Martinelli-Fernandez named CAS dean

Susan Martinelli-Fernandez, College of Arts and Sciences interim dean, has been named the college's dean following a national search, effective July 1, according to Provost and Academic Vice President Jack Thomas.

Martinelli-Fernandez has served as interim CAS dean since July 2009. She is also serving concurrently as associate dean, a position she has held since 2005. She is also a professor of philosophy, and has served as a faculty member in the philosophy and religious studies department since 1993.

Martinelli-Fernandez served as the interim associate director of Western’s Centennial Honors College (2004-2005). Prior to joining Western’s faculty, she was an adjunct faculty member at the College of St. Francis (now University of St. Francis) (1988-1989) and at Mundelein College (now Loyola University) (1988). She earned her doctorate and master’s degrees from the University of Chicago and her bachelor’s degree from Mundelein College.

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Presidential search firm open meetings

Open forums with David Mead-Fox of Korn/Ferry International, the presidential-search consulting firm contracted by Western Illinois University, will be held for all constituency groups on the WIU-Macomb and Quad Cities campuses April 26-28.

The open sessions will be held on the following dates and times in the University Union Lincoln Room:

- Monday, April 26, 4-5 p.m. for faculty; 5-6 p.m. for students; Tuesday, April 27, 11 a.m.-noon for administrative and civil service employees.
- Monday, April 26, 10 a.m.-noon for staff.
- Tuesday, April 27, 5-6 p.m. for students; Wednesday, April 28, 11 a.m.-noon for students.

For more information on the presidential search, including the list of search committee members, visit wiu.edu/presidentialsearch.

FY’11 budget update

Dear Campus Community:

As you may be aware, Western Illinois University’s University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) WIU Chapter Executive Committee has reached a tentative agreement with the University. The contract is now being reviewed by UPI membership for a vote later this month. As part of the tentative contract, UPI has agreed to forgo a 3.5 percent pay raise for FY’11 due to the difficult budget situation forecast for the next fiscal year.

I greatly appreciate the UPI leadership’s commitment to working through a new five-year contract and for recognizing the dire budget situation. Following a ratification vote, the contract will be forwarded to the WIU Board of Trustees for consideration at the June 4 meeting.

At the same time, I regret that the current economic situation and the budget situation necessitates that I inform the rest of the campus community that we will be unable to provide across-the-board pay increases in FY’11. While it is unfortunate we cannot provide an increase, this measure is a far more preferable option than furloughs or layoffs. The savings to the University total approximately $2.8 million. Please know that in the past years, all of our University employees have been fortunate to receive pay increases and that my hope is that the economy will turn around as soon as possible so that we can implement pay increases once again.

However, to limit the effect on those employees who are retiring in FY’11, the University will provide a 3.5 percent salary increase to those non-negotiated individuals who sign an irrevocable retirement agreement. While SURS will not include such an increase for non-negotiated employees when computing their final rate of earnings (FRE) prior to retirement, such funds could help employees either add funds to self-funded retirement accounts or be used to purchase previous years’ credits. Employees in positions covered by collective bargaining agreements shall follow the specific terms of their respective contracts.

I appreciate your cooperation and understanding during these incredibly challenging economic times, and I am thankful for your commitment to Western Illinois University.

Sincerely,

Al Goldfarb
President

IBHE approves University Union upgrades

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) on April 6 approved Western Illinois University’s capital project request to renovate the University Union entryway and to install an elevator for public access to the Union Heritage Room.

Western’s Board of Trustees approved the project at its March 26 meeting at a cost not to exceed $750,000.

The Union’s south entryway steps have been deemed unsafe by a structural engineer, requiring the renovation to address the safety concerns and to maintain building accessibility.

In addition, an elevator will be installed to provide students, faculty, staff and visitors access to the Heritage Room on the second floor to meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. At this time, the second floor of the University Union is accessible only by stairs or a freight elevator. The projects are expected to begin in June.

The University will use Auxiliary Facility System (AFS) repair and replacement reserve funds to finance the project.
Nominate outstanding advisers by May 1

Nominations are being accepted for the annual Outstanding Academic Adviser Award. The recipient will receive a $250 cash award from the Office of the Provost and $250 in line item expenditures and a plaque from the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR). The winner’s application packet will be submitted as Western’s entry to the National Academic Advisers Association (NACADA) competition. Selection will be made by the Outstanding Academic Adviser Award Committee: the director of the CITR (chair), the previous year’s recipient, and representatives from the Faculty Senate, the Council of Academic Advisers, and the Student Government Association. Every college is encouraged to submit a candidate for the award.

