WiU breaks ground for Performing Arts Center

It was a grand day April 26 as the ceremonial groundbreaking for the Western Illinois University Performing Arts Center took place on the WIU-Macomb campus. In addition, a seven-figure bequest from retired WIU administrator Tate Lindahl to support the center’s operation was announced.

Legislators, local organizations and campus and community members have worked together over the years to lobby for the center.

“Through partnerships and collaboration, the WIU Performing Arts Center has become a reality. I cannot thank enough our local legislators, our campus community and our many friends, Gov. Pat Quinn and Illinois Capital Development Board Director (CDB) Jim Underwood for their support of this cultural center, which will be an incredible asset to this region. I would also like to recognize Tate Lindahl’s generosity for, and support of, this project and Western Illinois University,” noted WIU President Al Goldfarb.

“This project is an investment in the future of Western Illinois University, and in this region’s economy,” said Quinn. “Not only will this project create jobs during construction, it will also enable WIU to increase its educational offerings and provide the people of Macomb with a state-of-the-art facility for music, dance and theater productions.”

In Summer 2009, Quinn signed a bill for Illinois Jobs Now!, a jobs and capital construction plan, which provided $67.8 million in capital development funds for constructing the Performing Arts Center in Macomb.

“The Performing Arts Center project will employ hundreds of construction workers and provide enhanced educational opportunities for Western students once it’s complete, helping them get better jobs as well,” said Underwood. “This will be CDB’s largest ongoing construction project, and we are thrilled that Gov. Quinn is moving it along.”

Continued on p. 16

2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards

The outstanding accomplishments of three Western Illinois University graduates were recognized Saturday, May 14 at the Spring 2011 Commencement Exercises.

The recipients of the 2011 WIU Distinguished Alumni Award are Bill Bund ’76, senior vice president and managing director for the Central Sales Division of the ABC Television Network, Chicago; Dave Lumley ’76, CEO and president of Spectrum Brands, Madison, WI; and Gordon “Gordy” A. Taylor, Jr. ’68, former associate vice president of alumni programs at WIU, Macomb.

The Distinguished Alumni Award, given since 1973, recognizes alumni who have reached the pinnacle of their careers and have brought credit to the University and themselves through their professional accomplishments or community service at local, state or national levels and have extended meritorious service for the advancement and continued excellence of WIU.

Bund, a 1976 broadcasting graduate, was named to his current position of senior vice president and managing director of the ABC Television Network in Chicago in April 2008. He previously served as the senior vice president of Disney / ABC Unlimited, a position he assumed when the division was established in September 2000. In 2007, Unlimited was named the media industries No. 1 Multi-Platform Sales Organization by the Myers report.

In 2002, Advertising Age magazine awarded him its “Media Maven” Award, in part for orchestrating the largest advertising deal in television history, a $1 billion cross-integrated agreement between Disney / ABC Unlimited and media firm OMD on behalf of all of OMD’s clients. In addition, Bund was responsible for selling the highest-priced unit ever in network television, a $3 million spot for the 2000 Super Bowl.

Bund began his career as an account executive at PGW Television Sales, and in 1980, he was promoted to sales manager of their Boston office. In 1981, he joined WCCO-TV in Minneapolis as an account executive, and one year later, he joined WLS-TV in Chicago as an account executive. Bund became an account executive for ABC National TV Sales in Chicago in May 1985, and was promoted to senior account executive for the ABC Television Network in April 1986. In July 1997, he was promoted to director of sports sales for the central and western division of ABC Sports.

Bund is a member of the WIU President’s National Advisory Council, received the Broadcasting Department’s Alumnus of the Year Award in 2009, was a member of the Centennial Campaign Leadership Committee during the last comprehensive fundraising campaign and has been generous.

Continued on p. 16

UPCOMING ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
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| June  | 20 . . . Silvis, IL  
      | 29 . . . Denver, CO |
| July  | 2 . . . . Chicago, IL  
       | 10 . . . Silvis, IL  
      | 20 . . . Quincy, IL  
      | 23 . . . Chicago, IL  
      | 30 . . . Davenport, IA |
| August| 5-7 . . . Chicago, IL  
      | 29 . . . San Francisco, CA |
| September | 1 . . . Huntsville, TX  
         | 17 . . . Columbia, MO  
        | 23 . . . Macomb, IL  
        | 25 . . . Moline, IL  
        | 30 . . . Macomb, IL |

See page 2 for entire calendar and page 28 for complete details!
Dear Alumni & Friends:

This spring brought another of the best days of the year to our campus—graduation! We welcomed the newest members to the Alumni Association, but we also now say farewell to a few great friends.

We will say goodbye June 29 to President Al Goldfarb after nine years of service and amazing support of your alma mater. He will be missed dearly for all he did at Western—we will reap the benefits forever. June 30 will also mark the end of the presidency of our Alumni Council President Roger Clawson ‘77. He, too, leaves us in a better place than he found us and for his leadership, we are truly grateful.

Finally, a fond farewell to Alumni Programs staffer Terra Litchfield, who retired May 31 after 17 years of service to your Alumni Association. As our database programmer, she protected the integrity of our alumni database, which now contains more than 115,000 graduates, and we owe her a great debt of gratitude. We look forward to welcoming President Jack Thomas on July 1 and new Alumni Council President Kris Kelly ‘90 MS ‘92.

We have much to look forward to in the coming months and years—I’m glad you’ll all be along for the ride!

Amy E. Spelman

Follow us on Facebook, Flickr, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube and RockeNetwork! wiu.edu/alumni/social_networking.php

From the President

I would like to welcome all of our new Western Illinois University graduates to Western’s Alumni Association. We hope that you will continue to stay involved with your alma mater. And to those of you who are already active alumni and friends of our University, we appreciate your commitment and support.

This is my final Western News column as your president. My final day is June 29, and the time has approached so quickly since I made that announcement two years ago. It has been a pleasure meeting so many of you at alumni events around the world since I joined WIU in 2002. I can honestly say these past nine years have been the highlight of my career in higher education, and the reason behind that is the people I’ve come to know.

Dr. Jack Thomas, WIU’s current provost, will begin his presidency July 1, and he will take over this space beginning with the September issue. I know he’ll do a fantastic job as Western’s 11th president. I look forward to coming back to campus for Homecoming and other events—and attending some alumni socials as well.

I would like to thank you for your support over the past nine years. Elaine and I have truly enjoyed our time in Macomb, and getting to know so many of you. We have felt truly welcomed and will always consider Macomb our home away from home.

Dr. Thomas, Amy Spelman MS ‘98 and many others would love to have you return to campus on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 for Western’s 86th Homecoming celebration. You will have the opportunity to meet with old friends and former faculty, make new acquaintances and see your campus.

Again, thank you for your support and commitment to Western Illinois University.

All my best wishes,

Dr. Jack Thomas

Alumni Directory Update

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to move forward with our new Alumni Directory. As you know, we launched the project this spring in response to your requests, as the existing directory is now more than 10 years old.

In order for us to gather the most correct, up-to-date information possible, we hope you will consider calling (877) 303-6593 (toll-free) as soon as possible to help us finalize your information in the directory. After updating your information, you will also have an opportunity to purchase a copy of the directory in print or on CD. Thanks in advance for your time.
Tomnitz match established as CBT Challenge
Couple’s first return to campus in 37 years inspires scholarship endowment for military veterans

Each year, WIU’s College of Business and Technology (CBT) bestows the honor of Distinguished Alumnus on a graduate who demonstrates exemplary leadership and outstanding career success. Donald Tomnitz MBA ’75, vice chairman, president and chief executive officer of D.R. Horton Incorporated, earned the distinction in 2010.

Tomnitz attended the ceremony to accept the award in April 2010. It was his first visit back to campus in 37 years. After earning his master’s degree in finance in 1975, and teaching for three quarters while his wife, Sharon MS Ed ’76, finished her degree, Tomnitz worked in the banking industry, real estate, and various divisions within D.R. Horton, “America’s Homebuilder.” He was also a captain in the U.S. Army for four years between his undergraduate and graduate degrees.

The Tomnitzes found their visit to WIU so refreshing that they began to conceptualize a scholarship program. Consistent with Don’s innovative business reputation, this was no ordinary scholarship gift. The couple decided to build a scholarship endowment as a “challenge” to other CBT donors.

CBT’s annual fund appeal this year offered the “Tomnitz Match.” Don and Sharon generously matched all financial contributions to CBT up to $100,000, directing their share to the Sharon K.S. and Donald J. Tomnitz Scholarship Award Endowment. As CBT contributions are received, the Tomnitzes deposit an equal amount in their scholarship endowment.

The Tomnitz Scholarship will be awarded annually to a U.S. military veteran majoring in any discipline within CBT.

“We established the scholarship as a challenge in order to permit others to participate at any financial level,” said Don. “The goal was to create as large a scholarship fund as possible, so we could assist as many military veterans as possible.”

“We both obtained master’s degrees at WIU in the mid-1970s,” explained Sharon. “Don used the Vietnam Era Veteran’s Scholarship and I was awarded an academic scholarship my first year of graduate school. These scholarships provided both of us the opportunity to achieve a higher level of education and better prepare us for the future. We established our scholarship at WIU to provide others, specifically U.S. military veterans, the same opportunities we were afforded. We strongly believe in the motto of paying it forward.”

“The quality of the College of Business and Technology and the counseling/ guidance department were excellent,” said Don. “Each program taught the theory, but most importantly, were able to relate it to reality. Further, the professors in both programs were very approachable and had each a keen interest in those of us who were seeking to master the material.”

“The Tomnitz Match and the Tomnitz Scholarship have energized CBT’s fundraising efforts this year,” said CBT Dean Tom Erekson. “Alumni nationwide responded early and generously to their departments’ annual appeals, so our totals are ahead of previous years. A few donors have come forth with larger than usual annual gifts, $10,000 to $30,000, in order to leverage the Tomnitz Match.

“All areas benefit from this,” Erekson continued. CBT is grateful to the Tomnitzes for their generosity and for the unconventional approach they have taken to helping the college.”

CBT Distinguished Alumna 2011: McEntee
Founder of business management firm provides practical examples for students

Kathleen McEntee, a 1974 graduate of Western Illinois University and founder and president of Kathleen McEntee and Associates, Ltd., has been named the College of Business and Technology’s (CBT) 2011 Distinguished Alumna.

McEntee visited the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses April 11-13 and spoke with faculty and students in multiple class sessions about the key lessons she has learned throughout her career. While in Moline, she also delivered a presentation, “Front Stage, Back Stage and Juggling Competing Priorities: Distinguishing Your Company, Your Brand, Yourself” for Quad Cities business professionals.

“All of the world truly is a stage—both professionally and in life. It’s the front stage, the back stage, and how you understand, respect and manage the competing priorities that measures success,” McEntee said.

“Connecting the dots is easy for me,” she continued. “Finessing competing priorities takes skill and experience. Sometimes, it just takes a common sense approach to put things in perspective. That’s what I do best. Hopefully, I was able to provide practical examples to support the teachings of our faculty,” she added.

McEntee’s firm, located in Chicago and La Quinta (CA), specializes in business management and development, sales and marketing communications. Her business experience spans consumer and nutritional products, pharmaceuticals and health care for Fortune 50, publicly- and privately-held organizations. She has held leadership positions in global sales, business development, marketing, and general management.

“Kathleen has been a strong supporter of the College of Business and Technology. As the chairperson of our CBT National Advisory Board, she is always willing to spend time and share her thoughts with our students and faculty,” commented Tom Erekson, dean of the College of Business and Technology.

The CBT is distinguished by its accreditation through the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business), which recently re-accredited the college through 2015.

“Kathleen was instrumental in guiding us through the feedback from our board during the re-accreditation preparation process and helping us to view our organization from a 360 degree vantage point.”

Remarkable on her selection as the distinguished alumna, McEntee noted: “Being named this year’s distinguished alumna is really an honor. I have always been happy to give back to the college for the fine foundation that it provided me.”

McEntee earned a Bachelor of Business degree from Western, and gained subsequent professional development in the Strategic Coach Master’s Program, the executive leadership development programs of Abbott Laboratories and Cardinal Health, and the Leadership Coachella Valley program. She is chair of the CBT National Advisory Board at WIU and is an accredited associate of The Institute for Independent Business.

She has been involved in the leadership committee for the American Heart Association’s Coachella Valley Division, serving on the advisory board for the Arthritis Foundation’s Desert Chapter, and on the executive committee of the La Quinta California Chamber of Commerce. She is a regular columnist for “The GEM,” a publication of the La Quinta Chamber, and has been recognized by the City of Chicago for her participation in the Principal for a Day program.
CBT sees increase in strength, number of internships
Students experience working world in commodities, advocacy, media and more

By Alison McGaughey MA ’10

Senior finance major Brandon Fitzsimmons (Aledo, IL) came to WIU from a small high school where, he says, “there was very little diversity.” So, when he received an internship in Washington, D.C. the summer after his junior year as a marketing intern with the National Hispanic Medical Association, “it was a unique experience for me. The goal for this association is to improve health care awareness for not only Hispanics but also underserved minority population.”

Fitzsimmons, who found the internship in part through his participation in Western’s Learning to Lead program, is one of a number of recent College of Business and Technology (CBT) students at WIU who’ve received eye-opening and “real world” experiences through an internship. And like many others graduating from programs within the college, Fitzsimmons gained valuable experience in a setting that might not be considered a “traditional business” position. Recent students have interned at organizations and businesses ranging from the Joint Munitions Command at the Rock Island Arsenal to Gordon Food Services to CBS television.

John Drea, associate dean of the college, noted the number of summer interns more than doubled over the past four years, with the CBT supervising more than 30 in Summer 2010. And with job searches becoming more competitive in the current economy, the practical experience makes sense.

“An internship is more than just experience in the field,” Drea said. “It’s an experience that requires a student to integrate what they have learned in the classroom and to apply it in a real world setting.”

In his internship, some of Fitzsimmons’ duties included promoting educational events, updating the organization’s website and planning a dinner for all members of the association. Through helping organize promotional events, Fitzsimmons came in to contact with many senators’ and representatives’ offices. He accompanied the association’s CEO and another intern to New York for a membership dinner, but his biggest opportunity came when he stepped up to represent the organization at the National Medical Association Annual Conference in Orlando (FL).

