Call for online course proposals

The School of Extended Studies announces the call for proposals for FY11 Western Online Course Development Process. This process utilizes the best resources that WIU has to offer in a collaborative effort with the School of Extended Studies, the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR) and the Center for the Application of Information Technologies (CAIT). Documents necessary to complete the process can be found at wiu.edu/distancelearning.

For more information, contact Richard Carter, director School of Extended Studies, at (309) 298-1929 or R-Carter@wiu.edu.

WIU ‘Knowledgebase’ answers tech FAQs

University Technology (uTech) has launched Western’s Knowledgebase, a new web-based service that is available to the WIU community at wiu.edu/kb.

According to Joe Rives, vice president of the Quad Cities, planning and technology, Western’s Knowledgebase boasts an impressive bank of more than 20,000 possible solutions. The Knowledgebase features a Google-style search engine that can be used to find answers to questions about Microsoft Office, WebCT (WesternOnline), Windows, Mac OS X, mobile devices and much more.

While the majority of content is technical in nature, the system has the capacity to grow as more technical and non-technical knowledge is added, Rives explained. Once users log in with their ecom user name and password, they can customize their experience and have access to all of the features of the system.

“Western’s Knowledgebase was added in response to student surveys on how to improve user support at WIU,” Rives added. “We think it will prove itself to be a great asset to our students, faculty and staff by centralizing the right answers to the most commonly asked questions in one easily accessible location.”

BOT tables budget issue; approves repairs

At its March 26 meeting, the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees tabled a borrowing/credit line resolution until the Illinois State Legislature finalizes legislation allowing universities to borrow money to pay salaries and other expenses should the cash flow situation require such borrowing. A special BOT meeting will be held at a later date to further discuss and move on the proposed resolution following the passage of the final borrowing bill.

In other business, the Board approved the architectural and design planning process for the renovation of the University Union entryway and for the installation of a public elevator for access to the Union Heritage Room (at a cost not to exceed $750,000 - capital project). In addition, the Board approved the low bid of $892,900 for Affiliated Engineers of Madison, WI to begin the planning process (phase 1) of the heating plant and steam line repair project on the WIU-Macomb campus.

In January, the Illinois Board of Higher Education approved a $12 million capital project request from the University to replace steam lines and update Western’s heating plant on the Macomb campus, as well as reimbursement for the installation of sprinkler systems in the residence halls. In 2009, Western’s Board of Trustees approved selling certificates of participation to complete the renovation of the heating plant ($5 million); replacement of steam lines serving four academic buildings and six residence halls, as well as constructing tunnels to replace original direct buried steam lines ($5 million); and reimbursement for the installation of sprinkler systems in student housing ($1.5 million).

According to Jackie Thompson, vice president for administrative services, the renovation of the heating plant is necessary to ensure continued operational reliability and to improve the efficiency of the sole heating source for the WIU-Macomb campus. The project includes

WIU-QC Riverfront campus groundbreaking

History was made March 31 as the official groundbreaking for the WIU-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus took place at Building One along River Drive in Moline.

Local businesses, industries, organizations and higher education have banded together over the past few years to lobby for the new campus, and have been met with support from the State of Illinois to expand educational opportunities for the Quad Cities region.

“This unique regional coalition is a role model for the rest of the state. We have come together with a shared, common goal and through persistence and cooperation, the WIU-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus has become a reality. Partnerships are the key to moving this state forward, and I am most appreciative of our many Quad Cities partners,” noted WIU President Al Goldfarb.

“Today’s groundbreaking is a victory not only for our partners—University officials, lawmakers, community advocates, teachers and parents—who worked tirelessly for many years to make this project happen,” said Gov. Pat Quinn. “It is also a victory for the 1,400 students who attend WIU-Quad Cities today and the more than 3,000 students who will be able to attend this fine campus when this project is completed.”

While Western Illinois University has been a presence in the Quad Cities since 1913, in the past six years the WIU-Quad Cities campus has further intensified its mission to better meet the needs of students and the region.

“We are the only public university in the Quad Cities, and our faculty provide exceptional educational opportunities to our students,” Goldfarb added. “Throughout the years, Western has provided the residents of this region with a quality, affordable and accessible education. We are committed to continuing to provide an outstanding educational experience to the Quad Cities.”

See “Groundbreaking,” p.2
Olson Conference Center to close May 1

To prepare for its “extreme makeover,” the Olson Hall Conference Center will close May 1.