Eligibility: Full- or part-time faculty members or academic support personnel responsible for the academic advising of undergraduate students and assigned a caseload of academic advisees. The period of service covered by the award is Fall Semester 2009 through Spring Semester 2010. It is expected that nominees will be employed at WIU during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Criteria: Nominations will be accepted from students, peers, supervisors, or through self-nomination.

The nominating letter should document excellence in two or more of the following categories:
- Service to students as an adviser
- Student perceptions of adviser’s abilities based on evaluations
- Size, composition, and effective management of caseload with emphasis on qualitative management
- Knowledge of advising principles and University rules and regulations
- Meeting student needs beyond the expectations of the position

Procedure: Nominations should be submitted to the CITR, 637 Malpass Library, by May 1. Each letter should describe the nominator’s perception of the adviser’s effectiveness. The nomination must be accompanied by a minimum of two and a maximum of five letters of support secured by the nominator. Letters of support from students are particularly encouraged. If the nominator is not the department chair or supervisor of the nominee, the nominator should ask the chair or supervisor to submit in writing his/her perceptions of the adviser’s effectiveness.

New UR blog: ‘Beyond the Bell Tower’

Why was a WIU alumna recently mentioned in USA Today? How did a recent agriculture graduate become CEO of a company in another country that grows a crop he’d never seen before leaving the U.S.?

Find the answers and the stories behind them—and suggest other great stories—by checking out the new blog developed by University Relations, “Beyond the Bell Tower,” at wiurelations.wordpress.com.

Alison McGaughey, public information specialist, developed the concept for the blog as a venue for the department to deliver news and information to its constituents, but in a way that might cover topics not traditionally included in news releases or the University’s other primary sources of information. With this in mind, content will be centered around one strict criterion, according to McGaughey: that it be “interesting.”

To submit ideas for the blog, contact McGaughey at AR-Mcgaughen@wiu.edu, or leave comments on individual posts at wiurelations.wordpress.com.

CAS, continued from p.1

She has served as the chair and co-organizer of CLASS (Celebrating Liberal Arts and Sciences), a College of Arts and Sciences awareness committee. Under her leadership the group organized, and she moderated, the first panel discussion of the Dialogue series in which University and community leaders are brought together to discuss democracy and education. With Martin Dupuis, then interim director of the Honors College, she co-designed Western’s First Year Experience (FYE) initiative pilot program in the Honors College.

“Dr. Martinelli-Fernandez brings outstanding academic credentials, experience and administrative leadership to the position,” Thomas said. “I’d like to thank the search committee for their diligence, and I look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Martinelli-Fernandez and college faculty and staff.”

“It is an honor and a privilege to serve as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences,” Martinelli-Fernandez said. “I look forward to continue working with all members of the WIU community, especially with the college’s talented chairs, faculty and staff who are committed to providing a quality liberal arts and sciences education to our students.”

Grants & Contracts

Richard Chamberlain and Crystal Hack, CAIT—$7,000 in supplemental funding from the Illinois Community College Board for “Career and Academic Readiness System (CARS) FY10.”

Dawn Hughes, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center (CIAESC)—$25,000 from the Illinois Community College Board for “Transition and Pathway Development Training.”


Kim Sikes and Paul Sweet, CAIT—$31,790 from the American Supply Association for “ASA 3D Animation Online Training” and $18,115 from the American Supply Association for “ASA Online Training Courses.”
**Employee Wellness offerings**

**Total Cholesterol Screening**
- 7:30 a.m.-8:15 a.m. Wednesday, April 21, Sherman Auditorium, 3rd Floor
  - Provided by the Department of Kinesiology.
  - Finger-stick blood work measures cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides and glucose levels.
  - A 12-hour fast is required. (No food or beverage; water is okay.)
  - Employee cost is $25; make checks payable to Kinesiology Public Services.
  - Free blood pressure screenings also available.

**Sun Damage Screening**
- 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 21, Sherman Auditorium, 3rd Floor
  - Provided by MDH Outreach Services.
  - Free of charge.