“We had a booth with our information, and it was just me,” he said. “I met a lot of people. I was the face of the organization alone, so I was forced to learn quickly, not only about the association, but also, I really learned how to present myself. I realized that the willingness to do things gets you places. That’s what gave me the opportunity to go to Orlando. If I was ever asked to do anything, I never said ‘Oh, that’s not part of my job.’ Things do pay off when you’re willing to help out and do a little extra.”

“I also learned that it’s always a good idea to put yourself out of your comfort zone,” he continued. “Going to D.C., where I wouldn’t really know anyone else...I always assumed I wouldn’t do it. But it’s been the best thing I’ve done.”

Drea noted that in addition to reporting to their internship supervisors at the site, interns also complete weekly reports in which they summarize what they did and show the connection to what they have learned in their business classes.

“The fun part of reading these reports is to observe the transition in the types of duties assigned to interns. Most successful interns pick up more and more responsibility as their internship progresses, becoming an integral part of the team,” Drea said. “Nearly all interns describe the internship experience as one of the best decisions they have made. They return to the classroom with greater motivation and increased confidence.”

When Eric Hoscheck (Knoxville, IL) interned for Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) in Summer 2010 in Attica (IN), he had no idea that the opportunity would turn in to a full-time position.

In fact, he came to Western to pursue his MBA after earning his bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois.

“The economy wasn’t the best, and even though I got some job offers, the places were downsizing,” he said. “I wanted to be able to market myself better and learn valuable aspects of field. I hoped to do an internship, because they really open your eyes to the real world and help you be the best prepared you can.”

After receiving training at the company’s headquarters in Decatur (IL), Hoscheck went to work as a commodity-merchandising intern, where his duties ranged from buying and selling grain on the Chicago Board of Trade to being part of the interviewing and hiring process for open positions at the company.

“My manager was excellent,” said Hoscheck. “He made sure that I saw how all the different aspects of the business worked, from grain elevator management, to scheduling a train for corn and bean pickup and loading them, which was just unreal. You see how the grain got there, what they do with it, how important it is to get the grain in.

At the end of the summer, Hoscheck presented a formal report for his supervisors, not only summarizing what he had learned, but also why he would or wouldn’t be a good fit for the company. And his presentation was convincing: Hoscheck was offered a job as a commodity merchandiser, buying and selling grain, and went to work for the company immediately after graduating this spring.

“I learned a lot of valuable things, seeing the whole aspect of what ADM does,” he continued. “Now I tell the students behind me that they have to do an internship, because it’s how you set yourself apart from everyone else.”

Do you have a spot for a CBT student to intern for your organization or company? Contact John Drea at JT-Drea@wiu.edu to inquire about hiring a WIU student as an intern.

SCIMA student team advances to nationals
One of four top teams in accounting case competition

A team of five members of Western Illinois University’s Student Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants (SCIMA) was selected in May as a finalist in the 2011 IMA National Student Case Competition. The four top teams competed at the IMA national conference June 5 in Orlando (FL) for the national title. The IMA is the worldwide association for accountants and financial professionals working in business.

The group’s adviser, Amy Ford ’01 M.ACCT ’02, an instructor in the accountancy and finance department at WIU, explained that the case competition challenges the students to prepare a 15-minute videotaped solution to a case published in Strategic Finance. This year’s case focused on privatization of an airline.

The team members were Maureen Storm, graduate student in business administration from Monmouth (IL); Shaletta Hanson, senior accountancy major from Peoria (IL); Kelly Smith, senior accountancy major from Cary (IL); Patrick McGavock, junior business major from Glen Ellyn (IL); and Tara Brownlow, senior accountancy major from Macomb.

Judges used multiple criteria in evaluating the presentations, including the technical content, presentation skills, case analysis style, presentation organization, strength of recommendations and conclusions based on case requirements, according to the IMA.

Ford has served as faculty adviser for Western’s SCIMA since beginning her teaching position at WIU in 2006. Ford was recently named Mentor of the Year from the IMA (see related story on page 5).
From building blocks to careers
Engineering students help local companies maximize profits

By Alison McAnany MA '10

When asked to describe how he knew he wanted to become an engineer, Derek Bloomfield, of Viola (IL) goes all the way back to childhood. “I was always into building things with Legos,” he said. “I guess I started small.”

“By high school I had a passion for mathematics and knew I wanted to be an engineer. You have to know how to read and write well, but also, every type of mathematics, from basic algebra to calculus.” Bloomfield has recognized his talents and future career at an early age. But it’s unlikely he could have known he’d one day become a rather significant figure in the history of Western’s Quad Cities campus—or that he would help companies in his region maximize their profits, all as part of a project conducted while still in college.

On May 15, Bloomfield crossed the stage at the iWireless Center in Moline as one of the first two graduates of the University’s engineering program. Bloomfield’s group worked in the finishing department at Sivyer Steel Corporation in Bettendorf (IA), a foundry that produces stainless steel castings. His team analyzed the production bottleneck, or the slowest section of overall production in the core operations. Bloomfield led a simulation of the finishing operations, created through programming software, that modeled the operations in the bottleneck.

“That allowed the team to pick apart the overall production and look for problems, see individual bottlenecks within the larger operation, and determine which things were being under- or over-utilized,” Bloomfield said. “In some ways it was like applying a one-track mind to a situation that works fine and is still profitable, but we’re looking into why the bottleneck exists. It’s an outside approach to a problem that, if you’re close to it, you essentially become accustomed to it.”

Widick’s capstone, at John Deere Harvester Works in East Moline, involved both Deere & Company and Lincoln Electric, a welder manufacturer based in Ohio.

“The project involved taking data from sensors on welder power supplies and developing an automated reporting and notification system,” Widick explained. “This would provide Deere a tool to increase productivity and profitability, and proof of concept before a full-scale system is implemented.” In both projects, the students had to present their recommendations for improvement to the company.

“At first, it was a little intimidating,” Bloomfield said. “Our first formal meeting included people like the CEO and the plant engineer. But by the end, I could walk into the CEO’s office at any time and ask questions.”

After Bloomfield’s team pinpointed problems using the simulation, they proposed improvements based upon their research, which confirmed problems the company had identified.

“The Sivyer personnel said we were spot-on, and [the recommendations] exactly what they needed,” Bloomfield said. “They were on board with our recommendations 100 percent, and they’ve already been improved by the Sivyer Board.”

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the company offered Bloomfield a position as an industrial engineer afterward.

“Doing this kind of design team project is rewarding in the end, because you’re transferring all the theoreticals you’ve learned to practicing them in the real world,” Bloomfield said. “You have to be disciplined. It’s a really eye-opening experience to go from the classroom to the professional world.”

In Summer 2008, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approved Western’s plan to offer a Bachelor of Science in Engineering. Students work for area production facilities as part of the required senior capstone project.

In Summer 2008, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approved Western’s plan to offer a Bachelor of Science in Engineering. Students work for area production facilities as part of the required senior capstone project.

Ford receives Mentor of the Year Award from the IMA

Amy Ford ’01 M.ACCT ’02, instructor in the accountancy and finance department in Western Illinois University’s College of Business and Technology (CBT), has received the 2011 Ursel K. Albers Mentor of the Year Award from the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA).

Ford has served as faculty adviser for Western’s Student Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants (SCIMA) since beginning her teaching position at WIU in 2006. The national-level award is given to an academic mentor and/or student chapter adviser who has made significant contributions to the IMA, the worldwide association for accountants and financial professionals working in business overall and to IMA student members in particular.

Criteria for the award include active involvement in student chapter activities and outstanding leadership as evidenced by the quality of the student chapter.

Under her leadership, Western’s SCIMA has won the IMA’s top student chapter award, being named one of the IMA’s “outstanding student chapters,” each of those five years. In addition, Western’s SCIMA won the IMA’s highest honor, the Clark Johnson Achievement Award, in 2009. WIU SCIMA student teams have also advanced to the Elite 8 and national finals in the IMA’s video case competition.

Some of Ford’s duties as adviser for the student organization include meeting weekly with board members to plan and organize the chapter’s activities. She has presented student-focused sessions and an academic session at the national IMA Student conference the past three years.

“Amy also is a board member for the local chapter of IMA, serving as director of student/young professional activities,” noted Jack Elfrink, accountancy chair, who recommended Ford for the award along with two WIU students, Samantha Pherigo (Glaford, IL) and Nicole Suthard (Wheaton, IL), and Dallon Christensen, president of the local IMA chapter (Illowa). “In addition to these duties, she can be credited with helping students with résumés, recommendations, job interviews, internships and planning their courses schedules. We are all very proud of Amy. The IMA has been a great supporter of our program, and has provided countless benefits to our students.”

“I find helping students in these areas outside the classroom to be very rewarding,” Ford said. “This award requires a minimum of five years of service as the faculty adviser, and this was the first year I was even eligible, so I was quite surprised.”
When you came to Western, did you know what you wanted to study? How did your time at WIU prepare you for where you are today?

I went into the agriculture department, and I had great teachers like Dr. [Teri] North [now an assistant director of University Technology], where we worked on the bull farm. And after growing up on a farm and raising animals, I thought maybe I'd become a vet. So I pursued my bachelor’s on that course. But while doing that, I needed to make money, so I got hooked up with Westec setting up sound and light at events on campus. I did that all the way through graduation, and ended up as assistant manager. It was a nice way to make some extra spending money; but then, after working for Westec in the Office of Student Activities (OSA) for a couple years with Kent Miller and Jim Miner ’72 MS ’75, (who is still a great friend today), Jim offered me a graduate assistantship. So I decided to stay and pursue a master’s degree. For two years, while I worked on my MBA, I was a grad assistant with Jim and Kent, helping bring everything from the Carson and Barnes Circus and setting it up on the intramural fields east of Brophy Hall, to setting up a Broadway show in Western Hall, to the next day setting up in the Heritage Room in the Union for Madrigals…It kept me busy, but it was an enjoyable busy. When it came to Jim and Kent and the Union staff, and the people in the Physical Plant, everyone was phenomenal. Having the opportunity to work with everyone and doing the technical director thing, I realized, ‘I’m enjoying this facility stuff. I’m not sure I want to go to vet school anymore.’ So I started investigating what was out there. I never in my wildest dreams would’ve expected to end up at Soldier Field. I had sent my resume for a job in Florida, but they ended up sending it to their corporate office. In July of 1997, the general manager called for an event coordinator, and a week and a half later I had the job. I’ve been here almost 14 years.

What are some of the greatest challenges and rewards you experience in your position?

Every day is a challenge because there is so much going on. But the staff we have here, from labor staff to my operations staff to the event staff, work phenomenally together as a team. As far as rewards, I’ve had the opportunity to participate in events that I’ll remember forever, and that I don’t think I would have gotten anywhere else. I have worked the last seven Super Bowls. Getting to see 14 seasons of NFL games, unbelievable concerts…some of the most memorable events for me are the ones we’ve done with the military, like a welcome home for the National Guard after being overseas. It was just amazing.

What advice would you give to graduates going out into the world?

You have to find something that you love. Even if it’s 50- or 100-hour week for me, every day I go to work loving what I do.
Homecoming 2011
Sept. 23-Oct. 1

“Past, Present and Future: Once a Leatherneck, Always a Leatherneck”

Homecoming Weekend
Friday, Sept. 30
5-10 p.m.  Alumni and Friends Social, Alumni House
Complimentary food and beverages
2010 Reunion Check-In & Social

Saturday, Oct. 1
8 a.m.  Old Stompin’ Ground Runaround
5K run/2 mile walk, Alumni House
(see registration form p. 10)
9 a.m.  Coffee and donuts, Alumni House
10:30 a.m.  Homecoming Parade—Watch from the
Alumni House and Gwendolyn Brooks
Park
Noon-3 p.m.  Alumni Cookout—Menu: brats, burgers,
hot dogs, chips, pasta salad, cupcakes,
beverages, and cash bar at
“The Right Place” (the big tent directly
west of Hanson Field)
3 p.m.  Leatherneck Football vs. Southern Illinois
University, Hanson Field
Following Saturday Night All-Alumni Social and
the game
Reunion Recognition Event, Alumni
House

Lodging
On campus:
University Union .......................... (309) 298-1941

Off campus:
Rodeway Inn .............................. (309) 837-2220
Days Inn ...................................... (309) 833-5511
America’s Best Value Inn .............. (309) 833-4521
Best Western-Macomb Inn ........... (309) 836-6700
Hampton Inn .............................. (309) 837-6000
Inselhaus B&B ............................. (309) 833-5400
Super 8 ..................................... (309) 836-8888

Parking
Permits will not be required in lots as of 5 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 30 through 7 a.m. Monday, Oct. 3,
with the exception of residence hall lots. Visitor
parking is not allowed in reserved residence
hall lots. Tickets will be issued to violators in
handicapped spaces, reserved spaces and no
parking zones (any area not designated as a
parking space). If you have any questions or a
special parking need such as handicapped parking,
contact Parking Services at (309) 298-1921.

A Special Thank You... to our Homecoming partners Norm ’67 and Carmelita
Teeter, recipients of the 2006 Honorary
Doctorate

Homecoming Hotline (309) 298-1914
wiu.edu/alumni • A-Association@wiu.edu
facebook.com/WIUAlumni

Call the Office of Student Activities
at (309) 298-3232 for details about any
of the events held Sept. 24-29.

Fill out your registration form on p. 10 and
join us for Homecoming 2011 and/or your
25, 40 or 50 year reunion!
Welcome back to WIU! We missed you!
Join other College of Arts and Sciences alumni, staff, faculty and friends at the “The Right Place” tent for Homecoming 2011.
Get your free lunch ticket at the CAS exhibit table and see the map of where CAS alumni are located. You will be amazed how far our Leatherneck roots branch around the country!
Contact Bryce Dexter, director of development, at bm-dexter2@wiu.edu, or call (309) 298-1828 for more information.

