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Western News



Alumni News and Notes from Western Illinois University

WIU alumna honored as National History Teacher of the Year

A Western Illinois University alumna was recently recognized as the National History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (New York, NY). **Mary (Petrus) Huffman '01, MS-Ed '08**, who earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the WIU Department of Curriculum and Instruction in 2001 and 2008, respectively, will receive \$10,000 for the honor and award at a ceremony in New York in October. Robin Roberts, one of the co-hosts of "Good Morning America," presented Huffman with the award, and the recorded award presentation was aired on the Oct. 20 "Good Morning America" program.

Huffman teaches fifth grade at Charles Pinckney Elementary in Mount Pleasant (SC). According to the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History website, "Huffman uses hands-on lessons to help her students

'become active American citizens who make positive changes in the future.'" Examples of the lessons include having her students create care packages, write letters to U.S. troops and participate in veteran's week celebrations by inviting soldiers into the classroom. She also designed an interactive unit that includes a WWII draft simulation. In addition, each week, Huffman dresses up in clothing from the era being studied, which enables her students to see and interact with historic artifacts.

"It is essential the past is not forgotten, and teachers hold the tools to pry open old hope chests to uncover dusty photo albums from the past," Huffman noted.

Huffman credits WIU Department of Curriculum and Instruction Interim Chair **Sara Simonson MS-Ed '87** as her role model for excellence in teaching.

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2015 Fall Alumni Achievement

Four Western Illinois University alumni have been selected to receive the WIU Alumni Achievement Award at the Saturday, Dec. 19 Commencement exercises.

This year's Alumni Achievement Award recipients are **George O. Baughman '60, '67**, former educator at Lewistown High School; **Steven L. Nelson '70**, attorney and shareholder with Califf and Harper, Moline, IL; **John C. Passananti '75**, founder and senior managing partner of Business Strategies Group of Illinois at AXA Advisors (Oak Brook, IL); and **Michael J. Thomas MS '86**, former director of athletics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Baughman will be recognized at the 9:30 a.m. ceremony, while Nelson, Passananti and Thomas will be recognized at the 1 p.m. ceremony.

Western's Alumni Achievement Award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions in one or more of the following: exceptional accomplishment in one's chosen field of endeavor; exceptional service in community affairs at the local, state or national levels; or exceptional service in support of the advancement and continued excellence of WIU.

Continued on p. 21



THE HEADLINES: WESTERN ILLINOIS 69, NO. 17 WISCONSIN 67

No. 17 Wisconsin falls in opener to Western Illinois in shocking fashion

Wisconsin stunned by Western Illinois in season-opener, 69-67

College basketball scores: Upsets reign supreme on opening night

Western Illinois upsets No. 17 Wisconsin in college basketball opener

SummitHoops @summitHoops · 14h
Tonight's @WIUMensHoops win at Wisconsin marked only the 5th road win by #SummitMBB over a nationally-ranked team & 1st against a B1G foe.

Badgers suffer stunning loss in opener

Western Illinois shocks No. 17 Wisconsin 69-67 in opener

Seth Davis @SethDavisHoops · 14h
Wisconsin just lost at home to Western Illinois. College basketball, we missed you so.

Western Illinois upsets Wisconsin in opener, 69-67

WESTERN ILLINOIS GRABS HISTORIC VICTORY AT NO. 17 WISCONSIN

NCAA March Madness @marchmadness · 2h
UPSET!

Western Illinois knocks off No. 17 Wisconsin in Madison, 69-67.



Men's basketball: No. 17 Badgers shocked by Fighting Leathernecks on opening night

A late comeback wasn't enough as Wisconsin falls to Western Illinois 69-67

SportsCenter @SportsCenter · 2h
Western Illinois upsets No. 17 Wisconsin, 69-67.



Badgers stunned in season-opening loss to Western Illinois

Bleacher Report @BleacherReport · 2h
UPSET ALERT: Western Illinois beats #17 Wisconsin 69-67! College basketball is BACK.