**Western Walks-a-Thon**
- 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, May 4
  - Teams of 10.
  - All employees are welcome to attend (including student employees).
  - Register at the Campus Recreation Office in the Spencer Student Recreation Center or at the Human Resources Office in Sherman Hall 105 by Friday, April 30.
  - Prizes given away each hour!

**Go Western! sessions: dressing for success**

**Go Dress for Success!**
Join Susan Creasey, assistant professor in WIU’s dietetics, fashion merchandising and hospitality department, for a session that will help you look and feel your best every day.

---“Color Matters?”; noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, University Union Sandburg Lounge

Attendees will get valuable tips about dressing appropriately for the workplace, as well as about the role of color in the workplace wardrobe.

Register online at wiu.edu/hr/training or contact Sharon Chenoweth in human resources at (309) 298-1971 or S-Chenoweth@wiu.edu.

**COEHS Week to feature**

Western Illinois University’s College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) will celebrate the college, its departments, faculty, staff and students during COEHShowcase: COEHS Week 2010 Monday-Friday April 19-23, on the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses.

A schedule of events is listed below and online at wiu.edu/coehs/showcase.

**Monday, April 19**
- **11 a.m.** -- “Making Schools Safe: A Multidisciplinary Discussion,” Horrabin Hall 1 (Macomb) / QC 106
- **5-6 p.m.** -- COEHS Graduate Research Symposium, Horrabin Hall 1 (Macomb)

More information is available at wiu.edu/coehs/symposium.html.

**Tuesday, April 20**
- **9 a.m.-noon** -- “Apple’s Innovations in Education,” Horrabin Hall 1 (Macomb)

**Wednesday, April 21**
- **11 a.m.-1 p.m.** -- Tech Fest 2010, Horrabin Hall Gym
  - “Technology Theatre: Tech Fest 2010” Join exhibitors for featured tabletop exhibits of innovative technology applications developed and used by WIU faculty, staff, and students, area-wide businesses, public school districts and community members.See wiu.edu/coehs/TechFest/index.html for more information.
- **1 p.m.** (following TechFest)
  - Winners of the COEHS student-organization video contest will be announced, and an Apple iPad prize drawing will follow the keynote address. Information about the student-video competition is available at wiu.edu/coehs/video.html.

**Thursday, April 22**
- **10 a.m.** -- “I Never Intended to Work with Old People! Lessons Learned from a Panel of Professionals,” Horrabin Hall 1

**Friday, April 23**
- **All Day** -- Distinguished Alumnus Day Recipient Michael Shonrock is VP for student affairs and enrollment management and associate professor in the College of Education at Texas Tech University.
- **2 p.m.** -- Campus Presentation by Distinguished Alumnus Michael Shonrock, Horrabin Hall 82 (Macomb)/WIU QC B16. Faculty members are encouraged to bring their students to learn more about Shonrock’s work with Gallup’s Strength Finder and the new Clifton Institute. He will encourage students to recognize and use their strengths to engage in life, both personally and professionally. This presentation is open free to the public; WIU-QC campus participants will be able to engage in the panel discussion via synchronous video conferencing in the WIU-QC building, room B16.

For more information, contact Dana Moon, director of marketing and community relations, at (309) 298-1690 or DM-Moon@wiu.edu.

**Rocky Bikes program**

Western’s Rocky Sustains program’s “Rocky Bikes” initiative allows students, faculty and staff to check out one of nine bicycles for 48 hours. To register, visit wiu.edu/rockybikes.

The program is available at no cost to WIU students and employees.

Bikes are kept at the rack directly northwest of the University Union. After registering to use a bicycle, individuals are provided with a “word code” to unlock the bike.

For more information or to report a problem, call (309) 298-1834, ext. 247.

**Next International Film Series movie**

The next installment the Spring 2010 International Film Series (IFS), held at the Rialto Cinemas and sponsored by Western’s College of Fine Arts and Communication, is “The Maid.” For show more details, times and costs, visit www.earlann.net or call (309) 833-2626.

