, Illinois Business Education Association, American Business Communication Association, Professional Secretaries International, Macomb Business and Professional Women’s Club, Macomb Woman’s Club, McDonough County Retired Teachers Association and Beta Sigam Phi.
Order WIU photos online through new secure gateway

In addition to online photo viewing and purchasing, VPC provides wall clings, large format printing, posters, recruiting displays, professional photographs and more in Tillman Hall 207. Examples of VPC’s work are also on display on the first floor of Sherman Hall and in VPC’s Tillman Hall offices.

Lightbox is updated with new photographs on a weekly or as-needed basis. Lightbox can also be found at wiu.edu/vpc.

Other VPC photographic services include indoor and outdoor location photography; photography for University news releases and publications; original studio photography; images for instructional use; scanning images for publications or for use on the web; passport and ID photos; duplication of archival materials; copyright-cleared photographic copies from books and flat artwork; photographic prints produced from digital files; and computer-based slide presentations.

Graphic services include wall clings; signs; logos; displays; large format photographic poster prints; banners; and signs. Other services offered include mounting photos or posters to Gatorfoam for professional quality display; framing; and lamination to preserve prints, posters or handouts.

For more information, contact VPC at (309) 298-1358 or VPC@wiu.edu.

Gabler Fund supports teaching and learning

Robert Gabler chose these words upon establishing his first permanent fund with the WIU Foundation in 1978 to capture the spirit of the fund’s intent:

“Human and compassionate considerations in the interpretation of society are basic to man’s search for love, kindness, and gentle understanding.”

In many ways, these words summarize Gabler’s life and work, which has greatly influenced and benefitted Western Illinois University.

Gabler joined Western’s faculty in 1957, and before retiring in 1990, served as professor of geography / geology, chair of the geography department, and director of international programs. He holds the title of Professor Emeritus / Distinguished Professor of Geography, and is probably one of the most prolific writers in WIU faculty history. During his tenure, Gabler held numerous leadership positions including parliamentarian and chairman of the Faculty Senate, chair of the Council on Professional Status, and faculty representative to the WIU Foundation Board. He received numerous awards, including the George J. Miller Distinguished Service Award from the National Council for Geographic Education and the Illinois Distinguished Geographic Educator Award from the Illinois Geographic Society.

“My relationship with higher education and with Western Illinois University in particular has been a source of great satisfaction for me,” said Gabler. “I could never find a better way to say ‘thanks for the memories’ than to support the Western Illinois University Foundation.”

“My goal was to reach the $250,000 Founders level of the Foundation’s lifetime giving societies,” Gabler continued. “It seems like a lot of money, but I wanted to show other faculty that it is possible and can be done. I urge all of my colleagues, friends, and former students to join me in giving back to Western just a little of that which Western has given to us.”

Gabler and his late wife, Mary Ellen ’68, began their legacy of giving back in 1978 by establishing a scholarship in memory of their youngest daughter, Mary Elizabeth. Upon the passing of Gabler’s wife in 1996, the scholarship was renamed the Mary Ellen and Mary Elizabeth Gabler Humanitarian Award in honor of individuals whose actions indicate that they care more for others than they do for themselves. In 2004, the funds from the Humanitarian Award were combined with a graduate fellowship Gabler had supported in geography to form the Gabler Fund.

Earnings from the Gabler Fund endowment are awarded annually to the geography and curriculum and instruction (C&I) departments to recognize and support outstanding teaching. Gabler’s goal is to improve the classroom experience for both faculty and students.

“I believe it is important to support faculty,” said Gabler. “They do so much for the institution that it is imperative to give them tools and invest in them.”

“Bob has been as thoughtful and creative in his charitable giving as he was in his teaching,” said Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83, director of university development and planned giving. “Bob has created a substantial fund to honor and support the quest for understanding and humanitarian ideals that have shaped his life and work.”

“There are three things to remember in regards to giving,” Gabler said. “First, giving is a great way to commemorate a faculty member who has influenced you. Second, faculty do wonderful things, but are only able to do so because the institution has provided the support and environment in which to thrive. Third, there are many different ways to give to the institution; I have found at least three!”

“I was fortunate to spend enough time at Western to see it mature; not grow bigger, but actually mature by at least three!”

“Western gave so much to me and my family that it pleases me to have the Gabler Fund supporting teaching and learning.”