College of Arts & Sciences
Join us at “The Right Place” the big tent near Hanson Field!
Welcome to Homecoming 2011!
COFAC Alumni—
Get your FREE LUNCH TICKET at the COFAC Table in “The Right Place” tent.
• Cheer on the Marching Leathernecks and band alumni at half-time
• Attend the Department of Theatre & Dance production of “The Arabian Nights”
• A special welcome to Music Business 25th Anniversary Alumni

Art ★ Broadcasting ★ Communication ★ Communication Sciences & Disorders ★ School of Music ★ Theatre & Dance

College of Fine Arts & Communication
Welcome to Homecoming 2011!
Centennial Honors College
It makes no difference when you were a WIU Honors student...
You are invited to drop by the Centennial Honors College table at “The Right Place”!
We will be there to welcome you. Come tell us how you are doing and learn the latest about Centennial Honors College activities.
All University Honors graduates are welcome!

Student Services
Join us as we host our annual Student Services Alumni and Friends Luncheon Noon-3 p.m.
Reconnect with your friends and colleagues from the division. If you are planning to attend, please let us know in advance by calling University Housing and Dining at (309) 298-3320, the Office of Student Activities at (309) 298-3232 or the Vice President for Student Services Office at (309) 298-1814. Tickets will be available the day of the event.
We look forward to seeing you again this year at “The Right Place” tent!

Join us at “The Right Place” tent!
Our name may have changed from Board of Trustees (BOT) to General Studies (BGS), but our WIU pride remains! “Once a Leatherneck, Always a Leatherneck!”

Stop by “The Right Place” tent during Homecoming this year! We look forward to visiting with you!
Make Your Homecoming 2011 & 25, 40, 50 Year Reunion Reservations Today!

Name ___________________________________________ Class Year __________________________
Home address_____________________________________ City __________________ State_________ Zip_________
Home phone_____________________________________ Home E-mail ___________________ Cell ________________
Workplace _______________________________________ Job Title __________________________
Work address_____________________________________ City __________________ State_________ Zip_________
Work phone_____________________________________ Work E-mail ______________________
Spouse/guest(s) ________________________________________________________________

# _____ Friday Night Alumni Social ............ no charge # _____ Saturday Cookout $5/person ........... $ _______
# _____ Saturday Breakfast ...................... no charge # _____ Mums $5/each ................................. $ _______
# _____ Football Tickets $10/person ............ $ _______ # _____ Homecoming T-shirt $10/each ........... $ _______
# _____ Saturday Night All Alumni Social and Reunion Recognition Event $10/person ........... $ _______ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED ______ $
Credit Card # _______________________________ Exp. Date _______________ 3-digit Security Code __________
Print Cardholder’s Name __________________________________________ Signature ______________________

Credit card reservations may also be made online at wiu.com/alumni. Return this form, along with your credit card information or check (payable to WIU Alumni Association) to: WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390. Credit card reservations may also be faxed to (309) 298-2914 or phoned to (309) 298-1914.

Game tickets will be held at the Alumni House until 11 a.m.; they will then be at “The Right Place” tent until game time and at will call after 3 p.m..

25th Annual Homecoming Old Stompin’ Ground Runaround 5K Fun Run/2 Mile Walk

Time: 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1  Registration: 7-7:45 a.m.  Place: Alumni House
Prizes: Based upon the number, ages and gender of the entrants, prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories with grand prizes going to the first male and female to complete the course.
Fee: $10 entry fee entitles participants to a commemorative T-shirt (while they last). Sponsored by the WIU Alumni Association and Coca-Cola of Macomb.
Race route: visit wiu.edu/alumni/homecoming
Questions? Call (309) 298-1914 or e-mail A-Association@wiu.edu

Name ___________________________________________ Class year __________________________
Address _______________________________________ City __________________ State_________ Zip_________
Daytime Phone Number __________________ E-mail ___________________ Cell ________________
T-Shirt Size M L XL (Circle one) Age on 10/1/11 ___________ Male/Female (Circle one) Runner/Walker (Circle one)
Credit Card # _______________________________ Exp. Date _______________ 3-digit Code __________ Signature __________

**Parent or guardian must sign for participants under age 18.

Being of lawful age and sound mind and desiring to participate in the Homecoming 5K Fun Run/2 mile walk Oct. 1, 2011, I do hereby waive, release, and forever discharge any and all rights and claims which may hereafter accrue to me against the City of Macomb or Western Illinois University and their officers, agents, employees, volunteer workers, and assigns for any and all accidents, injuries, damages, or losses incurred by me at this event or through my use of any facilities provided. I further declare that this release binds not only me, but my heirs, executors, and administrators. I am aware of the risks and hazards which may arise through participation in this event and voluntarily assume the same. I certify that I have trained for a race of this distance and weather conditions and am in suitable condition to compete in this event. By signing this release, I hereby certify that I have read and fully understand and accept the conditions and terms contained herein.

Signature __________________________________________ Date ________________
Witness __________________________________________ Date ________________

Please send reservation form and credit card information or check for $10 (payable to WIU Alumni Association) to: WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390. Credit card orders may also be faxed to (309) 298-2914. Entry will not be accepted without signature above. You may also register at wiu.com/alumni. Your signature will be required at the event.
Boatman named COFAC Distinguished Alumnus
Actor credits late mentor Gene Kozlowski

By Bonnie Barker '75 MS '77

Michael Boatman '04, a successful television, stage and film actor, had planned to return to his alma mater last fall to accept the College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2010. But his plans changed when he got called to go back work; the hiatus was over. That’s a good thing for a professional actor. Although he could not accept the COFAC award in person, he is a proud alumnus. He is a member of the COFAC Advisory Board, and in 1997, Western’s Alumni Association honored him with an Alumni Achievement Award.

“My time at WIU set the stage for my success in so many ways. Apart from discovering a passion for the theater, music and the arts, which nurture me even so many years later, I met talented and exacting tutors in the form of my professors and fellow students. I maintain friendships with many of them to this day,” Boatman said.

Boatman currently has a recurring role as attorney Julius Cain in NBC’s popular television show, “The Good Wife," and often can be seen as defense attorney Dave Seaver in NBC’s “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.” Both shows are filmed in New York City. It’s been six years since Boatman has been back to WIU. In 2005, while participating in a guest artist production at Culver Stockton College, just one hour from Macomb, he called his mentor, (the late) then Department Chair and Professor Gene Kozlowski ’67 MA ’68, to arrange a day for lunch with him and dinner with another special mentor, Gene Kozlowski had on him.

Boatman said every time he had to undertake something difficult, “I assumed I couldn’t; he assumed I could…. He believed a kid like me could be more than a kid like me. This man is really, really instrumental in so much that became important in my life.”

For the full story about this mentor and student relationships see wiu.edu/news/newsrelease.php?release_id=8997.

Music Business Program celebrates 25 years

The WIU Music Business program will celebrate its 25th anniversary during the Fall 2011 Homecoming festivities. The anniversary celebration will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 2. The College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) invites alumni and friends to come back to campus, and enjoy a football game, the Marching Leathernecks, dinner and more.

A block of rooms has been reserved at both the Days Inn and the Rodeway Inn in Macomb. Make your reservations early.

The Music Business Program started in 1986 under the leadership of Ann Collins '61 MA '68. Its first graduates were Barry Applewhite '88 MA '91; Mike Coers '87; and Eric Johnson '89. Professor Claudia McCain MA '79 replaced Collins as director in 1990, and she held that position until 2007. Courtney Blankenship now directs 36 majors and 55 minors in the program.

There are approximately 140 WIU music business graduates today, according to Blankenship.

“Because technology was not as robust in the early days of the program, we do not have contact information for all of WIU’s music business grads,” she said. “So if you are a music business graduate, please check your status on the alumni database to make sure WIU has contact info for you so you can be included in the music business graduate list. Go to wiu.edu/alumni and select the ‘Update Us’ link.”

The Music Business Program at Western Illinois University is the only program at a state institution in Illinois to be accredited by both NASM (National Association of Schools of Music) and NAMM, the International Music Products Association. The program is also an Educational Institution Member of MEIEA, the Music and Entertainment Industry Educators Association.

Blankenship takes music business students to the NAMM show in Anaheim, CA every January. With more than 80,000 industry professionals in attendance, about 400 students across the U.S. attend.

For more information about the upcoming 25th anniversary celebration, check out the “WIU Music Business 25th Anniversary Celebration” on Facebook or contact Courtney Blankenship (309) 298-1464. And don’t forget, if you are a music business graduates, be sure to update your status on the WIU alumni website at the “Update Us” link.

Evans to serve as COFAC interim dean
Kreider accepts W. VA position

Sharon Evans, associate dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC), has been named interim dean, effective July 1, according to WIU Provost and President-Elect Jack Thomas. Evans will replace Paul Kreider, who will assume a dean’s position at West Virginia University at Morgantown. A national search will begin in Fall 2011. Evans has served as associate dean since August 2008. She came to Western in 1984 as an assistant professor and director of broadcasting when the discipline was in the communication arts and sciences department. In 1985, she received approval from the University’s governing board (then the Illinois Board of Governors) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to build a television studio and purchase portable equipment. In 1999, the student-run station moved from analog to digital technology years ahead of other schools; and in Summer 2000 the station received a complete renovation and upgrade of its control room.

Evans has built the once radio-only broadcasting unit into a full-range broadcasting department, and she developed the only sports broadcasting production program in the state.

“Dr. Evans’ experience ensures a seamless transition for the College of Fine Arts and Communication. She will continue the college’s tradition of excellence and opportunity,” said Thomas.

Evans is a graduate of the University of North Texas, where she earned her Ph.D. (1985) and her Master of Arts degree (1978) in Radio-TV-Film. Her Bachelor of Arts degree (1977) in Radio-TV-Film is from Baylor University.
J.D. Gravina named women’s basketball coach

Western Illinois University Assistant Vice President and Director of Athletics Tim Van Alstine announced April 15 the hiring of J.D. Gravina as women’s basketball head coach. Gravina becomes the seventh head coach in Leatherneck women’s basketball history.

A six-year head coaching veteran, Gravina joins the Leathernecks with an overall record of 113-61 (.649 winning percentage). He is coming off a successful four-year tenure at Quincy University, posting an overall record of 93-28 and program record 769 winning percentage.

Three of his four teams advanced to the NCAA Division II National Tournament.

“J.D. has become a well-respected member of the Quincy University staff and in the Quincy community. His student-athletes enjoy playing for him and the Hawks are a perennial national contender,” Van Alstine continued.

Last season, Quincy averaged 87.3 points per game, good for second in the nation. The team’s offensive production increased from a then-record 78.2 points his first season to the now record 87.3 ppg. Gravina’s student-athletes excelled in the classroom as the team recorded at least a 3.0 GPA every season. The Hawks also made national news when the program was featured in the NCAA magazine “Champions” for their work on the Pink Zone initiative (Breast Cancer Awareness).

He spent two years (2005-2007) in charge of the women’s basketball program at McPherson College. During his final year the program finished with just the third winning season over the previous 25 years.

Gravina graduated from William Jewell College with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and computer science. He competed on the basketball, tennis and track and field teams during college and am excited for the future of Leatherneck women’s basketball,” Van Alstine continued.

Student-athletes honored at academic excellence banquet

The Western Illinois Athletics department honored both student-athletes and faculty members at its Student-Athlete Academic Excellence Banquet April 25.

Members of the Western Illinois University administration, deans and faculty members recognized student-athletes who have a cumulative 3.5 GPA and have been enrolled at Western for at least two semesters. Sixty-seven Leatherneck student-athletes met the criteria, and they were able to invite one of their professors to the banquet.

“These Leatherneck student-athletes continue to record unprecedented grade point averages. The athletics department cumulative GPA reached at least 3.0 for the fourth consecutive semester following the Fall 2010 semester grades. Western boasts 53.7 percent of its student-athletes with at least a 3.0 GPA,” Van Alstine noted that this academic banquet, the first of its kind hosted by the athletics department, will become an annual event.

“Tonight’s event was truly special. The fact that President Goldfarb, Provost Thomas and Vice President Johnson, deans and so many faculty were in attendance sends a strong message to our student-athletes. It says there is value and appreciation for the academic and athletic successes,” said Van Alstine. “Academic excellence is one of the University’s core values, and we certainly value academic success as well. We wanted to recognize the many, many student-athletes who have achieved at a very high level.”
Two Leathernecks selected to attend NCAA Conference

Two WIU student-athletes were selected to attend the 2011 NCAA Career in Sports Forum, held June 12-15 in Indianapolis. Sophomore track/field and cross country runner Chelsea Lynes (Ontario, Canada) and junior volleyball player Brooke Stittleburg (Black River Falls, WI) were selected by the NCAA to represent the Fighting Leathernecks.

The four-day event allows selected student-athletes to explore and receive education on various careers in sports, with a primary focus on collegiate athletics. Student-athletes examine the viability of selecting coaching or athletics administration as a full-time or part-time career. They also benefit from the opportunity to network with key decision makers from member institutions and the NCAA.

“The NCAA Career in Sports Forum is a tremendous opportunity for Brooke and Chelsea,” said Tim Van Alstine, Western Illinois director of athletics. “They have a dream to work in collegiate athletics, and the WIU Department of Athletics is committed to providing our student-athletes opportunities for personal growth. We feel fortunate and proud that Brooke and Chelsea represent us at the national level.”

The NCAA covers all travel, lodging and meal costs for the student-athletes attending. Foundational skills such as communication, networking, recruiting, managing culture, transitioning and budgeting are covered with participants as they examine key functions of being a coach or administrator within collegiate sports. At this conference, the NCAA markets coaching and administration as viable professions.

Nominees were selected based on the criteria of student-athletes completing their third year of collegiate enrollment. According to Western Illinois Athletics Department CHAMPS/Life Skills Coordinator Sue Danner ’73, 12 Leathernecks who were entering their junior year were nominated to the NCAA.

Lynes and Stittleburg were chosen based on how they answered questions about their career objectives and how well they balanced sport participation with career goals. Western Illinois had two student-athletes chosen from a pool of 1,100 nominations and 850 completed applications. Overall, 303 student-athletes were selected to participate in 10 sport-specific coaching tracks and one administration track.