Western Illinois upsets No. 17 Wisconsin 69-67 in season opener

Continued on p. 12

2015-16 UPCOMING ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

January

31 Gulf Shores (AL)

February

- 1 Tallahassee (FL)
- 2 Orlando (FL)
- 3 Tampa (FL)
- 3 Chicago suburb
- 4 Bradenton (FL)
- 4 Ft. Myers (FL)
- 5 Naples (FL)
- 6 Ft. Lauderdale (FL)
- 10 Denver
- 11 Denver
- 13 Peoria (AZ)
- 14 Tucson (AZ)
- 17 Phoenix (AZ)
- 28 Chicago

March

- 2 Quad Cities
- 14 Indianapolis (IN)
- 19 Rockford
- 24 Boston (MA)

See pg. 2 for entire calendar and pg. 32 for details.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Happy Holidays from your Western Illinois University Alumni Association! We've had an exciting year at your alma mater. You'll read in this issue of the Western News about our Leathernecks Men's basketball team beating #17 Wisconsin to start

our season, and our football team made it to round two of the playoffs. Our alumni continue to do amazing things—one of our own was named National History Teacher of the year. We have much to be proud of this year.

As a result of the Illinois General Assembly not yet passing a Fiscal Year 2016 appropriated budget for higher education, Western Illinois University faces unprecedented economic challenges. Our tradition of providing a quality educational experience will not change. Our mission of quality education, access and affordability will continue well into the future. We continue to review all cost-saving measures, and to consider ideas and initiatives to move our University forward.

We look forward to a wonderful 2016 and hope to see you next year!

-Amy Spelman MS '98

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See "Send Us Your News" (page 31).

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WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

WIU ALUMNI & FRIENDS EVENTS

JANUARY 2016

31 Gulf Shores (AL) Alumni & Friends Social

FEBRUARY 2016

1 Tallahassee (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

2 Orlando (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

3 Tampa (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

3 Chicago Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Orland Park

4 Bradenton (FL) Alumni & Friends Luncheon

4 Ft. Myers (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

5 Naples (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

6 Ft. Lauderdale (FL) Alumni & Friends Social

10 WIU at University of Denver Pregame Social & Women's Basketball Game

11 WIU at University of Denver Pregame Social & Men's Basketball Game

13 Peoria (AZ) Alumni & Friends Social

14 Tucson (AZ) Alumni & Friends Social

17 Phoenix (AZ) Alumni & Friends Social

28 Blackhawks vs. Capitals Pregame Social and Hockey Game

MARCH 2016

2 Quad Cities Western Wednesdays After-Hours in Bettendorf-area

14 Indianapolis (IN) Alumni & Friends Social

19 Chicago Wolves at Rockford Icehogs Pregame Social & Hockey Game

24 Boston (MA) Alumni & Friends Social

APRIL 2016

6 Chicago Western Wednesdays After-Hours downtown

8 San Diego (CA) Alumni & Friends Social

9 Los Angeles (CA) Alumni & Friends Social

10 San Francisco (CA) Alumni & Friends Social

23 Rocky Run 5k in conjunction with Purple & Gold Day

24 Purple & Gold Day in Macomb

24 Purple & Gold Day in Naperville (IL)

MAY 2016

5 Milwaukee Alumni & Friends Social

11 Minneapolis Alumni & Friends Social

13-15 Graduation and Distinguished Alumni Awards

JUNE 2016

1 Chicago Western Wednesdays After-Hours in suburb

8 Peoria Alumni & Friends Event – Social & Book of Mormons performance at Peoria Civic Center

11 Atlanta Braves v. Chicago Cubs Pregame Social and Baseball Game in Atlanta

13 The Western Open Golf Outing at Village Links in Glen Ellyn (IL)

14 Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals Pregame Social and Baseball Game

18 Pittsburgh Pirates at Chicago Cubs Pregame Social and Baseball Game

20 Quad Cities Golf Outing at TPC Deere Run in Silvis (IL)

JULY 2016

12 New York Alumni & Friends Social

AUGUST 2016

3 Chicago Western Wednesdays After-Hours downtown

10 Portland (OR) Alumni & Friends Social

11 Seattle (WA) Alumni & Friends Social

SEPTEMBER 2016

24 WIU at NIU Pregame Social and Football Game

OCTOBER 2016

5 Chicago Western Wednesdays After-Hours in suburb

7-8 Homecoming & Reunion

From the President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we finish another fall semester at Western Illinois University, I want to thank our alumni and friends for their ongoing support of this great University. Your continued dedication makes our many successes possible.

We have celebrated so much during Fall 2015. Western continues to be ranked by the U.S. News & World Report as a "Best Midwestern University" and by The Princeton Review as a "Best Midwestern College." We have also once again been designated a "Military Friendly School" by GI Jobs Magazine and as a "Best for Vets College" by Military Times EDGE Magazine. A new honor this year of which I am most proud is from The Economist, a weekly international newspaper owned by the Economist Group. In its recent inaugural college rankings, The Economist ranked WIU third out of 11 public schools in Illinois that were ranked, and ninth of 50 Illinois schools for the economic value the institution provides. WIU does better than three out of four schools in the country (public and private) at increasing the earning potential of graduates.