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Robert Gabler, former chair of the Department of Geography, and director of international programs

Scott Lenaway ’89 works on a project on campus in 2008. Lenaway, a non-traditional student who graduated with a bachelor of fine arts (BFA) in printmaking from Western last spring, was accepted into the MFA Printmaking program at Colorado State University, but was deployed to Iraq over the summer. Lenaway, a sergeant in the National Guard serving his second tour in the Middle East, has deferred his program until he returns from deployment.
**Class Notes**

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 (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 ---

**Chicago Alumni & Friends Event**

Howl at the Moon, December 14, 2009

---

**Des Moines Alumni & Friends Event**

Graze, November 20, 2009

---

**1966**

Timothy Murphy, Tucson, AZ, is retired from Pima Community College as an education development officer. And now is working part time at PCC coordinating enrolling joint technological education district students. (tim.murphy10@comcast.net)

**1967**

Glenn Lausch, Broomfield, CO, is a personal trainer for Lifetime Fitness in Westminster. (planohog@aol.com)

**1968**

Carolyn Mielke Carlson, Silvis, is retired as managing broker from Woodhaven Lakes Realty.

Robert Reitz, Flagstaff, AZ, is retired from Apex Manufacturing, Inc. as CEO in Phoenix. (breitz8514@aol.com)

**1969**

Tom Kapocus, San Diego, CA, is the president at Seasons Pet Food.

**1973**

Ruth Ann Meyer MS, Alton, is a certified healing touch practitioner and coordinator of healing touch at Alton Memorial Hospital.

**1974**

Ralph Kaufman III, Sperry, IA, is a science teacher at Waco High School in Wayland. (rokie@mepotelco.net)

**1975**

Fred McConnell, Virginia, retired from teaching. (fmcon@gmail.com)

Virginia “Ginny” Cubalchini Williamson, Frankfort, earned a masters degree in occupational therapy from Governor’s State University in December.

**1976**

Wayne Hughes, Decatur, retired from the Decatur Police Department as a sergeant 1st shift patrol division.

Edward Liedtke, Jr., Hebron, IN, retired from Reynolds Aluminum.

DuWayne Reichart, Sherman, was named a principal with the Jones Financial Companies, LLLP.

**1977**

Douglas Wakeley, Bartlett, is a broker/owner of Milestone Real Estate, Ltd. (djwakeley@comcast.net)

**1979**

Arla Nelson Bywater, Grand Prairie, TX, is an organist at Rush Creek Christian Church in Arlington. (watermusic28@juno.com)

Scott Crain, Willow Street, PA, is the chief customer officer at Auntie Anne’s Inc. in Lancaster. (scrcrain@comcast.net)

**1980**

W. Kim Dockus MS, Plainfield, is a project delta team lead for DeVry Inc.

David Gauwitz, Roeland Park, KS, is a quality manager at Cramer Products in Gardner. (dgauwitz554@aol.com)

**1981**

David Dettmann, Osprey, FL, is the senior VP/Gulf Coast private banking manager for M & I Bank in Sarasota.

M. Page Levings Dettman MS-ED, Osprey, FL, is the executive director of middle schools for the School Board of Sarasota County.

Tim Van Fleet, Alexis, was named VP fire OEM sales at Akron Brass.

**1983**

Kathy Johnson Breen, Gurnee, is a resident service coordinator at Franciscan Ministries.

Peg Campana MS ’90, Streamwood, served as an official for the 2009 Illinois High School State Girls Volleyball Tournament in Bloomington.

David Cavazo, Phoenix, AZ, is the city manager of Phoenix.

Lisa Herrling, Freeport, is a specialized para educator for Freeport School District # 145. (lkbuyer@yahoo.com)

Kenton Norton, Snohomish, WA, is a senior manager at The Boeing Company.

**1984**

Marta Savill Kramer, Wyoming, MN, is the compliance
Indianapolis Alumni & Friends Event
Westin Indianapolis, November 12, 2009


Seated, l-r: Adam Weems ’93, Carmen Kent Bruner ’91, Brock Kaericher ’74, Jim Laverdiere ’77, Tim Maquire ’00, Kathy Laverdiere and Jeremy Hill ’99. Standing, l-r: Dave Kelley ’93, Terrance Peeples MA ’94, Gerardo Cantu ’89 MA ’94, Scott Johnson ’92, Monike Craff Hill ’00, Allison Maguire, Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication Paul Kreider and Scott Robinson ’96 MBA ’03.