Stittleburg played in 28 matches last season and ranked third on the squad with 280 points. Over her three-year career, Stittleburg has 409 kills and 654 digs in 79 matches. She is a biology and medical sciences major and is pursuing minors in kinesiology and psychology. She currently holds a 3.913 cumulative grade point average and serves as president of Western Illinois’ 2010-2011 Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). In addition, Stittleburg was elected secretary for the Summit League’s 2010-11 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Lynes, an exercise science major and management minor, was named to the 2009 Summit League Fall Academic All-League Team and earned 2010 Summit League District Scholar Honors (for a GPA of 3.60 or higher). Lynes carries a 4.0 grade point average.

She had a breakout performance at Notre Dame’s prestigious Meyo Invitational (Feb. 4) as she ran the fifth fastest 1,000-meter run (2:56.78) in program history. A month later, at Iowa State’s Last Chance Qualifier (March 5), Lynes ran the third fastest 800-meter run in program history. In her first outdoor competition of 2011, she ran the eighth fastest 800-meter run in program history at EIU’s Big Blue Classic (April 2).

SAAC members honored at dinner

Members of the Western Illinois Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) were honored at a recent dinner hosted by the Leatherneck athletics department. The event was held at the Macomb County Club.

Director of Athletics Tim Van Alstine spoke to members of the SAAC and thanked them for their leadership and service throughout the academic year.

Lisa Melz MS ’94, director of athletic academic services/senior woman administrator, highlighted many of the service projects completed throughout the year, and mentioned those yet to come. SAAC President Brooke Stittleburg (Black River Falls, WI) Vice President Laura Lins (Racine, WI) and Secretary Tim Harwood (Libertyville, IL) were honored for their service. All three were elected to serve in the same capacity next year, with Brandon Wilkinson (Colleyville, TX) taking over as vice president during the spring semester.

Some of the SAAC highlights from the 2010-11 year included:

✓ Third annual new student-athlete activity day to get new student-athletes to know one another.
✓ Continuation of the Rocky’s Reach program with local schools.
✓ Second annual SAAC formal in October.
✓ Summit League Food Fight contest. Western increased from 500 pounds of food donated last year to nearly 1,000 pounds this year.
✓ National Girls and Women In Sports Day. Many female SAAC members helped teach young girls different sports skills.
✓ Pink Zone 2011. SAAC helped decorate Western Hall in pink and raise money for Linda’s Fund at McDonough District Hospital.
✓ The third annual Shaymus Relays took place May 5 at Hanson Field.

Athletics department graduate assistants finishing in May were also honored at the dinner.

“The 2010-2011 SAAC members have once again elevated the bar in terms of activity, community service and being a valuable member of the larger Western Illinois Athletics Department team. Since the officer positions are remaining constant for 2011-2012, I look for even bigger and better things to happen next year,” said Melz. “A special thanks must go to Brooke Stittleburg for her leadership and commitment to this student organization.”

Attention
All Former WIU Cheerleaders: Save the Date!
Saturday, Sept. 10
★ 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-Game Social in Q-Lot tailgate section (hot dogs, hamburgers, brats and drinks)
★ 1-4 p.m. Leatherneck Football vs. Jacksonville
★ 4 p.m. 5th Quarter Social at Buffalo Wild Wings
To register, visit wiu.com/alumni.
Cost: $20/ person (includes game ticket and pre-game social)
Be sure to order your commemorative t-shirt for $10!
Hotel information is available at wiu.edu/explore_wiu/lodging.
For more information, contact Steve Stapleton at sstaple@ilstu.edu.

Save the Date!
22ND ANNUAL
PURPLE & GOLD AUCTION
Annual Athletics Department Fundraiser
★ Saturday, Aug. 27, Western Hall ★
Call (309) 298-2602 for more information.
Alumnus receives Pulitzer Prize
1995 graduate was Western Courier editor

By Bonnie Barker ’73 MS ’77

Chicago Sun-Times reporter Mark Konkol ’95 learned April 18 that he, and his reporting team, received the highest honor awarded to American journalists—the Pulitzer Prize.

Soon after the news of the Pulitzer Prize erupted throughout the Sun-Times newsroom, Konkol was asked what this meant to him. His response: “This is totally unexpected, and it’s a great thing. I’m just glad that I work with such great people, and it’s about time the Sun-Times got some recognition for the work we do every day.”

Konkol, Sun-Times colleagues Frank Main (crime reporter) and John J. Kim (photojournalist) won the Pulitzer Prize for local reporting. Pulitzer judges recognized the trio for “their immersive documentation of violence in Chicago neighborhoods, probing the lives of victims, criminals and detectives as a widespread code of silence impedes solutions.”

The impetus for the series of local stories published over nine months came from an April 2008 weekend in Chicago when 40 people were shot and seven died. Only one alleged shooter awaits trial. Three others who were shot said they know the shooters, but they refuse to testify. Konkol and Main examined how difficult it is for the police to solve cases because of this prevalent “no snitch” culture in many neighborhoods.

“We spent last summer (2010) burning shoe leather,” Konkol said. “We were telling the stories of what it’s like to catch a killer from the law enforcement perspective, and how difficult that is because of the unwritten ‘no snitch code,’ which they discovered in victims and criminals.”

The award-winning stories and photo essay are available at suntimes.com/pulitzer.

Konkol’s Korner

Born and raised in south suburban Chicago, Konkol’s assignments include Chicago neighborhoods and his blog, Konkol’s Korner. He has also covered transportation, courts, Chicago City Hall and Cook County government in his 16-year reporting career.

As a teenager at Thornwood High School in South Holland (IL), Konkol was on the football team and was in many gifted classes. He asked his counselor what careers don’t require a lot of math and science, and the counselor handed him a journal of careers and their academic requirements.

“I found journalism had the least amount of math and science,” said Konkol, who then began learning the craft of writing with his first Konkol’s Korner column in the school’s paper, The Arrow.

Konkol and College: Lineman to Newsman

The 1991 Thornwood High graduate first chose Culver-Stockton College in Canton (MO), where he was a two-year starting left guard for the football Wildcats and a communication major.

In 1993 he crossed the Mississippi River to look at Western Illinois University’s academic programs. That’s when he met Western Courier then-adviser Terry Lawhorn ’71 MA ’73.

“Terry told me he needed a news editor, and I signed up,” said Konkol, who served as the Western Courier news editor from 1993 to May 1995. “The Western Courier was a good experience for me,” he added. “It was a good place to do journalism and to learn.”

He was a news reporter for the Macomb Journal (now McDonough County Voice), covering city and county government. Konkol graduated in Fall 1995 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication, with an option in public communication and human relations, and a second major in journalism.

The News Beat on Chicago’s Southside

With his diploma in hand and good experiences in news editing and reporting, Konkol landed his first job with Star Newspapers, a Chicago Sun-Times publication. He wrote for the Daily Southtown and the former Sun-Times Red Streak before joining the Chicago Sun-Times news staff.

What story line does Konkol consider his personal favorite? Covering the Chicago White Sox winning the 2005 World Series—a Southsider’s dream come true.

Social Media vs. Print

“Social media is necessary. It’s faster; it will always be there,” Konkol said. “But it can’t change the press. Newspapers are vital. They are produced by professional organizations that expect accuracy and timelines. We still need writers to tell stories, to have a chance for depth to keep news alive.”

Advice to Journalism Students

“Have a ‘plan B.’ It’s tough. There are layoffs, pay cuts and you will probably be overworked,” said Konkol. “Be passionate; keep your eyes open; be well rounded; and never give up.”

“Early in my reporting, I wanted to be Mike Royko (the Chicago columnist who won the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for commentary and a best-selling author). I wanted to go after the big story,” Konkol added.

“I finally realized it’s not getting the big story that I should think about. Instead, I turned my focus on writing the best stories possible,” he said.

And now he has a Pulitzer Prize.

WIU Student Trustee

Trustee name: Jesse Andrews

Class year: Senior

Major: African-American Studies; minors in Chemistry, Music and Sociology

Hometown: Dolton, IL

Please describe your anticipated role on the board.

“I believe my role will be to assist in the successful management of our institution. I intend to advocate for students’ interests, and work with the board to continue the tradition of building successful relationships and partnerships for Western.”

What does being a WIU trustee mean to you?

“I am cognizant of the fact that I was elected by my peers and not appointed. Therefore, as the student trustee, I realize that I represent and serve the student body. In my opinion, this role comes with great responsibility, because the student trustee is accountable to the students. With that said, I believe a WIU trustee should be open-minded and attentive to all sides of an issue while attempting to make the best choices possible for Western’s success.”

What do you see as the board’s responsibility and your role in meeting that responsibility?

“The board’s responsibility is vast; however, I know the primary objective of the board is to develop administrative policy for our campuses. Additionally, the board provides direction and the efficient management of funds, property, facilities and investments while staying within the state of Illinois’ guidelines. My individual role in meeting that responsibility is to work alongside the board members, our new incoming President (Jack Thomas), vice presidents, and our newly elected Student Government Association president to move WIU forward.”

What, from your perspective, are the board’s goals?

“From my perspective, the board’s goals are to ensure that our University’s core values—academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth and social responsibility, are being met, and to provide ethical governance free from arbitrary political control both inside and outside our institution.”

“I am cognizant of the fact that I was elected by my peers and not appointed.”

-Jesse Andrews
Biology professors receive IDNR grants

“The lack of mussels in a stream often indicates a problem indicator of the ‘health’ of water bodies,” Spier explained. Because of their inability to escape disturbances, such as pollutants and sedimentation, they are often a good component of freshwater ecosystems. They improve water quality by filtering organisms, and mussels are crucial components of freshwater ecosystems. Their populations to ensure their preservation. Freshwater mussel communities living in the Lamoine and Spoon River basins, which included handpicking and snorkeling to collect the samples. Any live samples were returned unharmed, he added.

“It’s important to monitor remaining mussel populations to ensure their preservation. Freshwater mussels are crucial components of freshwater ecosystems. They improve water quality by filtering organisms, and because of their inability to escape disturbances, such as pollutants and sedimentation, they are often a good indicator of the ‘health’ of water bodies,” Spier explained. “The lack of mussels in a stream often indicates a problem with water quality. In addition, they are a food source for muskrats, otters, minks, fish and some birds. The rivers of Illinois once provided habitat for 80 species of mussels. Of those, 17 are no longer found in Illinois and only 27 species are considered stable.”

Spier’s research took place from June through September 2010, and the results will be presented at the Freshwater Mollusks Conservation Society meeting this year, as well as at the Illinois American Fisheries Society and the Illinois Lake Management Association. Spier’s study was also supported by the Illinois Smallmouth Alliance.

According to McCravy, little is known about the species, diversity, abundance and habits of native bees and wasps, compared to the honeybee, which is an introduced species. Because of the recent concerns about colony collapse disorder in honeybees, McCravy pointed out that it’s essential to gain more knowledge on native bees due to the mounting evidence that these native species can provide “pollination insurance.” A combination of sampling methods will be used to capture the insects.

“Most studies of native bees and wasps are done in agricultural or grasslands habitats, but little is known about the species inhabiting the woodlands. As part of my study, I’ll be surveying native bees and wasps in the oak-hickory woodlands of the WIU Kibbe Station,” McCravy added. “Besides inventorying the species at Kibbe, I will also examine seasonal patterns in the diversity of the bees and wasps, and comparing the species collected using different sampling methods.”

McCravy’s survey began in March and will continue through September.

Focus Magazine

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to present the Spring/Summer issue of Focus magazine at wiu.edu/cas/about/focus/focus.php. Highlights include features on WIU stalwarts Larry Balsamo, Olive Fite, Henry Sather and Lynn Wolfmeyer; anniversaries in the Psychology and African-American Studies departments; and the latest news about a Western graduate who won a Pulitzer and a Political Science professor who won a Congressional Fellowship. Be sure to check it out soon!
Western Illinois University president the 2011 Honorary Alumni Award to WIU President Al Goldfarb during the annual Town and Gown celebration hosted by the WIU Alumni Association in April.

The Honorary Alumni Award is presented to an individual who is not a WIU graduate but who has provided exceptional service to the WIU community.

Goldfarb was named president in March 2002 by the WIU Board of Trustees, and began his duties July 1, 2002. During his tenure as president, he oversaw the creation of Western’s Strategic Plan: Higher Values in Higher Education, the WIU-Macomb Master Plan: Campus is the Classroom, the WIU-QC Master Plan: Vision 2020 and the Technology Strategic Plan. He also oversaw the successful beginning of the University’s comprehensive campaign, Set the Standard: Higher Values in Higher Education. Goldfarb was president during the approval of Western’s first doctoral program in education, and new programs in liberal arts and sciences, nursing, engineering, museum studies, forensic chemistry and emergency management.

“Dr. Goldfarb’s years of commitment and dedication not only to Western Illinois University, but to higher education, are extraordinary,” said Amy Spelman MS ’98, director of Alumni Programs. “It is with great pleasure that we award Dr. Goldfarb with the 2011 Honorary Alumni Award. For all that he’s done for Western, we extend our greatest appreciation.”

Under his leadership, the first building of the Quad Cities Riverfront Campus, and facilities such as the Multicultural Center, Grote Hall and the Document and Publications Services building were built, the Performing Arts Center planning is underway; and numerous renovations took place, including Memorial Hall, the student side of Hanson Field, the Donald S. Spencer Recreation Center expansion, the Wright House, the University Union Bookstore and the University Union entrance.

Continued from 2011 Distinguished Alumni p. 1

to his alma mater with gifts in support of many areas at the University including Athletics, the broadcasting department and the Alumni Association. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Lake Forest High School Booster Club. He lives in Lake Forest (IL) with his wife, Diane, and children Billy, Bryan and Blair.

Lumley, a 1976 broadcasting graduate, was named CEO and president of Spectrum Brands in January 2006 with direct oversight of the company’s $3.1 billion North American business segment, comprising batteries and portable lighting, shaving and grooming and personal care products, lawn and garden products, household insect control, pet products and kitchen appliances such as Black & Decker and George Foreman Grills. He has also served as COO for Spectrum Brands.