In addition to these honors, our students continue to earn national attention for their achievements. Junior Devin Biggs won second place in "The Weather Challenge," a national weather forecasting competition at the University of Oklahoma, and Western's Zeta Beta chapter of Beta Alpha Psi accountancy honorary placed third overall, and the chapter was announced as a KPMG Gold Challenge winner at the Beta Alpha Psi Annual Meeting. Senior forensic chemistry major Hannah Drake has been named the University's recipient of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois' Student Laureate Award for 2015. Western also was one of 19 companies and organizations that received the 2015 Governor's Sustainability Award, the nation's longest-running state award for excellence in environmental performance. Leslie Borries was named as a National Collegiate Agriculture Ambassador by the National FFA Organization, and broadcasting students Mario Calero and Andrew Bacon received Student Television Awards by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Mid-America chapter. These honors are just a small sample of the wonderful things our students accomplish at Western Illinois University.

These accomplishments continue in spite of the ongoing fiscal crisis our institution and higher education faces due to the state budget impasse. Western's success stories have been shared, and we have worked tirelessly to stress the importance of funding higher education. This semester, our students traveled to Springfield to urge our lawmakers to pass a fair and balanced budget for higher education, and I have made the trip to our state capitol numerous times to testify before House and Senate committees and meet with legislators to discuss the impact of the budget impasse on public higher education institutions.

As I shared with our University community last month, changes at Western Illinois University are inevitable due to the state's ongoing fiscal challenges, which certainly affect public higher education. But what will not change at WIU is our tradition of providing a quality educational experience. Western Illinois University will be open for Spring 2016 and beyond, and our students will receive the support they need to continue their education. We will remain a strong institution of higher learning. We will remain the University you know and love.

Linda and I wish each of you a wonderful holiday season. Thank you again for your continued support of Western Illinois University.

All my best,

Jack Thomas



Business and Technology

Students gain valuable lessons from internships

By Alisha Looney MA '13
Three Western Illinois University students recently shared their internship experiences. The students received a taste of the real world and what life after college might look like when they were offered different opportunities to serve internships during Summer 2015.

Tabetha Dungan, a junior accounting major from Brimfield (IL), worked for John Deere, headquartered in Moline (IL), in the Davenport Works Construction and Forestry division's accounting department. Dungan was offered the internship after attending the "Meet the Firms" event at WIU, which was hosted by Beta Alpha Psi.

"When I went to 'Meet the Firms,' I really went in blind," said Dungan. "I wanted to get my foot in the door, but at the time, I still wasn't sure if I wanted to get my CPA or not, or if I wanted my master's. I just thought I would go and talk to everyone and hand out my resumes. I had no idea John Deere would be contacting me for an internship."

Dungan participated in a 13-week internship where she was able to apply a lot of basic concepts she learned in her introduction accounting courses, as well as the course required before completing an internship.

"My favorite project was an asset audit," Dungan said. "It was a \$45 million audit of machinery. To me, that was huge that they [John Deere] let an intern do something like that. They really put a lot of responsibility on their interns and treat them as if they were a full-time employee and part of their team."

"I am from the Peoria area, and I originally planned to move back to that area after I graduated," she added. "But after working for Deere, I realized what a great company they are to work for. They allow you to travel and move around. My fiance and I talked and decided



Tabetha Dungan

if I could get a position with them, it would be a really good experience for us."

Dungan has already been offered a second internship with Deere for Summer 2016.

"Whether or not I end up with Deere, the experience really showed me that private accounting is my preference in the field," she said. And the internship really motivated me to finish school and get out in the working world."

Ian Wincentsen had a similarly positive experience. The junior construction management major, from Elmhurst (IL), agreed with Dungan that a big advantage of the internship is that it reinforced his career and major choice.

Wincentsen didn't start off as sure about his major when he first came to Western. He completed three years as a law enforcement and justice administration major before decided to change his major.

"It was amazing how fast the days went by when I was working on something I truly enjoyed," Wincentsen said.

After attending the WIU spring career fair, he was offered a summer internship in the Chicago division of D.R. Horton. Wincentsen said he went into the internship with knowledge and experience from courses at Western, which helped him succeed.

"My construction management courses gave me a big advantage in the workplace," said Wincentsen. "I was able to identify processes and materials being used in the homebuilding field, read blueprints and know the difference between nominal and exact dimensions."