WIU vs. ISU Pre-Game Social & Football Game
November 7, 2009

L-r: Randy Grove ’76, Mary Mosher Murphy ’79. Sue Barker, Mike Barker, Phyllis McCluskey-Titus ’79 MS ’81, Candie Russell Graham ’79 MA ’97, Mark Graham ’76, Mary Bellezzo ’81, Susan Nicholson Bangert ’79 and Harlan Murphy ’78.

Front row, l-r: Dave Garner ’81, Joe Owca ’72 MBA ’74, Karen Frowein Helmers MS-ED ’75, Connie Chenoweth Garner ’78 MA ’81, Chris Cruze and Steve Silberer. Back row, l-r: Vice President for Student Services Garry Johnson, Earl Jandaek ’73, Honorary Alumni Award recipient Marilyn Johnson ’05 and Rob O’Toole ’73 M.ACCT ’74.
Tampa Area Alumni & Friends Event
Bernini of Ybor, January 24, 2010

Seated, l-r: Saray Galloway, Maurane Aeschleman, Ran Aeschleman ’87 and George Baughman ’60 MS-ED ’67. Standing, l-r: John Becker ’84, Bill Galloway, Larry French ’74, Miranda Sloan MS ’01, Stephanie Russell Holz MS ’98, Chad Hyatt ’93 MBA ’94, Jaclyn Carden MS ’08 and Regina Young Miranda Sloan MS ’01, Stephanie Russell Holz MS ’98, Chad Hyatt ’93 MBA ’94, Jaclyn Carden MS ’08 and Regina Young

St. Petersburg Alumni & Friends Event
Sirata Beach Resort, January 25, 2010


Sarasota Alumni & Friends Event
Libbe’s Cafe Bar, January 26, 2010

Kathleen Jenkins, Shorewood, WI, is a tele-sales representative at Hal.


Trisha Calsyn MS-ED ‘06 and Megan Mazur ‘01 and Nick Zabikow ‘02 and Stacey Jolley ‘00 and Ben Cushwa, Oct. 24, 2009.

Peter Hummel ‘09, June 6, 2009.

Alyssa Horman ‘09 and Megan Grecksch ‘08 and Jennifer Verbeke, July 11, 2009.

Matthew Fuhr ‘05, Amber Stewart ‘08, Lucas Taeger ‘08 and Chad Prentice ’04 and Megan Perry, July 11, 2009.


Kathleen Jenkins, Wheaton, is a 7th & 8th grade French.


Births and Adoptions

Melissa Conklin Birkmeier ’02 MA ’04 and Eric Birkmeier ’00 SSP ’04, a daughter, Sophia Nicole, Oct. 27, 2009.

Laura Billings Castle ’94 and Cameron, a son, Wilson, Mar. 12, 2009.


Alison Willard Duerker ’00 and Dan, adopted a son, Erik Charles, Nov. 14, 2009.

Susannie-Ann Wilson Egan ’06 and Aaron Egan ’04 MBA ’06, a daughter, Samantha Audrey, Nov. 18, 2009.

DuWayne Eilers ’84 and Dorjlkham, a daughter, Kylie Nomin, Sept. 27, 2009.

Erin Finnicum Episcopo ’02 and Angelo Episcopo ’01, twin daughters, Alyssa Ruth and Delaney Maria, Nov. 2, 2009.

Kristen George ’03 and Isreal Leiva, a son, Rylan, Sept 5, 2009.

Amy Struthers Glass ’05 and Michael, a daughter, Addyson Wrigley, Sept. 24, 2009.

Anne Thomas Glenn ‘94 MS ’00 and Cory, a daughter, Marisa Lillian, Nov. 25, 2009.

Wendy Irwin Grime ’03 and Thomas, a son, Drake Irwin, Nov. 25, 2009.


Drew Henderlicker ’05 and Emily, a daughter, Abbigail Richlyn, July 21, 2009.

Christopher Houtman ’98 and Amanda, a son, Janet, June 20, 2009.

Lindsey Oberg Kotelnicki MBA ’06 and Andrew Kotelnicki MS ’06, a son, Maximus Joseph, Dec. 8, 2009.