Previously, he was the president of Rubbermaid Home Products North America. His background includes more than 25 years experience in the consumer products industry, having served as president and CEO of EAS, president of Brunswick Bicycles, senior vice president of sales and marketing at Outboard Marine Corporation, and in a variety of leadership positions with Wilson Sporting Goods and other companies.

Lumley is an active volunteer serving his alma mater on the President’s National Advisory Council and he has served as a member of the College of Business and Technology National Advisory Board. In addition, he serves on the Spectrum Brands Board of Directors, is a business community representative of the Clean Lakes Alliance Community Advisory Board, and is on the Board of Directors of Botanic Oil Innovations, Inc.

He received the Alumni Achievement Award from the WIU Alumni Association in 1990 and supports many areas at WIU, including Athletics, the broadcasting department and the Alumni Association. He also supports Western’s comprehensive “Set the Standard” campaign. Lumley and his wife, Julie, live in Waunakee (WI). They have three daughters, Hanalei, Krista and Kathryn, and one son, Thomas.

Taylor has made presentations at national and regional conferences of educators, student organizations and business executives. He served on the Governor’s Small Business Advisory Council from 1986-1992 and is currently serving on the Illinois Board of Savings Institutions.

Taylor was appointed to the National Education Alumni Trust (NEAT) Executive Committee and served as chair from 2001-2004. In 1984, he received the Alumni Achievement Award. In 1998, he was awarded the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce President’s Award; in 2005, Taylor received the Western Illinois University administrative service award for his contributions to the University and his profession; and in 2006, he was named Macomb Citizen of the Year.

He earned his MBA in management from the University of Florida in 1970 and a Ph.D. in management from Florida in 1980. He and his wife Diane ’89 MA ’91 are major WIU Foundation scholarship contributors and have three children, Jennifer ’94, Gordon III and Ryan.

Continued from 2011 WIU breaks ground p. 1

The Performing Arts Center, which has been designed by the architectural/design firms of Pelli Clarke Pelli of New Haven (CT) and O’Donnell, Wicklund, Pigozzi, and Peterson (OWP/P) of Chicago and Phoenix (AZ), will include a 1,400-seat proscenium theater that is essential between two balconies, a 250-seat thrust stage and a 150-seat studio theatre. There will also be dance, jazz and theatre rehearsal studios; dressing rooms adjacent to the theatres; a scenery design workshop and a costume shop; administration offices; and a loading dock which will accommodate semis and buses for professional touring companies and orchestras.

“This facility will not only be a cultural landmark for the region, but an academic facility worthy of our excellent students and faculty. The facility will provide much needed instructional and performance spaces for the Department of Theatre and Dance and the School of Music,” said College of Fine Arts and Communication Dean Paul Kreider.

The new facility creates a new “arts” quadrangle between the Browne Hall/PAC building, Memorial, Simpkins and Corbin halls.

“This is a great day for Macomb and Western Illinois University. Lobbying for the Performing Arts Center has been a true community-university effort, and further demonstrates the collaboration that is essential between a town and a university,” said Mayor Mick Wisslead.

“It was truly an honor to serve as a lead sponsor and as a lead negotiator of the 2009 capital bill that appropriated the funding for this long-awaited project. The Performing Arts Center will not only create short-term construction jobs, it will also further solidify WIU’s role as a cultural center for western Illinois and serve as an economic development engine,” said Sen. John Sullivan.

“It is my honor to join President Goldfarb at the ceremonial groundbreaking for the Western Illinois University Performing Arts Center. This project began as a vision of the WIU Board of Trustees in 2001. Thanks to the tireless efforts of administrators, faculty, community members, and the State of Illinois, this vision will be a reality,” said State Rep. Norine Hammond.

To view architect’s renderings of the PAC, visit wiu.edu/pac.

WIN (Western Illinois Now) alumni fundraising program. Taylor has served CASE District V and was a program presenter at the CASE V District Conference every year from 1979-2005. He also served as a member of the board of CASE V and was chair of the CASE V District Conference in 1995-1996. A motivational speaker, Taylor has made presentations at national and regional conferences of educators, student organizations and business executives. He served on the Governor’s Small Business Advisory Council from 1986-1992 and is currently serving on the Illinois Board of Savings Institutions.

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Saddler named COEHS dean

Sterling Saddler, professor and vice president of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), has been named dean of Western Illinois University’s College of Education and Human Services (COEHS), effective July 1, according to WIU Provost and President-Elect Jack Thomas.

Saddler replaces Nick DiGrino, who has served as dean since July 1, 2009, and as interim dean previously.

Saddler has served as professor and vice president of the Office for Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Nevada since 2010. He is also the founder and director of the Center for Workforce Development and Occupational Research. Previously, he served as interim associate dean in the College of Education from 2007-2010 and as chair of the educational leadership department from 2005-2007. He has also served as the department’s assistant chair.

Prior to joining the UNLV faculty in 1998, Saddler served as the assistant dean and dean of academic affairs at Center City Business Institute in Syracuse, NY (1995-1999); taught in the Syracuse City School District (1991-1993); and was an accountant for the Urban League of Onondaga, Syracuse (1988-1991). He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1983-89.

“Dr. Saddler’s experience and leadership will build on the exceptional work of Dean Nick DiGrino to continue to move Western’s College of Education and Human Services forward,” Thomas said. “He brings outstanding academic credentials and strong administrative experience to Western Illinois University.”

He has authored and co-authored numerous articles for academic publications. Saddler is the founder, reviewer and co-editor of the Center for Workforce Development Research and School to Careers newsletter, and he has presented at professional conferences throughout the world.

Saddler is a member of several professional organizations, including the American Association for Higher Education, the American Education Research Association, the Association for the Study of Higher Education, the American Education Research Association, the Association for Career and Technical Education. He was a Fulbright Hay Scholar (2000), and he received the National Association for Multicultural Education Award (2001).

Saddler received his doctorate from The Pennsylvania State University; his master’s from The State University of New York (Oswego); and his bachelor’s from Tuskegee University.

Mixed methods expert delivers first Faculty Scholar Lecture

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92

Western Illinois University’s College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) presented its inaugural Faculty Scholars Program Lecturer in April. Established in Fall 2010, the COEHS Faculty Scholars initiative not only recognizes the college’s faculty members for their excellence in the area of research and scholarly publication, but it also is intended to foster an environment conducive to high-caliber research.

John Creswell, professor of educational psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, delivered the COEHS Faculty Scholars Lecture April 5 in the University Union Sandburg Theatre. His area of expertise is qualitative methodology and mixed methods research.

According to Nick DiGrino, COEHS dean, Creswell is the author of 10 books, many of which focus on research design, qualitative research and mixed methods research.

“Dr. Creswell also served as the founding co-editor of the Journal of Mixed Methods Research. Currently, as a senior Fulbright Fellow, he is working in South Africa to bring mixed methods research concepts to documentaries about AIDS victims and families,” DiGrino noted.

Creswell has published articles on mixed methods research in such peer-reviewed publications as Annals of Family Medicine, Journal of Counseling Psychology and Field Methods. He has served as a faculty member at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln for more than 30 years. In 1998, Creswell received that university’s Distinguished Teacher Award via the Teachers College. He was also recognized by Sage Publications for his international book contributions, including his 2003 research methods reference book, “Research Design” (second edition).

Myers featured on Education Talk Radio

Jill Myers, an associate professor in the School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration at Western Illinois University, was featured on EduTalk Radio on March 25, interviewed by host Larry Jacobs about the book on cyberbullying that Myers recently co-authored with two other WIU faculty members.

Myers, along with Donna McCaw ’75 MS Ed ’85, professor, educational leadership, and Leaunda Hemphill, associate professor, instructional design and technology, co-authored “Responding to Cyber Bullying: An Action Tool for School Leaders,” which was published by Corwin Press in January.

According to its website, Education Talk Radio focuses on educational products and services and features industry and professional guests.

To hear the podcast, visit blogtalkradio.com/edutalk and click “Play” under “Cyberbullying with legal expert Jill Joline Myers.”

For more information on the book and the WIU faculty collaboration on this timely topic, read the full news release at wiu.edu/news.
Alumnus heading home to Kenya with degree, skills to help children impacted by AIDS epidemic

By Tami Seitz, WIU QC

For Americans doing missionary work in Kenya—those dedicated individuals helping children left parentless by the AIDS epidemic, at a school with dirt floors and no electricity and only sunlight by which to learn—it isn’t hard to find examples of the disparity between the wealthy, safe and comfortable life in the United States and what Kenyans endure. It also isn’t hard to find ways to help. When people have next to nothing, it doesn’t take much to make an immense improvement; yet help is difficult to find within the African country.

In the case of native Kenyan and Western Illinois University alumnus, Rev. Francis Ndolo MS Ed ’10, this time the missionary came to America so he could bring back support to those in need at home. Ndolo took up the challenge of raising money in the U.S. for his diocese and orphans in Kenya.

“It is very difficult for orphans who’ve been impacted by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in my village to learn. Many of them have lost parents and family members to AIDS or have the disease themselves,” Ndolo said. “It’s a struggle for them to concentrate and learn new things when they live in constant worry and fear.”

Ndolo’s mission led him to the U.S. in 2005, where he spent time at various dioceses throughout the country to raise awareness and funds for orphans in his parish, the Catholic Diocese of Kitui in Kenya. Yet he didn’t come here with an outstretched hand expecting money to flow easily; he assisted in different parishes and campus ministries delivering masses and performing other pastoral work.

When he arrived in the Peoria (IL) diocese, he learned from Rev. Ken Hummel that the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Student Newman Center at WIU in Macomb needed help delivering masses, as well as with other duties that priests perform. Without hesitation, Ndolo agreed to help.

Once settled in Macomb, Ndolo learned about the counselor education graduate program at Western, and he realized the skills and knowledge he would gain from the program could benefit his parishioners. He offered to work with the Newman Center’s campus ministry in exchange for the chance to earn a master’s degree in counseling.

The arrangement seemed to work out well with a few adjustments. Ndolo—who graduated with his master’s degree in counseling last December—said his professors, fellow students and co-workers helped him learn about dressing for, and driving in, the snow and ice, as well as helped him acclimate and learn about American culture, customs, food and traditions.

“Dr. Leslie O’Ryan was a tremendous help to me, as well as so many other educators and students at Western,” Ndolo said. O’Ryan, an associate professor in WIU’s counselor education program, in turn, found some very special qualities about Ndolo.

“Francis was an exceptional student. He is knowledgeable in traditional healing and counseling, and he volunteered at AIDS Project in the Quad Cities. I recommended him for EMDR training, at which he excelled,” O’Ryan noted.

EMDR (eye movement desensitization and reprocessing) is a type of therapy said to be an effective, widely known treatment of trauma, according to O’Ryan.

Ndolo’s knowledge of EMDR therapy and his degree in counseling are tremendous tools to help him address the needs of the Kenyan children, who are dealing with the loss of their parents or who are coping with the devastating HIV symptoms family members may have.

“I come from an area where there are two doctors for every 600,000 people. Nearly 1.2 million children in Kenya are orphaned due to AIDS,” he said. “I feel better prepared now to return to my homeland, so I can help educate caretakers and teachers there who are dealing with these children, to help them cope with parents who are suffering with, or the loss of their parents who have died from, the disease. Medication isn’t always the best cure and is very hard to get in my country. The government tries to help, but it’s still not enough. The Catholic Church, through the health care system, is involved in addressing this problem,” Ndolo added.

Ndolo will soon return to Kenya with an advanced degree in counseling, funds raised in the U.S. and skills to help orphans and their families. But, in a country the size of Texas with 38 million people, his work ahead will be a challenge.

“I’m so grateful for my experience here at Western and all the people I’ve met who have taught me so many things. I hope I have taught them many things about my experiences and the country in which I live. I’ll take back many friendships with me when I go home,” he said.

Ndolo added that he still has much work to do and funds to raise for his diocese. To help Ndolo with his efforts for the Diocese of Kitui, contact Rev. Jeremiah in the Kitui Mission office in St. Mark Parish (Peoria, IL) at (309) 550-1155 or at (309) 673-1763. More information about the Kitui Mission is available at www.dioceseofkitui.org.

Mors to direct School of LEJA

Terry Mors ’96 has been named director of Western Illinois University’s School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration (LEJA). Mors, who had served as interim director since July 1, 2010, has 10 years of full-time contributions in higher education at WIU. In addition, he has more than 17 years of law enforcement and private security experience, working for the Gurnee (IL) Police Department in various positions, including as a patrol officer and a commander.

“Dr. Mors distinguished himself as an outstanding candidate among a very talented group of finalists,” said College of Education and Human Services Dean Nick DiGrino. “As interim director, his performance was outstanding. The School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration has a tradition of excellence, and Dr. Mors builds on that tradition and will lead the School in service to its many constituents.”

Mors earned his doctorate in education from Northern Illinois University in 2002. He holds a master’s degree in law enforcement and justice administration from Western and a bachelor’s degree from Roosevelt University. He has served the School of LEJA at WIU in a variety of capacities, including as coordinator of the graduate program. In recent years, he has also served as a member of the School of the LEJA’s curriculum committee, graduate committee, the professional advisory board and the Investigators Club, as well as served as a member of the Institute of Applied Criminal Justice, the COEHS technology committee and as a Concert Safety Corps adviser.

In 2006, along with five of his School of LEJA faculty colleagues, Mors received the COEHS Excellence in Internationalizing the Campus Award for establishing an academic relationship with St. Petersburg University in Russia. In 2005, he was also the recipient of the COEHS Award for Outstanding Service.

In addition to his instruction and service activities as Western, Mors has published in leading journals and presented papers on a variety of law enforcement topics at various national and international meetings and conferences. His many professional leadership involvements included the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS), the Central Illinois Association of Law Enforcement Executives and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Dr. Mors distinguished himself as an outstanding candidate among a very talented group of finalists.

-Nick DiGrino
Branching out

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92

Four WIU teacher-education alumnae gained practical experience, and took advantage of the travel and cultural opportunities, offered through the unique Camp Adventure program on U.S. military bases stateside and abroad.