Along with adding to his coursework knowledge, Wincentsen also learned about things you can't necessarily learn in the classroom.

"My biggest take-away from this experience was the first-hand management experience I was able to gain," he said. "My supervisor was intent on having me learn



Ian Wincentsen

as many duties of a project manager as I could. I learned a lot about customer service, as well, because of how frequently I had to take care of customers and any issues they were having.

"This internship gave me a glimpse into work responsibilities, opportunities and the amount of time I will need to dedicate to the profession in order to be successful," Wincentsen added. "But my favorite thing was probably being flown to the corporate headquarters in Fort Worth (TX), and eating dinner with D.R. Horton himself."

Senior agriculture major **Lauren Henebry**, of Buffalo (IL), found her internship opportunity through the agriculture career fair in Fall 2014. Henebry worked as an intern for Consolidated Grain and Barge (CGB) during Summer 2015, which led to a full-time job offer. She accepted and will begin after her May 2016 graduation.

Henebry said her experiences at Western helped her prepare for the internship.

"I learned a crash course in commodity futures markets, the different types of contracts offered, information about CGB as a company and Japan and the importance of relationships in merchandising," Henebry said.

"Traveling to the corporate office in Mandeville (LA), and touring the Zen-Noh grain facility in Convent (LA), were the favorite parts of the internship," she added. "It was neat to see where the barges that we send down the Mississippi are unloaded and where they load the international ocean vessels."

Each College of Business and Technology (CBT) department has an internship coordinator. For more information about the CBT, visit wiu.edu/cbt or call (309) 298-2442.



Lauren Henebry

Alumni Spotlight

By Alisha Looney MA '13

Alumnus **Jan Junker MBA '06** is putting his WIU business degree to good use as the co-founder and chief commercial officer of Ubimax GmbH, a German-based company that focuses on developing wearable computing solutions.

After finishing his MBA at Western, Junker joined management consultancy firm Arthur D. Little and served for several years as an IT (information technology) strategy consultant. He met his fellow Ubimax co-founders there while they were all three working in the same department. They had all researched wearable computing during their time in school, so as they began to learn about new developments like the Google Glass device, they discussed creating their own company revolving around the new computer paradigm.

In 2011, Ubimax was created. The company, based in Bremen, Germany, currently has 30 employees and is growing quickly, according to Junker.

Alumnus puts MBA to good use to create his own company

"We are actually about to set up our first U.S. representation in Atlanta (GA) at the end of this year," Junker said. "With more than 30 customers, such as DHL, Volkswagen, Samsung, BMW and Daimler, we are the clear European market leader in the wearable computing space."

Junker's responsibilities include developing and implementing a business strategy to drive sales, marketing and partnerships.

"My two co-founders studied informatics," explained Junker. "So my role became to take care of the 'business' stuff. That's where my WIU MBA helped me a lot. At WIU, I had to write a lot of papers and never could imagine how that was important for my work after school. But when you're building your own business, good writing skills are actually one of the most important things to have. You will, for example, never win an important pitch if your proposals do not have a clear structure and message."

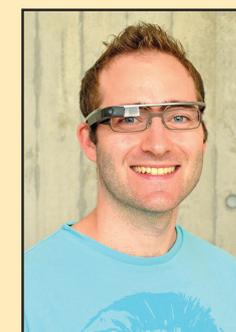
"I can't say that any content of a specific class

helped me get to where I am, but I can say that I learned how to find clear answers to almost any question, something that helped me to create my own company."

Junker is making a full circle back to Western now. He said when he was in school, he traveled to John Deere (Moline, IL) to interview managers for one of his classes. Now, he is hoping to return and sell his company's wearable computing solutions to the same managers.

"If we get the go-ahead, I plan to come back to Macomb to visit friends," Junker said. "I think I will skip the mud volleyball and soccer this time though."

Junker doesn't have a lot of spare time, but when he does get some, he spends it with his wife and new daughter.



Jan Junker MBA '06

Business and Technology

IBHE approves new graduate program in Applied Statistics and Decision Analytics

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approved a new Master of Science in Applied Statistics and Decision Analytics at Western Illinois University, beginning Spring 2016.

The new degree program is a 36-semester hour curriculum designed to provide students with a firm foundation of statistical analysis and modeling commonly used in many fields, including education, science, technology, health care, government, business and social science research. Students in this program will be trained on industry-standard software packages and gain modern analytical skills.

According to **Tej Kaul**, chair of the WIU Department of Economics and Decision Sciences, the degree is intended for graduates from undergraduate programs in quantitative and biological sciences, mathematics, sociology, psychology, business, computer sciences, physics, engineering and education, as well as working professionals who desire to sharpen their data-analysis and analytical statistical methods.