April 21 and 22 – “The Maid” – A drama centered on a maid trying to hold onto her position after having served a family for 23 years. Directed by Sebastián Silva. (Not Rated, 95 min., Spanish with English subtitles)
Retirement reception for Schwartz May 7

A retirement reception for Lorraine Schwartz, associate professor of art, will be held from 3-5 p.m. Friday, May 7 at the University Art Gallery. Schwartz, who has taught art history from early Christian to 20th century, research in art history and the history of architecture, retires with 29 years of service to Western. She started at Western in 1981, and taught undergraduate and graduate classes throughout her tenure.

Schwartz earned her bachelor’s degree at Indiana University (1966) and her master’s degree at the University of California at Berkeley (1968), where she was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow. Both degrees were in English literature. She then lived for a year in Italy and changed her field to art history, earning her Ph.D. from Indiana University (1980). Schwartz conducted four years of research in Florence, Rome, and Perugia, participated in an archeological excavation within Troyes Cathedral, and completed the Corso Superiore for Teachers of Italian Literature and Culture at the Università per Stranieri at Perugia. In 1999, she co-directed a summer program in history and art history in Rome. She served on numerous University and departmental committees and received several prestigious named grants—including the Carnegie and Kress foundations—as well as a Illinois Humanities Council grant, a WIU Research Council grant and a Summer Stipend.

Memorial walk for Phillips Scholarship

The Department of Kinesiology will host the first Donna Phillips Memorial 5K Fun Run/Walk in honor of longtime faculty member and department chairperson, the late Donna Phillips, from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, April 17 at WIU’s Hanson Field. Cost is $20. Cash or checks made out to the Department of Kinesiology will be accepted. Walk-up registration will be available from 8-8:30 a.m. All money raised will be donated toward the Donna S. Phillips Scholarship Endowment and to the department’s student organizations.

For more information, contact Renee Polubinsky, athletic training education program director and adviser, at (309) 298-2050 or by e-mail at RL-Polubinsky@wiu.edu.

Civil Service News

Misty Thompson, an office support associate in the Office of Admissions, has been named the April Civil Service Employee of the Month.

According to her nominators, Thompson “takes her job very seriously as she completes her assigned duties with accuracy and pride.”

“Misty can usually find that proverbial ‘needle in the haystack,’ which sometimes can elude even the savviest workers. Her positive and helpful attitude is always a relief, especially in hectic or stressful situations,” her nominators added. “Her tireless efforts in accurately and efficiently completing tasks with a positive attitude reflect the goals of our entire office.”

Thompson began working as an extra-help clerk in Admissions in 2005. In 2006 she was hired as a secretary III trainee in Admissions, and became a status employee in 2008. Per a title change from the State University Civil Service System, Thompson was then reclassified to her current position.

Civil Service Employees Council Elections

The annual election of the council will soon be underway. This is your chance to have a voice in civil service matters.

The council meets once a month and discusses matters that affect civil service employees at Western Illinois University. Representatives serve as the voice of their employee group, of which there are six:

- Group I: Administrative and Professional Group
- Group II: Clerical
- Group III: Service and Technical
- Group IV: Union and Prevailing Wage
- Group V: Secretarial
- Group VI: Quad Cities campus

There are 16 voting members on the council, three from each group, one for the QC campus, and three non-voting members ex-officio: vice president for administrative services, director of human resources, and Employees Advisory Council (EAC) representative. The council is also involved in several fundraising events, which support the CSEC Dependent Scholarships.

All civil service employees who have completed the six-month probationary period are eligible. To become a candidate, visit wiu.edu/csec and click on “Public Files,” and “Other Documents,” and print a Statement of Candidacy. Complete the form, include a short statement if desired, and the required supervisor’s signature. Send statements of candidacy to Misty Thompson, Civil Service Employees Council (CSEC) public relations representative, at (309) 298-1971 or e-mail TA-Herrington@wiu.edu.

Civil Service Dependents’ Scholarship

Do you have a child or dependent attending WIU? He or she can apply for one of the Civil Service Employees Council’s $1,000 scholarships. The deadline for submission is 3 p.m. Friday, April 23.

For more details, visit wiu.edu/hr/handbook/php#scholarship. Download the application at wiu.edu/hr/forms.php#civilserviceforms.
Debra Allwardt, social work, presented “In Search of the Long-Term Nursing Aide’ at the National Council on Aging/American Society on Aging conference in Chicago.