For Nina Nuesken ’10 and Lauren Schuster ’10, it was the timing and the intriguing opportunity it provided. For Heather Giles ’10, it offered a rewarding time abroad, and she still maintains the relationships she began during it. For Amanda DeBord ’08, she applied for it because she liked working with children. Though they all had different reasons for taking part in “it,” the end result for these four Western alumni is the same. All four feel they have benefited from their experiences, and all feel they are now better prepared for their futures as teachers because of it.

The “it” in this case is the Camp Adventure program, a 12-week paid internship/course opportunity that Nuesken, Schuster, Giles, and DeBord all took part in during, or just after, their time studying at Western. Housed at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) and funded through the U.S. Department of Defense, Camp Adventure enables participants to earn 12 hours of graduate or undergraduate credit (from UNI) and provides each student with a $2,700 stipend for 17 weeks. The experience also not only provides teacher-education students and recent graduates with the opportunity to branch out and gain professional training in child-development centers on U.S. military bases overseas (Germany, Italy, England and Belgium) and stateside (Florida and Hawaii), but it also enables them to broaden their individual horizons, network and establish relationships they will cherish for years to come.

Giles, who is from Manteno (IL) and served at the Netzaberg School Age Center on the United States Army Garrison (USAG) Grafenwoehr (Germany) Army Post, noted she found the experience to be rewarding both personally and professionally.

“I continue to maintain relationships with the military parents and their children,” Giles said. “Travel on weekends was encouraged, so during the time I was participating in Camp Adventure, I had the opportunity to experience Oktoberfest, Berlin, the Sound of Music Bus Tour of Salzburg (Austria), as well as several cities in Italy. The program is hands-on, as you’re working with children, but it also requires you to submit written assignments related to child development, as well as cultural experiences. The curriculum was heavy on reflection,” she added.

Nuesken, who is from London Mills (IL), and Schuster, who is from Crest Hill (IL), served stateside during their Camp Adventure program, working at the Sigsbee Navy Base at the Child Development Center in Key West (FL), a center for infants to children up to five years of age. In the afternoons, Nuesken also worked at the School Age Center, which serves children ages five to 10.

“The program fit into our schedules perfectly, because as teachers graduating in December, there were not many job opportunities available,” Schuster explained. “Camp Adventure provided us with a great way to travel, meet new people and experience new things.”

Nuesken added, “We both found working with the children rewarding, and we have learned so much about ourselves, as well as about working with children, during these 17 weeks that we were away from home.”

DeBord, who is from Yorkville (IL) and spent her Camp Adventure time on the U.S. Army base in Hohenfels (Germany), said she definitely recommends the experience for WIU teacher-education students.

“I am still friends with the other teachers who work on the base,” DeBord noted. “I applied because I like working with children. Sometimes I would babysit in the evenings for parents, so they could attend evening programs. I also got to travel on the weekends, and I visited Berlin, Munich, Nuremberg, Venice, Rome, Prague, Brussels, Zurich and Amsterdam,” she said.

Jacqlin Richmond ’73, MS Ed ’87, the coordinator for the Field and Clinical Experience unit of the Center for Preparation of Education Professionals at Western, noted Camp Adventure provides WIU’s teacher-education students with yet another experience to help them prepare for careers in teaching and working with kids.

“We recommend the Camp Adventure program to our teacher-education majors as a very worthwhile cultural and educational experience,” Richmond said. “The structure of living on military bases provides security for any student who might be hesitant to travel abroad. In addition to working with children of all ages, the required experiences related to the graduate course work encourages our students to explore the cultures in the countries or regions where they are living. All students who have been fortunate enough to be selected have returned to the U.S. with tremendous enthusiasm for the program.”
Education and Human Services

The Turnaround: Student rises to 4.0 with help from dietetics ‘family’

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92

Lorri Kanauss’s ’94 MS Ed ’97 initial impressions of Robert Santana ’08 MS ’11 weren’t all that good. When she first met him in Fall 2007, “he came late to class, sat in the back of the classroom and he seldom participated,” she explained. “He was an outlier dietetics major in multiple ways,” she added.

Santana—who freely admits he was a less than stellar student when he first began as a dietetics major—was dismayed during his initial encounters with Kanauss, associate professor of dietetics, fashion merchandising and hospitality (DFMH), as well. “When I had her that first semester, I knew she wasn’t pleased with me. I wouldn’t pay attention, I would show up late to her class. She was tapping at her watch when I would get there two minutes late, and I remember thinking, ‘What’s wrong with this person?’ ”

Despite their rocky start, Santana and Kanauss came to appreciate one another. Santana attributes, in part, his successful completion of his bachelor’s degree in dietetics to Kanauss and her efforts to help him become an engaged, motivated student. For Kanauss, Santana embodies the turnaround success story that provides her with a tremendous sense of reward and accomplishment in her chosen field of dietetics instruction. “Robert is the type of student every teacher hopes to encounter in his/her career,” she said. “It is honestly remarkable to see Robert’s successes and be able to say, ‘I knew him when...’”

Searching for direction

Prior to deciding to study dietetics, Santana had been searching for something that would motivate him in his college coursework. He started college at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills (IL) taking pre-pharmacy classes but transferred to WIU in 2003. While he enjoyed his life at WIU and the opportunities he had in Macomb—Santana often worked as a deejay at various clubs and bars in Macomb—he wasn’t quite as content in his college courses.

“I continued the pre-pharmacy major for my first two years at WIU, but I couldn’t get into a pharmacy program. Because I already had taken all this chemistry, I was waffling between retaking some classes and getting a chemistry degree or starting a different major,” he said. “I was young, and I guess I was afraid. I thought, ‘Well, I should probably finish this out. I’m doing pharmacy.’ But I wasn’t sure, and in the end, I knew I really didn’t want to major in pharmacy or in chemistry.”

Santana then tried taking courses in finance, but still wasn’t motivated and found himself doing poorly in his courses.

“At the end of that year, I knew it wasn’t for me. And I said to myself, ‘Either I drop out or I do something I really want to do, something meaningful to me,’” he said.

In the fall of 2006, Santana had changed his major once again, this time to dietetics. Yet despite his interest in the field, he still found he wasn’t doing very well in his courses. “It’s not like I went in there, and it was all sunshine and smiles. I did badly my first semester—I got a D and an F. So, at the end of that semester, I really began to ask myself, ‘What is going on here? I couldn’t make the excuse, ‘I don’t like this stuff’ anymore. Basically, I was out of excuses. I knew I was doing it to myself.”

On the flip side

Finally, Santana changed his approach. He made an effort to go to class and to pay attention, and his grades began to improve. He went from getting Ds and Fs to earning Bs and Cs. The second year of his dietetics major is when what he described as the “the flip” happened.

“The summer before my senior year, in 2007, I took a speech class, and I got an A. And then I came back in fall 2007, and I seemed to be having the same problem as before—I failed the first tests in a few classes. So, I went to see my professors—I got to know Lorri Kanauss—and I began to ask them what I had to do. I explained to them that I didn’t want to perform badly as a student. I was showing up to class,” he said.

Santana noted that both Kanauss and Karen Greathouse, chair of the DFMH department, helped him by giving him advice and motivating him to get involved with his fellow students in dietetics.

“I think Robert grew and improved as a student because of the team environment in dietetics,” Kanauss said. “Dietetics faculty and students comprise the WIU ‘dietetics family.’ Faculty and students work closely together on multiple practicum projects, lab courses, and departmental organizations. Robert was not going to be allowed to sit in the back of class and not participate.

We all genuinely care about students and want them to succeed. I think, too, our faculty members are willing to put in extra work and time to help students grow and succeed. Robert’s potential grew substantially under these conditions, and he earned a 4.0 GPA his last semester of undergraduate work.”

Santana agrees that his successful turnaround was due to his faculty members’ interest in him as an individual, as well as his strong group of peers also studying in the dietetics program.

“I think the majority, something like 85 percent of those in that class of 2008, got into internships, which is unheard of, because obtaining a dietetics internship is comprised of a very competitive matching process that is accredited. In general, you have a 50/50 shot,” he said.

The payoff

In Spring 2011, Santana successfully finished his second degree at WIU, this time completing a master’s degree in kinesiology, with an emphasis in exercise physiology. It was shortly after graduating with his B.S. in family and consumer sciences with an emphasis in dietetics in 2008 that he decided to continue his education. Because of his bumpy time as an undergraduate, he had to register for his second bachelor’s degree in kinesiology to bring up his grade point average. But he stuck with the program, and took graduate courses while also making up an undergraduate deficiency.

“I ended up getting straight As in grad school,” he said.

In addition to earning a 4.0 GPA, Santana worked as a graduate assistant/student manager at Western’s Bella Hearst Diabetes Institute, where he helped facilitate nutrition and diabetes education and counseling, blood glucose screenings and matching students in need of physical training services with personal-training students in kinesiology. Last fall, he completed his dietetics internship through Iowa State University’s Dietetic Internship Program.

“Robert was able to secure a competitive internship because of his hard work. Not only did he earn a perfect GPA in his graduate program in kinesiology, but he also was willing to work hard outside of the classroom, too. He gained valuable work experience as the student manager of the Bella Hearst Diabetes Institute and as a dietary aide at the Elms Nursing Home in Macomb,” Kanauss said.

Shortly after completing his internship, he was hired as a nutrition coach and personal trainer at Life Time Fitness in Orland Park (IL) and successfully passed his registered dietitian (RD) certification/license exam. And this spring, Santana moved forward with yet another goal and accepted a position as a research associate/wellness coordinator, through Indiana University, for the CSX Corporation, a railroad company. According to Santana, IU hires full-time employees (non-grant-funded) to work as contractors for CSX Transportation’s health and wellness program, which is focused on improving the health and wellness of those working in the railroad industry.

Many of Santana’s daily duties are similar to those he experienced and practiced while working at Western’s Bella Hearst Diabetes Institute. “As an IU researcher, I have access to a working lab, and I’m conducting research in my field, as well as helping some railroad workers lead healthier lives,” he said.

Santana is now pursuing his career and life’s work with a level of motivation and passion he struggled to obtain during his early years as an undergraduate. But it was that struggle that shaped the person he is today, he said. He noted he also has hopes of pursuing a Ph.D. at Arizona State University, after obtaining a few years of practice in the field.

“It was my time working with Lorri and Dr. Greathouse, as well as the experiences like working at Bella Hearst and with students at WIU, that inspired a love of academia for me,” Santana noted.

Kanauss says she couldn’t be prouder of Santana.

“As a faculty member, I was able to clearly document his efforts in my recommendations—his last 60 hours of coursework were exceptional. Many internship directors take such a complete turnaround into account. His hard work and willingness to change and take responsibility for his academic, and eventually, professional career, is immensely rewarding to see.”

His hard work and willingness to change has been immensely rewarding to see.

-Lorri Kanauss
Myers Agriculture Scholarship established

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Western Illinois lost a trusted friend, tireless advocate and respected legislator with the passing of Rep. Rich Myers ’73 on Dec. 1, 2010. Myers was an activist for all the residents of the 94th legislative district, for Western Illinois University and for farmers across the state and nation.

A Western Illinois University scholarship to honor Myers has been established by his family and friends. The first scholarship will be awarded in Fall 2011 to a McDonough County agriculture major involved in community service or University activities.

“We feel blessed to have this scholarship,” said Myers’ wife, Chris ’75. “Life seems to move on so quickly when someone we love leaves this world. The generous contributions that have made this gift to Western possible will allow Rich to be remembered in an ongoing way, and lend a sense of permanency to his memory. Our daughter, Alison MS ’10, along with myself and the entire Myers family, are honored by this legacy for Rich.”

According to Chris, Rich loved WIU and had a great admiration for the School of Agriculture. Myers completed his Bachelor of Science in Agronomy in 1973, and met Chris at Western shortly thereafter. Chris earned a B.A. in music education in 1975. Alison completed an M.S. in college student personnel at WIU in 2010.

“Rich often remarked that the early development of his leadership skills happened with his high school experiences on the FFA parliamentary procedures team, and he continued building those skills while he was at Western, as a founding father of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity,” Chris said. “He felt blessed to have had those opportunities.”

Those early leadership tendencies progressed over a number of years, culminating in Myers’ election to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1995, where he remained until his passing. Prior to his tenure in the legislature, he farmed the family farm and was involved with the Farm Bureau in various capacities at the local, state and national levels.

“Working with Farm Bureau developed Rich’s interest in public policy,” said Chris. “His move into politics was not so much an aspiration as it was an evolution.”

Myers also taught the general honors course Inside State Government (GH299) at WIU for 10 years. The course provided students with the opportunity not only to learn from Rep. Myers inside the classroom, but also inside the halls of the state capitol.

“GH299 was one of my favorite classes,” said former student Brad Fenton of Quincy (IL). “Representative Myers constantly encouraged us to take part in the legislative system by contacting our representatives about what matters to us. He encouraged us to be curious and ask questions and was one of the best instructors I ever had.”

“Rich was deeply committed to the class field trip to the state capitol each semester,” said William Knox, director of Western’s Centennial Honors College. “In Springfield, he arranged for a panel of distinguished presenters, including lobbyists, high-ranking legislative staff members, state senators and others who shared their perspectives on being ‘inside state government.’”

“When it came to students, Rich would always go out of his way in Springfield,” said Chris. “He enjoyed teaching, and he loved to introduce students to the capitol building. His enthusiasm for mentoring youth in the area of government was evident by the fact that regardless of how busy the day was, when student groups came to the Capitol you would find Rich standing outside the House Chamber, waiting to greet them at the rail.”

Elmers provide for BGS, education students

By Julie Murphy ’94 MS ’95

Jim ’94 MBA ’95 and Eva Ann Elmer MS ’85 of Burlington (IA), have generously established scholarships for students pursuing degrees in WIU’s Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree program and elementary or math education. The scholarships were originally conceptualized in 2001 with a $100,000 planned gift, but recently the Elmers decided to fund the scholarships on an annual basis so students can benefit in the present.

“We believe completely in the ‘Law of Echo,’ which is that as you give, so shall you receive,” Eva Ann said. “We each achieved one of our life goals by receiving master’s degrees at WIU. We want to help make it possible for others to be able to move beyond themselves and achieve their goals as well. This is our way of giving back.”