According to John Biernbaum, assistant vice president for student services-residence life, due to current capacities in the additional eight residence halls on the Macomb campus, special events that are typically held in Olson Hall will be discontinued during the construction. Lodging for such events as Homecoming, Family Weekend, Mom’s Weekend, Dad’s Weekend and other programs held during the academic year will be reconsidered once construction is complete. In addition, housing during Thanksgiving, winter holiday and spring breaks will also be discontinued.

The Olson Hall closure will not affect summer camps and conferences lodging, which will be available in other residence halls, Biernbaum added.

As part of the University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) Master Plan, Corbin and Olson halls, two of the Macomb campus’s longest-standing residence halls, will be completely rehabbed and renovated beginning October 2010.

Pella to be featured at Environmental Summit

Numerous community and campus organizations will feature environmental and sustainability-related topics as part of the Seventh Annual WIU Environmental Summit, “Protecting the Planet While Creating a Green Economy,” from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 7 in the University Union Grand Ballroom.

According to Mindy Pfeiffer, program coordinator of Western’s Horn Field Campus and summit chair, the summit, which is open free to the public, promotes environmentally sustainable values, lifestyles and educational activities. The annual summit ties in with the 2009-2010 Universitywide theme “Dollars and Sense: Personal Finance to World Poverty.”

The event features keynote speaker Ron Sherga, a WIU biology and geology graduate who has been a leader in plastic recycling for 30 years, who will present the keynote address (noon, Grand Ballroom; 7 p.m., Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA); presentations; displays; and a panel discussion (2 p.m., Grand Ballroom) featuring Sherga; WIU Management Professor and Co-chair of WIU’s Sustainability Committee Gordon Rands; Assistant Director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Tim Collins; and Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration Assistant Professor Rob Porter.

Building One, the former John Deere Tech Center, will support the College of Business and Technology, including the School of Engineering that is currently housed in The Caxton Building; academic and student services; and University administration. Building Two will allow for the continued growth of the Quad Cities campus and enable academic programs in the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Human Services and Fine Arts and Communication to be part of the Riverfront Campus.

“The Riverfront Campus expansion allows WIU-QC to further its mission as a comprehensive public university for the region. We are excited that we will serve more than 3,000 Quad Cities-area students when our new campus opens,” said Joe Rives, vice president of the Quad Cities, planning and technology. “We look forward to completing the renovations of Building One and beginning operations on the Riverfront Campus, as well as the release of planning funds for Building Two.”

In 2009, Gov. Quinn announced further funding as part of the Illinois Jobs Now! capital plan. Bids for the renovation of Building One were announced after the first of the year, followed by bond sales at the end of the first quarter. The bid process is currently underway, and will be announced later this spring. Construction is anticipated to begin May 1.

To view architect’s renderings of the proposed WIU-QC Riverfront Campus renovation, visit wiu.edu/qc/community/campus.php and wiu.edu/users/caitwp/planning/plan/riverfront/index.html.

Author reception

April 14

University Libraries will host its Annual Author Recognition Reception at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 14 in the Leslie F. Malpass Library Garden Lounge.

For more information, contact Jeanne Stierman at JD-Stierman@wiu.edu or (309) 298-2785, ext. 4.
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.
-Provided MDH Outreach Services.
-Free of charge.

Sun Damage Screening
-9 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 21, Sherman Auditorium, 3rd Floor
-Provided Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.
-Free of charge.

Hearing Screening
-9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 21, Sherman Auditorium, 3rd Floor.
-Provided by Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.
-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 every 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 two sessions that will help you look and feel your best every day.
-“What Not to Wear: Dressing for the Workplace,” noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, April 6, University Union Sandburg Lounge.
-“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.

Two performances Saturday, April 3

‘25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee’
The “25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,” a one-act musical comedy directed by WIU Theatre Professor Ray Gabica, will have a 3 p.m. matinee and a 7:30 p.m. performance Saturday, April 3 in the Horrabin Hall Theatre.
A fictional spelling bee is set in a geographically ambiguous Putnam Valley Middle School. Six quirky adolescents compete in the spelling bee, run by three equally quirky adults.
Unusual aspects of the show include audience participation, with audience members who will participate in the spelling bee, alongside the characters; and the official pronouncer will provide a ridiculous usage of the words in a sentence. Audience members interested in possibly participating should arrive 15 minutes early and stop at the “Volunteer Spellers” table in the lobby to interview for a part.
The 2005 Broadway production was nominated for six Tony Awards, winning two, including Best Book. The show is meant for a mature audience since there are sexual references and profanity.
For tickets and more information, contact the theatre and dance department at (309) 298-1543, or e-mail theatre@wiu.edu.