Candice Derry Logsdon ’02 MS ’04 and Joe, a daughter, Reese Arche, Dec. 26, 2009.


Grace Sill Meinhardt ’08 and Jason Meinhardt ’08, a son, Ezekiel Leigh, Sept. 16, 2009.

Ryan Morrison ’93 and Erika, a daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth, May 13, 2009.

Carrie Cienser Ross ’98 and Steve, a daughter, Madilyn Faith, Dec. 28, 2009.


Julie Schone Van Dyke ’02 and John Van Dyke ’01, a son, Gideon, Oct. 3, 2009.

Gregory Westerberg ’05 and Karrie, a son, Zachary James, Feb. 5, 2009.

Irene Yannello Winchester ’06 and Timothy Winchester ’08, a son, Declan Philip, Apr. 29, 2009.

Stephanie Niekirk Wise ’99 and Dustin Wise ’98, a daughter,
West Palm Alumni & Friends Event
E.R. Bradley’s, January 28, 2010

Front row, l-r: David Cappitelli ’76, Kristine McEvers, Charlie McCreight ’50, Terry Manning ’80, George Baughman ’60 MS-ED ’67 and Dick Hattwick. Back row, l-r: Kim McEvers ’83, Patrick Lambert ’78 and Mike Ritz ’93.


Thomas Zweifel ’93 and Gabrielle, a daughter, Hannah Caroline, July 4, 2009.

Deaths
Marion D. Holtz, Moline, June 24, 2008.
Patricia A. Banks Huison, Edmond, OK, Aug. 19, 2008.
Patricia J. Yount Kies, Brooklyn, IA, June 18, 2009.
Scott M. Plassman, Macomb, Jan. 18, 2010.

1927 M. Myrtle Randall ’30, Macomb, Dec. 18, 1909.
1957 Lloyd H. Groom, Summerfield, FL, Nov. 9, 2009.
1958 Phillip E. Brest MS-ED ’64, Naperville, Apr. 15, 2005.

Harry Gianneschi

Harry Gianneschi ’66 MA ’69, age 65, former director of Alumni Affairs (now Alumni Programs) at WIU, passed away Oct. 15, 2009, after a battle with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Gianneschi, who earned his bachelor’s degree in speech and history and master’s degree in speech from WIU, began his career in higher education at his alma mater as an assistant professor of speech and rhetoric (1969-1971 and 1972-1973). After earning a doctorate in speech, rhetoric and public address from Bowling Green State University in 1973, he served as director of alumni affairs at WIU from 1973 to 1976, when he went on to be the director of alumni relations and university development at the University of Nevada-Reno.

While a student, he had been involved in student government and was president of his senior class. He also was active on the University Union Board. He and his wife, Pat Gianneschi, who earned her bachelor’s degree in speech and history from WIU, began their career in higher education at his alma mater as a graduate student in speech and rhetoric (1969-1971 and 1972-1973). After earning a doctorate in speech, rhetoric and public address from Bowling Green State University in 1973, he served as director of alumni affairs at WIU from 1973 to 1976, when he went on to be the director of alumni relations and university development at the University of Nevada-Reno.

Harry Gianneschi

Harry Gianneschi Jr. ’52 MS-ED ’53, former director of financial aid, passed away Dec. 11 in Macomb. He was 89.

He worked as a student employee in Western’s library from 1949-1952, while he earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics major and his master’s degree in education (administration). He later took graduate credits in education at the University of Omaha.

Koester joined the University staff in 1952 as a purchasing assistant. He served as director of student activities from 1957-1959, when he was named director of financial aid. In that role he supervised student employment and the disbursement of scholarships, grants and loans; he also served on the general advisory board of the Illinois State Scholarship Commission. Koester retired from Western in 1980. He served in the Army during World War II, and he was a member of the Macomb American Legion and VFV. He also was a Macomb City alderman and the Macomb City assessor.

Herman Koester

Herman Koester Jr. ’52 MS-ED ’53, former director of financial aid, passed away Dec. 11 in Macomb. He was 89.

He worked as a student employee in Western’s library from 1949-1952, while he earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics major and his master’s degree in education (administration). He later took graduate credits in education at the University of Omaha.