The couple met and married in Burlington in the early 1960s. Eva Ann moved there for her first teaching job, junior high math, and Jim arrived after serving as an electronics technician aboard Navy submarines to start a job in quality control. Their connection with WIU began in the 80s, when Eva Ann chose to further her education. She graduated from Western with a Master of Science in Mathematics in 1985. Jim began making the commute from Burlington to Macomb in the early 90s, and graduated with a Board of Trustees Bachelor of Arts (now named General Studies) in 1994. He then received his Master of Business Administration from WIU’s College of Business and Technology in 1995.

Eva Ann has retired after teaching at the high school level and at Southeastern Community College as a developmental education instructor, working with all math and science students. Jim continues to work with his own company, JDE Management Consultants, defining and achieving strategic and tactical and/or operational goals for food and non-food manufacturers. Both are extremely involved in their community and church and have been recognized for outstanding community service.

“When you visit with Jim and Eva Ann, you come away knowing they have a love for life and all that it has to offer,” said Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83, vice president for advancement and public services. “They are committed to each other, their family, their church and community, and now to WIU.

“They are great role models in many ways, and specifically in that they understand and promote the importance of an education,” Bainter continued. “Their endowment will support scholarships for students in WIU’s Bachelor of General Studies and math programs, and will assist nontraditional students in their efforts to achieve their goals and dreams by pursuing their degrees from WIU.”
Kaspar establishes Women’s Lecture

Western Illinois University Libraries is pleased to announce the establishment of the Dr. Elizabeth A. Kaspar Women’s Lecture for University Libraries. Kaspar, a member of the former educational foundations department (now educational and interdisciplinary studies), has contributed $25,000 to endow a permanent lecture series for University Libraries during Women’s History Month.

“Creating a lecture series to highlight accomplished women by bringing them to Western means a great deal to me,” Kaspar said. “I think it is important for our students, especially our women students, to be inspired by women who have excelled in their fields. Since March is Women’s History Month, it is the most appropriate time for the lectures to take place.”

Kaspar’s efforts to eliminate gender inequity on the Macomb campus are legendary. She is credited with developing the first women’s studies course at WIU, leading to the eventual women’s studies curriculum, and for chairing Western’s first Committee on the Status of Women, which was charged with the comparative investigation of salaries and ranks of male and female faculty. She received the Western Organization for Women (WOW) Achievement Award in 1990-1991 and served as vice president of the Illinois State Commission on Women, for which she arranged hearings at the capitol related to the hiring and promotion of women faculty at all state universities in Illinois. Kaspar was also vice president and president of the Foundation for the National Association of State Commissions on Women that met annually in Washington, D.C. In September 2010, she was honored by local artist Constance (Connie) Berg MS Ed ’72 through dedication of the sculpture, “Furious Flower,” which was installed in the WIU Multicultural Center as a constant reminder of Kaspar’s achievements.

“I have worked with women my entire career, always assisting women in some way, long before the term ‘feminist’ was even coined,” said Kaspar. “When I came to Western, I was asked to study and oversee concerns relating to women on our campus by President John Bernhard. This lecture series is in keeping with my commitment to women students and their futures.”

“University Libraries is honored to be the recipient of such a generous gift,” said University Libraries Dean Phyllis Self. “Dr. Kaspar has been a tireless supporter of University Libraries, and we are ecstatic to provide a lecture series that will impact the entire campus community, while honoring a library advocate.”

Athletics memorabilia on display for Homecoming

In addition to all of the events planned on and around campus, WIU Athletics and University Libraries’ Archives and Special Collections Unit have teamed up to display football and other WIU memorabilia from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct.1, in the Hall of Fame room in Western Hall.

The exhibit, free and open to the public, will contain photos, yearbooks and other memorabilia. Visitors can peruse these materials at their leisure—they may even find photos of themselves and their friends from back in the day! Many, but not all, items displayed are from the specific class reunion dates of 1961, 1971 and 1986. Displays also have been created featuring this year’s Hall of Fame inductees.

“The Archives and Special Collections Unit is really excited to collaborate with Athletics for the second year in a row to bring this exhibit to Western Hall,” said Heather Richmond, assistant archivist in University Libraries. “It’s a wonderful way for us to showcase our collections by exhibiting the University’s history. It was so much fun last year to watch the alumni go through the photos and pick out their pictures.”

University Libraries

Annual WIU authors recognition reception

University Libraries hosted its Seventh Annual WIU Authors Recognition Reception during National Library Week. WIU authors who published books, chapters, articles, reviews, poems, art works, video or audio recordings, compositions and/or software in 2010 were recognized. More than 430 items were created by WIU faculty, staff and students. Many authors had more than one submission.

Authors were encouraged to submit their creative work online in February and after which, reference librarians Jeanne Stierman and Krista Bowers Sharpe MA ’04, conducted author searches, doubling the amount of entries. According to Stierman, “University Libraries is honored to host the WIU Authors Recognition Reception. It’s a wonderful opportunity to showcase the amount and quality of research and writing that goes on around campus. Attendees are always amazed with the number of items displayed and the topics covered.”

Visit wiu.edu/library/wiu_authors/2010s/2010/publicationsDuring2010.php to review the 2010 and prior author bibliographies.
1976
Richard Crain, Indian Head Park, received the WIU 2010 CAS Distinguished Alumni Award.

1970
Ruth Larosche Means, Santa Rosa Valley, CA, is a teacher at Oxnard School District.

1969
Jerry Vogler, Normal, is the veterans’ assistance commission superintendent for McLean County in Bloomington.

1972
Susan Schoneweit Lighty, Peoria, is a retired 1st grade teacher from the Peoria School District.

1974
Mike Drews, Aurora, received the Illinois Association of REALTORS Political Involvement Award.

1975
Tonee Buwana aka Anthony Gaddy, Denver, CO, is the president of Academic Success, LLC. (tbuwana@att.net)

1976
Dave Martin, Bloomington, is a regional sales representative at Selent, Inc. (davemartin@sbgglobal.net)

1977
Thomas Nazar, Park Ridge, is a senior VP at Willis, Inc. in Chicago. (tom.nazar@willis.com)

1978
Stephan Clay, Dallas, TX, is a senior environmental employee at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (clay.stephan@epamail.epa.gov)

1979
Jim Montanari, Naperville, is the chief of police for Lewis University Police Department.

1982
Robert Cone, Kewanee, is a writer and published “The Butcher and The Hag.” (robertj36@gmail.com)

1986
John Harman, Prior Lake, MN, is a mortgage banker for U.S. Bank in Bloomington.

1988
Elizabeth DeMovick, White Plains, NY, is a senior human resource director and business partner at Affili Financial in New York. (fademovic@aol.com)

1991
Bryan Cox, Avon, OH, is the pass rushers coach for the Miami Dolphins.

1993
Bradley Bonner MS ’97, Galesburg, is a truck driver for The Register Mail.

1994
John Reynolds, Jr., Brooklyn, IA, is a Reverend at Brooklyn/Malcolm Presbyterian Parish.

1995
Kendall Clark, Woodstown, NJ, is a hybrid analyst at Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia, PA. (kendallclark1973@gmail.com)

1997
Thomas Pierce, Oregon, is a district conservationist for Natural Resources Conservation Service. (pierce@ilstud.gov)

1998
Scott Thompson, Nashville, is the community development specialist for the Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies / RACAP in Springfield. (stompson@ilacaenet.org)

1999
Ron Koziol, Centreville, VA, retired from the FBI in 2010 and is now working at Limited Brands as the safety security director. (rkodziol@limitedbrands.com)

2000
Jim Hermes MS-ED ‘97, ED SP ’07, Peru, is the superintendent at Spring Valley C.C.S.D. # 99. (jimhermes239@hotmail.com)

2001
Dave Walters, Monmouth, is a project manager at Retail Construction.

2004
Jerry Vogler, Normal, is the veterans’ assistance commission superintendent for McLean County in Bloomington.

2005
Larry “Mac” McIlmoil, Jacksonville Beach, FL, is a retired director of member services at Metal Treating Institute. (olmac@aol.com)

2006
Bruce Abraham, Lake Villa, is a senior district loss prevention manager at SuperValu/Jewel-Osco in Itasca. (abraham170@comcast.net)

2008
Scott Thompson, Nashville, is the community development specialist for the Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies / RACAP in Springfield. (stompson@ilacaenet.org)

2009
Ron Koziol, Centreville, VA, retired from the FBI in 2010 and is now working at Limited Brands as the safety security director. (rkodziol@limitedbrands.com)

2010
Michael Kimmel, St. Louis, MO, is the senior desktop support technician at BJCC. (mike@kimmel.com)

2011
Catherine “Kelly” Kalhauge Steiger, Oak Lawn, is a make-up artist for Chanel Cosmetics. (kelly.greatful@gmail.com)

2012
Dennis Ulrich, El Paso, TX, is a deputy special agent in charge for the Department of Homeland Security. (dennis.ulrich@dhs.gov)

2013
John Konopek, Wilmington, NC, was inducted into the ACPA Diamond Honoree Class of 2011. (reedjd@uncw.edu)

2014
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2015
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, was inducted into the ACPA Diamond Honoree Class of 2011. (reedjd@uncw.edu)

2016
Jim Anderson, Atlanta, GA, is the operations manager for Harcon Inc. in Lithia Springs. (anderj@harmoninc.com)

2017
Cherif Gueye MBA, Bamako, Mali, is a tax officer for Ministere de L’Economie et Des Finances. (chagueye@yahoo.fr)

2018
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2019
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2020
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2021
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2022
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.

2023
Diane Sladden Reed, Wilmington, NC, is the founder of Dream Catcher Consulting and is an associate faculty at Roanoke Valley University.
Ft. Myers Alumni & Friends Luncheon  The Edison, March 1

Seated, l-r: Cheryl Young Lauterbach ’68, Jim Grover ’57, Dee Grebe Grover, 2007 Honorary Alumni recipient Bill Brattain and Jacqui Brattain. Standing, l-r: Rob Lauterbach ’68, LiHong Xia M.ACCT ’05, Gary Anerino ’73, Mary Anne Budd Anerino, Bill Loomis ’59 and President-Elect Jack Thomas.

Orlando Alumni & Friends Social  Blue Martini, March 3


Ultimate Alumni Weekend in Arizona  Peoria Sports Complex, March 19

Front row, l-r: Annette Marroquin ’02, Mary Applebaum Gamboa ’82, Jim Royce, Judy Royce, Dino Vozikis, Denny Royce, Pat Schad, Berta Hardy, Monica Dake Durham ’80 MS ’85, Lana Sanstrom, James Sanstrom ’74, Scott Lewis ’71, Barbara Ahlberg Schreiner ’52 and Myma Smith Kelly ’71. Back row, l-r: Walt Pasternak ’84, Jan Gamboa, Marc Pedroni, Crystal Bedwell Pedroni ’92, Linda Szczurko, President-Elect Jack Thomas, Melanie DeMarie ’82, Charles Peterson ’95, Thomas Moehn ’68, Alan Funk ’70, Joel Aven and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Mike Kelly ’70.

Las Vegas Alumni & Friends Event  Firefly Tapas Bar & Restaurant, March 17


Ultimate Alumni Weekend in Arizona  Tuscan Oven, March 20

Front row, l-r: Chips Giovanine ’58 MS-ED ’61 CAS ’68, John Paulgrov, Kris Paulgrov, Nicole Bourgeois ’93, Joe Dobson, Karen Dobson, Ted Dobson, Candy Baldwin Knuppenberg ’70, Don Wharton ’68, Truman Hartshorn and Linda Flintge Zanarini ’65. Back row, l-r: Don Dolieslager ’57 MS-ED ’62, Jane Ray Dolieslager ’74, Mary Ellen Tonkinson Giovanine, Bill Heap, Pat Heap, Lupe Rios ’56 MS-ED ’62, Dave Dunn ’53, Ray Knuppenberg ’69, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Bruce Gehhardt ’70 and Director of Alumni Programs Amy Spelman MS ’98.

Jupiter Alumni & Friends Event  Roger Dean Stadium, March 2


Tampa Alumni & Friends Social  Tinatapa’s, March 4


Black Alumni Black Tie Scholarship Gala  Martinique Banquet Complex, March 26

Front row, l-r: Misty Horath ’05 MS ’07, Paige Fleischmann ’08, Margie Wessels Wilson ’71 MS-ED ’72 and Kathy Dudley. Standing, l-r: Brian Palmer, Donna Perna Bush ’76, John Wilson ’84 and Bill Dudley ’68.
Leatherneck Social in Rock Island City Limits Saloon & Grill, April 2

Chicago Alumni & Friends Event - Bulls vs. Suns Pregame Social & Basketball Game The Crossroads Bar & Grill, April 5


Celebrating Town & Gown The Forum in Macomb, April 8


Chicago Alumni & Friends Event The Art Institute of Chicago, March 25

Seated, l-r: Tom Elwood ’73, Nicole Seery Wetzell ’06, Susie Sears Crain, Alumni Council member Lisa Lyons ’03 MS ’05, Cheryl Grace ’76, Linda Morton, Nancy Smith M.A.CCT ’78, Sue O’ton O’Brien ’69 and Alumni Council member Carol Lewis Scott ’70. Standing, l-r: President-elect Jack Thomas, President and 2011 Honorary Alumni Award recipient Al Goldfarb, Cory Wetzell ’04, Richard Crain ’56, Patricia Zuliani, Tom Shinko ’79, Duane Kovaec ’71, Dave Morton ’71, Katie Savage ’09, Alumni Council member Brian Savage ’73, Penny Castiau Yunker ’75 and Marcia Hieser Lucas ’75 M.A.CCT ’82.

Boston Alumni & Friends Social Boston College Club, March 30

Front row, l-r: College of Arts and Sciences Development Director Bryce Dexter, Matthew Senko ’95, Patrick O’Hern ’04, Lindsey Herndon, Kristin Petrie ’03, Sue Chiri Buta ’84 and Nancy Marsh. Back row, l-r: Wayne Kloczo ’72, George Jedras ’83 MBA ’85, Donna Hartig Kloczo ’72, Jamie Strand, Paul Buta, Marty Cowboy ’77 and Rick Marsh ’74.