Bike program offers alternative commute

Leave your car in “Q”—or at home—and choose a mode of transportation that’s not only environmentally friendly, but also provides a daily dose of exercise.
As of March 26, Western’s Rocky Sustains program is introducing the “Rocky Bikes” initiative, which allows students, faculty and staff to check out one of nine bicycles for 48 hours. To register, visit wiu.edu/rockybikes.
According to Mandi Green, WIU’s sustainability coordinator, the program is available at no cost to WIU students and employees.
“Reducing your carbon footprint has never been so easy. Simply reserve, ride and return within 48 hours … all at no cost,” Green said. “This is just another way to help conserve our environment and allow individuals to get some exercise, and perhaps gain a new perspective.”
Bikes will be kept at the rack directly northwest of the University Union. After registering to use a bicycle, individuals will be provided with a “word code” to unlock the bike.
For more information or to report a problem, contact Green at (309) 298-1834, ext. 247.

Tech Fest April 21

The College of Education and Human Services (COEHS) will present the 11th Annual Tech Fest from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Wednesday, April 21 in the Horrabin Hall gymnasium. This year’s theme is “Technology Theatre,” and popcorn will be served to celebrate the theme.
Sponsored by COEHS and Citizens Bank, Tech Fest 2010 will feature tabletop displays of technology applications produced, created or managed by Western faculty, staff, students and/or area school and business members.
For more information, visit wiu.edu/coehs/TechFest.

Next International Film Series movie

Wednesday, April 7 and Thursday, April 8 – “The White Ribbon” – Strange events happen in a small village in the North of Germany during the years just before World War I, which seems to be ritual punishment. The abused and suppressed children of the villagers seem to be at the heart of this mystery. (R, 144 min., in black and white). Rialto Cinemas, 1405 E. Jackson Street.
For more information, visit earlann.net or call (309) 833-2626.
Professional activities

Terri Hare and Mary Lawson, financial aid, co-presented the session “Needs Analysis Changes” at Illinois Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators’ annual conference on March 26 in Springfield, IL.

Debra Rigney-Hays and Dawn Hughes, Central Illinois Adult Education Service Center, (CIAESC) presented two workshops, “O. Henry: An Early 20th Century Writer Relevant to the 21st Century Classroom” and “Teaching Literature with Short Stories” at the United States Conference on Adult Basic Education and Literacy in Chicago.

Rebecca Metternich, (CIAESC), presented “Go Green! What’s It All About?”

Fields commended for act of integrity

Parking Agent Robert Fields, who works in the Office of Public Safety (OPS), received a letter of appreciation from OPS Director Robert Fitzgerald for his “honesty and integrity.”

While working March 16, Fields found a large amount of money lying on a city street. He turned the money in to OPS so it could be handled according to state statutes.

“Agent Fields’ honesty speaks highly of OPS employees and is greatly appreciated by this office,” Fitzgerald said.

Eating disorders to be discussed April 6

Join Andrea Willis, R.D., M.S., from Western’s dietetics, fashion merchandising and hospitality (DFMH) department, for “Understanding the Causes of an Eating Disorder,” 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 6 in Stipes Hall 121.

Willis will discuss the different types of eating disorders and criteria for each; warning signs and symptoms, as well as health consequences of the different types of eating disorders; and how to help someone with an eating disorder. There will also be a short discussion of the multidisciplinary team that comprises the WIU Eating Concerns Coalition.

Willis’ presentation is sponsored by the Employee Wellness Committee and the WIU Eating Concerns Coalition. For more information, contact Willis at (309) 298-1085 or AR-Willis@wiu.edu.

Civil Service News

Name Change

Wilder, Jennifer N., clerk, Kinesiology, 3/2/10. (Former name: Graves, Jennifer.)

Civil Service Employees Council Elections

The annual election of the council will soon be underway. This is your chance to have a voice on 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 discusses matters that affect civil service employees.

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.

Civil Service Dependents’ Scholarship

Download the application at wiu.edu/hr/forms/php#civilserviceforms.

Spring Luncheon

The annual Civil Service Spring Luncheon is just around the corner. Watch for more details soon.

Position announcements

The Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research (CITR) has openings for two positions. Internal searches will be conducted for both positions; start date for both positions is July 1.