Koester joined the University staff in 1952 as a purchasing assistant. He served as director of student activities from 1957-1959, when he was named director of financial aid. In that role he supervised student employment and the disbursement of scholarships, grants and loans; he also served on the general advisory board of the Illinois State Scholarship Commission. Koester retired from Western in 1980. He served in the Army during World War II, and he was a member of the Macomb American Legion and VFV. He also was a Macomb City alderman and the Macomb City assessor.
Send Us Your News

Full Name ___________________________ Maiden Name ___________________________ Grad. Year ___________________________
Mailing Address ____________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State ______ Zip ___________________________
Is this a new address? ❑ Yes ❑ No _______________________________________________________________________
Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________
Prefer ❑ Home ❑ Business ❑ E-mail ___________________________ Do you want to receive text messages from the university? ❑ 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 ___________________________
Employee Mailing Address __________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State ______ Zip ___________________________
Business Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________
Prefer ❑ Home ❑ Business ❑ Cell Phone ___________________________ _______________________________________________________________________
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.


25 year, 40 year and 50 year Reunion
1960 • 1970 • 1985
2010 Reunion
September 24 & 25
During Homecoming 2010
TWO great events...
ONE trip to Macomb
This homecoming, we will welcome back the classes of 1960, 1970 and 1985 to celebrate your class reunion. Mark your calendar for Sept. 24 & 25 and reserve your hotel room today!
We hope to see you then!

Western Illinois University
2010 Reunion
Tallahassee Alumni & Friends Event
The Winery at the Red Bar, January 30, 2010
Seated, l-r: Stefanie Jackson, Laurie Lee MS-ED ’95, Jennifer Bond Kauflarich ’69 and Bob Kauflarich ’68 MS-ED ’69.
Standing, l-r: President Al Goldfarb, Lisa Downing Warner MS ’82, Andy Warner MS ’80 ED ’83 ’92, Amy Jones ’71, Erwin Jackson ’72 MS ’75 and Michael Lee MBA ’02.

Jacksonville Alumni & Friends Event
Shula’s 347 Grill January 31, 2010
Seated, l-r: Shirley Reynolds, Jim Niss and Elaine Ginn MS ’75. Standing, l-r: Bob Reynolds ’56, Patrick McLaughlin ’69, Shelby Brethour, Mike Brethour ’00 and President Al Goldfarb.

Western News 27
Upcoming Alumni & Friends Events

March 11
Canton Alumni & Friends Event
Official Time Out Sports Bar & Grill
6-8 p.m.
Appetizers with cash bar - $12 per person
68 E. Elm St.
Canton, IL.

March 25
Burlington Alumni & Friends Social
Burlington Golf Club
6-8 p.m.
Appetizers with cash bar - $15 per person
2124 Sunnyside Ave.
Burlington, IA.

March 27
Black Alumni Black Tie Scholarship Gala
Martinique Banquet Complex, Grand Ballroom
7 p.m. - midnight
Dinner & four-hours of complimentary drinks - $60 per person
8200 S. Cicero Ave.
Burbank, IL.

April 9
Champaign Alumni & Friends Event
McGillacuddy’s, Cocoa Lounge
6-8 p.m.
Appetizers and cash bar - $12 per person
58 S. Cherry St.
Galesburg, IL.

April 20
Libertyville *
Mickey Finns, 412 S. Milwaukee Ave.

April 21
La Grange *
Mambo Room Latin Grill, 25 W. Calendar Ct.

April 22
Arlington Heights *
BlackFinn American Saloon
16 W. Jefferson Ave.

April 23
All Greek Reunion
Doc Ryan’s Bar & Grill, 6-9 p.m.
Social
7412 W. Madison St., Forest Park, IL.

June 12
Cubs vs. White Sox Baseball Game
Watch the Game from The Cubby Bear!
2:30 p.m.
Social & 3:10 p.m.
Game
The Cubby Bear
95 W. Addison St.
Chicago, IL.

June 14
“The Western Open”—Seven Bridges
12:30 p.m.
Shotgun start
One Mulligan Drive
Woodridge, IL
$100/18 holes of golf, green fees & cart,
registration gift, social & dinner

To register online or for more information, visit wiu.edu/alumni.

Registration Form for WIU Alumni & Friends Events

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 _________________

Name of event _______________________
Number attending/Name(s): ___________________________
Price _____________________________
Total _____________________________

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

Credit card information:
Card #: __________________________
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

To register online or for more information, visit wiu.edu/alumni.