4th Annual Student vs. Alumni Basketball Game Western Hall, April 14

Front row, l-r: Marty Coe, John Jones ’65 MS-ED ’70, Andrew Dyer being held by the Director of University Relations Darcie Dyer Shunberger ’89 MS ’98 and Quad Cities Campus Development Director Gary Rowe. Second row, l-r: Trisha Brown ’00, Alumni Council President Roger Clawson ’77, Jim Lodico ’62 MS-ED ’75, Andrea Boyer, Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Al Boyer ’72, Suzanne Bailey, Kristi Mindrup MS ’00, Michelle Lewis and Director of Quad Cities Academic and Student Services Andy Borst. Third row, l-r: Andrew Pratt ’04, Allison Meyer ’07, Marcia Carter, Derek Dyer ’92, Don McLean, Director of WQPT Rick Best, Chris Forget Brown, Don Healy ED SP ’84 and Scott Williams.
2006

Courtney Alban McGhugh, Matthews, NC, is a teacher at Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.

2003

Jennifer Eral Cook MS, Greeley, CO, is the coordinator of orientation at the University of Northern Colorado.

Joseph Dodd, Alton, is a process server/supporting services at Simmons Firm in East Alton.

Jessica Frazier Stockwell, East Moline, is a teacher at Cambridge School District.

Tina Spahr Yenney, East Moline, is a teacher at East Moline Christian School. (tina.yenney@hotmail.com)

Jana Zollinger, Champion, is the director of philanthropy at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

2004

Lynne Richardson Canavitt, Plymouth, is an LPN at the Medical Group of Macomb. (canavitt1995@yahoo.com)

Kevin Curtin, Rolling Meadows, is the project manager at Bulley and Andrews.

Tara Hinkle, Jackson, TN, is an attorney at Darrel Dunham and Associates in Carbondale.

Alicia Dillin, Bettendorf, IA, is the human resource manager at ORA Orthopedics. (adillin@cora.com)

Andrea Lucie, Alexandria, VA, is a warrior athlete reconditioning program manager for the Wounded Warrior Regiment Marine Corps at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. (marciaandrea.lucie@med.navy.mil)

Valerie Alexander McCarley MS, Albany, GA, is the military resource center director at Darton College.

Brent Meeker, Bettendorf, IA, is a mechanical designer at Cobham Mission Systems in Davenport, IA. (brent.meeker@gmail.com)

Shawn Touney MS, St. Charles, is the director of public relations for the Kane County Cougars in Geneva.

Steven Volkman MBA, Winona, MN, is the VP of engineering at Great Geotek.

John Wightholder, Fowler, is a police officer for the Quincy Police Department.

Laura Johnson Wightholder, Fowler, is the editor and lead writer at Culver-Stockton College.

2005

Kathleen Becker, Lombard, works for Waste Management in sales.

Andrea Bruns Foss, Camp Point, is an EDot at Dot Foods in Mt. Sterling.

Ashley Wheelhouse French, Virginia, is a teacher at CUSD # 16 in Alma.

Marco Ross Meyer, Burlington, IA, is a teacher at Burlington Community School. (mrmlnallymeyer@gmail.com)

Sarah Swain Worthington, Macomb, is a police officer at WIU – OPS. (swainey16@hotmail.com)

Stephen Worthington MS ’09, Macomb, is an engineer at NTR Bowling. (irisd8@ntrcom.com)

2006

Adam DePauw, Miniflinburg, PA, is a sheriff’s deputy at the Union County Sheriff’s Office.

Erik Dillon, Oak Creek, WI, is the project manager at Riley Construction Company, Inc. (erikd@dileycon.com)

Brandon Houston, Macomb, works for Pioneer in Good Hope. Kimberly Bezek Houston, Macomb, is a school counseling intern at Wester Prairie Schools.

Amanda Clark Messinger, Charleston, is the coordinator for student community service at Eastern Illinois University. (ammsessinger@eu.edu)

Ryan Messinger MS ’08, Charleston, is the assistant director for the health education and promotion at Eastern Illinois University. (rcmessinger@eu.edu)

Brent VanZuilen, Burlington, IA, is an engineer at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

2007

Michael Chadde MS, Dallas, TX, is the coordinator of campus activities at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. (michael.chadde@utsouthwestern.edu)

James Collyott ED SP, Princeville, is the superintendent at Minooka Community High School District # 111.

Erin Fauthich, Macomb, is a special education teacher at Macomb School District # 185.

Ian Foss, Camp Point, is a child support specialist for the State of Illinois.

Tara Hinkle, Galesburg, is a kindergarten teacher at Mable Woolsey Elementary School in Knoxville.

James Kennedy, Hampshire, is a certified crop consultant for Advanced Crop Care, Inc. (jrkennedy07@gmail.com)

Alison Schuler-Kennedy, Hampshire, is the school psychologist at St. Charles School District.

Tiffany Springer MS-ED, Galesburg, is the principal at Orion Middle School.

Jessica Staton, Adair, is a purchasing buyer at NTN-Bower Corporation in Macomb. (jesststaton@ntn-bower.com)

Joe Taylor, Lake in the Hills, is a rental operations consultant at True Value Company. (jdtaylor07@gmail.com)

2008

Joshua Ayres, Overland Park, KS, is a workforce specialist at Citibank in Kansas City, MO.

John Bruce, Chicago, is a case manager II at UCAN in Riverdale. (bruce@ucanchicago.org)

Matthew Lee, Northbrook, is a police officer at Wheeling Police Department.

Sarah Lorenz, Naperville, is a sales representative at Ryder Systems Inc.

Kaitlin Schneider Petersen MS, Bettendorf, IA, is the joint munitions command item manager at the Rock Island Arsenal.

Kristal Shaw, Gillespie, is an assistant manager at Bank of America.

Breiane Wenger, Rushville, is an accounting assistant at Two Rivers FS Inc. (breiane.wenger@tworiverfs.com)

Jason Wolski, Shorewood, is a corrections officer at the Illinois Department of Corrections.

2009

Patrick Irwin MS, San Francisco, CA, is a personal trainer at 24 Hour Fitness.

Scott Waldyn, McHenry, is a writer at OnTarget Resumes and also published a novel, “China Town Warrior.” (scwaldyn@gmail.com)

2010

Todd Anderson MS, Burlington, IA, is a PE teacher for the Macomb School District.

John Ballard, Middletown, TX, is the fire chief for the City of Cedar Hill. (john.ballard@cedarhills.tx.gov)

William Ford MS, DeSoto, is an associate director of media services at Southern Illinois University Carbondale Athletics. (hordr@siue.edu)

Kristin Leighly, Arlington, VA, is the coordinator of government affairs at the National Association of Health Underwriters. (kristinleighly@gmail.com)

Marriages and Civil Unions

Tabitha Cooper ’09 and Marshall Jozwick, April 16, 2011.

Kathleen Copelin ’82 and David Angelo, Nov. 21, 2010.


Melanie Newcomer ’07 and Anthony Ewalt ’08, May 21, 2011.

Katina Petas ’95 and Andrew Jacobsen, May 28, 2011.

Angela Schuette ’03 and James Thomas, Aug. 21, 2010.

Sarah Swain ’05 and Stephen Worthington ’05 MS ’09, Oct. 9, 2010.

Births and Adoptions

Lindsay Bragg Adamzak ’05 and Mat, a son, Wesley Mathew, Feb. 1, 2011.


Tara Reagor Dahl ’04 and David Dahl ’05, a son, Levi Jackson, Nov. 4, 2010.

Emily Farrar-Gillet ’06 and Mike Gillet ’09, a daughter, Ellie, Mar. 4, 2011.

Tabitha Cooper ’09 and Marshall Jozwick, April 16, 2011.


Tara Reagor Dahl ’04 and David Dahl ’05, a son, Levi Jackson, Nov. 4, 2010.

Emily Farrar-Gillet ’06 and Mike Gillet ’09, a daughter, Ellie, Mar. 4, 2011.
Send Us Your News

Full Name ___________________________ Maiden Name ___________________________ Grad. Year ______________________

City ___________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Is this a new address?  Yes  No

Prefer Home Business Cell

Home Phone ________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________

Prefer Home Business E-mail

Do you want 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 ___________________________

Employer Mailing Address ___________________________

City ___________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Business Phone _______________________

Prefer Home Business Cell

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

Include Information in Western News? Yes  No

Additional Information for Western News:

Send Us Your Feedback

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

Please accept the enclosed gift to assist with printing and postage of the Western News.

Send updates and feedback to: Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb IL 61455-1390, fax (309) 298-2914, or online at wiu.edu/alumni.

*NOTE: Information will be included in Western’s online directory and in the online Western News.

Deaths

Gerald K. Borders, Bushnell, Jan. 29, 2011.


Charles H. "Chick" Flack, Macomb, Apr. 6, 2011.


Amelia C. Jones, Birmingham, AL, Jan. 18, 2011.


1953 Joseph "Joe" Daniels Jr., St. Louis, MO, Apr. 11, 2011.


1966 Dominick J. LeFante, Macomb, Mar. 6, 2011.


1969 Nellie J. Williams Weaver, West Bend, WI, Mar. 25, 2011.

UPCOMING WIU ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

June 20
Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Golf Outing
TPC Deere Run 3100 Heather Knoll, Silvis, IL
Registration: 11 a.m., Shotgun Start: Noon, Social: 5 p.m.,
Dinner: 6 p.m.
Four Person Scramble
• Golf, social & dinner — $70/person
• Social & dinner ONLY — $15/person
• Hole Sponsorship — $500

June 29
Denver Alumni & Friends Event – Colorado Rockies vs.
Chicago White Sox Social & Baseball Game
Wynkoop Brewing Company 1634 18th St., Denver, CO
Social: 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Colorado Rockies vs. Chicago White Sox
Coors Field 20th and Blake Streets, Denver, CO
Game: 6:40 p.m.
• Social & Upper seats (L17) — $33/person
• Social & Lower seats (116) — $48/person
• Social only — $20/person

July 2
Watch the Chicago Cubs vs. the Chicago White Sox Baseball Game
The Cubby Bear (Wrigley Room)
956 W. Addison St., Chicago, IL
Social: 2:30 p.m., Game: 3:10 p.m.,
Social, appetizers & four-hour drink package — $40

July 10
WIU at the John Deere Classic

July 20
Quincy Alumni & Friends Event – Quincy Gems vs. Terre Haute Rex Picnic & Baseball Game
QU Stadium 18th & Spearemore, Quincy, IL
Picnic: 5:30 p.m., Game: 6:30 p.m.
• Social, food, game ticket & cash bar — $12 (adult)
• Social, food & game ticket — $6 (child, 9 & under)

July 23
Chicago Alumni & Friends Event – Chicago Rush vs.
Milwaukee Mustangs Social & Football Game
Allstate Arena 6200 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL
Social: 6 p.m., Game: 7 p.m.
• Social, food, game ticket & cash bar — $35
• Social, food & cash bar only — $15
Guests will also have the opportunity to meet former Leatherneck and current Rush stars Russ Michna and Reggie Gray after the game!

July 30
Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Event – QC Bix

August 5-7
Black Alumni Reunion Weekend
Friday
Museum Yacht Club 5900 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL
Social: 7 p.m.-3 a.m.,
Social, appetizers & cash bar — $10
Saturday
Calumet Park 95th & Lake Michigan, Chicago, IL
Social: 8 a.m.-dusk
Bring your own food — FREE
Sunday
TBA

August 29
San Francisco Alumni & Friends Event – San Francisco Giants vs. Chicago Cubs Social & Baseball Game
AT&T Park Club King (left field)
24 Willie Mays Plaza, San Francisco, CA
Social: 5:15 p.m., Game: 7:15
Social, delicious food, club level ticket in Section 233 & cash bar — $60

September 1
WIU vs. Sam Houston State Pregame Social & Football Game
Bowers Stadium 620 Bowers Blvd., Huntsville, TX
Pregame social: 4 p.m.; Game: 6 p.m.
• Social and game ticket — $27/person
• Social only — $12/person

September 17
WIU vs. University of Missouri Pregame Social & Football Game

September 23
WIU Alumni & Friends Social in conjunction with the Al Sears Jazz Festival
Shak’s Bar & Bistro
2 W. Side Square, Macomb, IL

September 25
Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Event – QC Marathon

October 30
St. Louis Alumni & Friends Event – St. Louis Rams vs. New Orleans Saints Pregame Social & Football Game
Pregame Social: Missouri Athletic Club Parking Lot
405 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO
Social: 10 a.m., Game: Noon
• Social, food, cocktails & game ticket — $40
• Social, food & cocktails only — FREE
Pregame hosted by John ’74 and Kathie Sanders ’74

November 5
WIU vs. Illinois State Pregame Social & Football Game
Hancock Stadium (East Lot)
N. Main St. & W. Locust St., Bloomington, IL
Pregame Social: 10 a.m., Game: 1 p.m.
• Social, food & game ticket — $26
• Social & food ONLY — $10

SAVE THE DATE!
An informal get-together of WIU Alumni and Friends from the 70’s!
July 16, 2011 2:00 p.m. - ????
Champ Sports Bar & Grille, 2301 Fountain Square, Lombard, IL
SPREAD THE WORD!
For more info contact Sigma Kappas:
Jodi Rood Bounis (bournis04@yahoo.com)
or Linda “Cookie” Middleton (forlindam@yahoo.com)

From Mudra to Rodriguez: The Reunion!
Be sure to join us
Sept. 30-Oct. 1
during Homecoming
More details to come!

For more information contact
Sean McDonough at (309) 288-2602

1978 Kathy J. Sloan Davenport, Killeen, TX, May 1, 2008.
1991 Alex P. Clampitt III MS-ED, Dallas City, Apr. 5, 2011.
2008 Rodolfo Mercado, Uvalde, TX, Feb. 27, 2011.

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:

Card #: ___________________________
Three digit security code: __________ Exp. date: __________
Name on card: __________________
Signature: __________________

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