- **Faculty associate: pedagogy**
  - Required: Doctorate or terminal degree, and current full-time faculty member at WIU. Preferred: Tenured faculty member with a history of effective teaching and a background in pedagogy, diversity, faculty development and/or adult education. For more information see wiu.edu/employment/emp.sphp?id=855.

- **Faculty Associate: research**
  - **Required**: Doctorate or terminal degree and current full-time faculty member at WIU. Preferred: Tenured faculty member with a history of academic research and a background in research methods, analysis, software, and/or grant writing. For more information, see wiu.edu/employment/emp.sphp?id=854.

AA/EO employer. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, or veteran status.

Underage drinking talk set for April 7

Western’s Alcohol and Other Drugs Resource Center (AODRC), a unit of Beu Health Center, is sponsoring the presentation “Underage Drinking, Combating the Resign-ist Attitude,” at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 7 in the University Union Heritage Room. For more information, contact Vivian Coeur at (309) 298-2457 or V-Coeur@wiu.edu.
Nominate outstanding advisers

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 and
- 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.

Roche announces retirement

Associate Athletics Director Dwaine Roche, a longtime WIU Athletics administrator, announced his retirement effective June 30. Roche has helped Leatherneck Athletics reach unprecedented growth in donations and scholarship dollars raised.

For nearly 25 years, Roche’s responsibilities included development, marketing, promotions and tickets for Leatherneck Athletics. He directs all Leatherneck Club (formerly Western Athletic Club) functions and fundraising activities, and has been heavily involved in fundraising for facility improvements over the past several years. Some of the major projects Roche worked on include: the student-athlete academic advising center, the football locker room, the track renovation and installation of lights at Hanson Field, creation of the Hall of Fame room inside Western Hall, an office complex for the men’s and women’s basketball coaching staff, and the resurfacing of the tennis courts.

Early in Roche’s tenure he helped oversee the merging of the men’s and women’s programs fundraising efforts to form the then-Western Athletic Club. One of the major events Roche started was the Purple and Gold auction. Entering its 21st year, Roche said the event began with a simple setting and now it has grown into one of the biggest fundraising and social events of the year.

Not only is Roche one of the most well known members of the Western Illinois University community, his voice at athletic events is unmistakable. Not only did Roche serve as the public address announcer at Western Illinois basketball games for nearly 20 years, but also, the 2009 football campaign marked his 39th year as the PA announcer at Hanson Field. Roche also coordinates the Western Wheels courtesy car program, working closely with automobile dealers throughout the region. He is also a member of the University’s Development Council. In 1994 he was named assistant athletics director for development and promotions, and was promoted to his current position in 1998.

“I came to Western as a 17-year-old kid in 1965. To be given the opportunity to work for almost 25 years at my alma mater has been a thrill. Through the years I have been fortunate to not only know but become friends with many of the ‘legends of Western,’ and with many colleagues in the profession around the country as well,” Roche said.

Upcoming spring activities at HFC

Wellness Weekend
8 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, April 10 and 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, April 11
This retreat will include guided meditation, yoga, labyrinth walks and educational sessions covering such topics as “Edible and Medicinal Plants.” Cost is $25, which will cover meals and optional accommodations.

Open High Ropes
1-4 p.m. Sunday, April 11
1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 17
Cost is $10 per person; see wiu.edu/rpta/HFC/HFC_Challenge_Course.html for more information.

Open Climbing Tower
1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 24, May 1 and May 8. Cost is $5 per person; see wiu.edu/rpta/HFC/HFC_Climbing_Tower.html for more information.

For more information, contact HFC at (309) 833-5798 or HF-Campus@wiu.edu. Visit HFC online at wiu.edu/RPTA/HFC.

2010 Census: It Counts

University Libraries’ Government Information and Data Services Librarian Linda Zellmer is encouraging people to fill out their 2010 Census forms.

“By now WIU students, faculty and staff, as well as local community members, should have received their 2010 Census Questionnaire,” said Zellmer. “Faculty and staff at University Libraries would like to encourage everyone to complete and return the form as soon as possible. The Census is a survey of all people, both citizens and non-citizens. People who live in an area more than 50 percent of the year should list the area in which they reside during that 50-percent time period,” she explained.

For an introduction to the 2010 Census Questionnaire, Zellmer created a PowerPoint file that can be accessed and downloaded at faculty.wiu.edu/LR-Zellmer/CensusIntro.pptx. In addition, the U.S. Census Bureau has a website for the 2010 Census at http://2010.census.gov/2010census.