Lee Brice, history, has been awarded a three-month residential Margo Tytus Fellowship by the University of Cincinnati for the Fall 2010 semester.

Tom Cody, educational and interdisciplinary studies (EIS), conducted an educational workshop on hazing for the WIU All Greek Educational and also conducted a résumé workshop for the Sports Management Club.

Tracy Davis, EIS/college student personnel (CSP), served as an external reviewer for the University of Northern Iowa’s post-secondary education program. Also presented “Masculinities in Higher Education: Theoretical and Practical Considerations Author Panel” at the American College Personnel Association in Boston, MA. He also co-hosted an alumni reception at the conference and served on the ACPA Directorate of the Commission on Professional Preparation.

Pamela Godt, curriculum and instruction (C&I), gave two presentations at the Illinois Reading Council’s State Reading Conference in Springfield: “Books for Struggling Readers Grades 5-12” (as a co-presenter) and “Ways for Reading Specialists and Administrators to Play a Special Role in Recognizing and Responding to Signs of Stress and Burnout in Both Teachers and their Students.” Godt also ran the open meeting of the College Instructors of Reading Professionals (CIRP) organization and served as moderator for the CIRP session “ISBE Update on Reading Education Issues--Future Trends in Reading Education in Illinois” at the conference.


Casey LaFrance, political science, presented “Collaboration Between Appalachian Regional Studies Centers: Challenges and Suggestions” at the 33rd Annual Appalachian Studies Conference March 19-21 in Dahlonega, GA.

Bruce Harris, instructional design and technology (IDT), presented the CITR workshop “Increasing Student-to-Content Interactivity in Online Courses.”

Barclay Key, history, presented “The Bible and Birdaths: Student Activism at Christian Colleges in the South” at the National Conference on “Student Activism, Southern Style” hosted by the University of South Carolina March 19-21. He recently completed his Fulbright Lectureship in Poland.


Susan Massey, C&I, presented “Benefits of Integrating Leveled Information Text in Primary Content Areas” at the Illinois Reading Council in Springfield (IL).


Jennifer McNabb, history (and faculty adviser to Alpha Sigma Tau), received WIU’s award for Greek Adviser of the Year at the Greek Week awards banquet.

Gayle Mericle, (LEJA), received the Honoring Our Professors of Excellence (H.O.P.E.) award sponsored by WIU Housing and Dining Services Academic Initiatives Committee.


Renee Polubinsky, kinesiology, received a H.O.P.E. (Honoring Our Professors of Excellence) award sponsored by WIU Housing and Dining Services Academic Initiatives Committee.

Jack Rozdilsky and Mark Kelley, health sciences, represented the WIU Emergency Management program at the Flood Fighting Training sponsored and conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Rock Island Arsenal.

Timothy Roberts, history, has been selected to receive the Joan Nordell Fellowship, one of eight visiting fellowships awarded by Harvard College’s Houghton Library for the 2010-2011 academic year. Roberts also authored the article “Learning about Civil War, Separatism, and Nation Building through Teaching in the Turkish Republic,” which was published in the Journal of American History in March. He was also selected as a participant in the 2010 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Seminar on “The American Civil War at 150: New Approaches.”


Rachel Smith, recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA), participated in a panel discussion on issues related to the social progress of individuals with disabilities during Disability Awareness Week at WIU.

Erin Taylor, political science, and Lora Ebert Wallace, sociology anthropology, presented “Feminist Breastfeeding Advocacy and the Problem of Guilt” at the 5th Symposium on Breastfeeding and Feminism, March 19-21 in Greensboro, NC.

Faculty members presenting poster sessions at the Fourth Annual CITR Teaching Forum included: Diane Hamilton-Hancock, health sciences, and Leandra Hemphill, IDT, “Teaching Students to Develop Health-Related Social Networking Sites to Accommodate the Diverse Needs of Online Users;” Bruce Harris, IDT, and Reinhard Lindner, EIS, “Instructional Strategies to Help Your Students Be Better Self-Regulated Learners;” Barry McCravy, LEJA, “Producing and Using Digital Audio/Video in Education;” and Tim Piper, kinesiology—“Service Learning Integration into Kinesiology 300, Fitness for Older Adults and Special Populations.” Panelists included Cathy McMillan, kinesiology, and Rob Porter, RPTA.