"The program seeks to combine the course work of statistical decision making and analytic tools to meet the demand for skilled workers in the U.S. and Illinois job markets. With three Fortune 100 companies in the region—John Deere, Caterpillar and State Farm—the degree program should address strong regional needs and/or a shortage of graduates in the fields of applied statistics and decision analytics.

"It directly supports WIU's strong commitments to teaching and instruction," he added.

The WIU Department of Economics and Decision Sciences also offers a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Business Analytics and a Master of Arts in Economics.

For more information, or to apply, visit wiu.edu/grad or call (877) WIUGrad.

ADM announces donation to WIU Supply Chain Management Program

The Western Illinois University College of Business and Technology (CBT) accepted a significant donation to the Supply Chain Management (SCM) Program from Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), one of the world's largest agricultural processing companies.

Kim Ekena '80, vice president of the American River Transportation Company (ARTCO), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ADM, presented a \$90,000 check to the SCM Program to advance recruiting efforts for veterans, community college and high school students and for an SCM Case Competition, which helps students demonstrate their classroom knowledge in real-world business situations.

"The contribution from ADM enables the Supply Chain Management Program to engage current and prospective students in significant and meaningful ways," Department of Management and Marketing Chair **Craig Conrad '89 MBA '91** said. "The Department of Management and Marketing is grateful for the ongoing support for the Supply Chain Management Program and appreciative of the trust this valued industry partner has extended to our faculty and students."

"With one of the most far-reaching transportation networks in the world, managing supply chain logistics is a critical role at ADM. We are very fortunate to have one of the top supply chain programs right here in our backyard in Illinois so that we can recruit the best of the best," Ekena said. "We appreciate the industry experience, enthusiasm and passion WIU's faculty members bring to the classroom, and we look forward to enhancing our recruiting efforts even further as WIU's Supply Chain Management Program continues to grow."

The donation was given during a presentation as part of Supply Chain Management Day (Sept. 16), an event hosted

at WIU that features a career fair for students and employers, a student/employer dinner and a keynote address by MHI (Manufactured Housing Institute) Vice President of Education and Workforce Development Daniel Stanton.

On hand were two WIU alumni and current ADM employees, **Andrew Van Thyne**, who graduated in 2011 with a bachelor's in supply chain management, and **Chelsea Wilson**, who graduated in 2014 with a bachelor's in supply chain management, as well as WIU students who have completed an internship with ADM: **Zac Waterman**, senior (Taylorville, IL); **Haley Calvert**, senior (Sciota, IL); and **Abby Wilson**, senior (Rock Island, IL). Waterman and Calvert recently accepted full-time positions with ADM, as well, while Wilson has been offered a second internship at the MBA level.

Previous ADM funding has helped the CBT strengthen the SCM Program and recruit students through the efforts of the annual SCM Day, electronic resume list and funding for the

SCM Student Association.

WIU's Supply Chain Management Program was established in 2005 and is one of Western's Signature Academic Programs. The program is one of 39 programs nationally that is accredited by the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business).

The donation was given through ADM Cares, the company's social investment program that directs funds to initiatives and organizations that drive meaningful social, economic and environmental progress worldwide. The program is comprised of three distinct focus areas: supporting the responsible development of agriculture, improving the quality of life in ADM communities and fostering employee giving and volunteer activities.



Pictured, from left, are WIU Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathleen Neumann '86 MS '88, WIU Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter '79 MS '83, Vice President of the American River Transportation Company (ARTCO), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ADM, Kim Ekena '80 and WIU Interim Dean of the College of Business and Technology William "Bill" Bailey.

'Ag Day' celebrated WIU football season opener

It was a great day to celebrate two great traditions at Western Illinois University ... agriculture and football! On Sept. 3, the WIU School of Agriculture, Western Illinois Athletics and the McDonough County Farm Bureau sponsored "Ag Day" at the Fighting Leathernecks' home opener. The pre-game event, which ran from 4-6 p.m. in Q-Lot, included such agricultural activities as a "mini" WIU Ag Mech Club Farm Expo (that featured equipment and products from agricultural product vendors from across the western Illinois region), as well as Barnyard Discoveries for Kids, face painting, 4-H activities, pedal tractors and a photo booth. The Mt. Sterling (IL)-based band Madd Hoss Jackson also performed. In addition, the Tri-County Cattlemen and Pork Producers served food on site.

Football game ticket-sale proceeds totalling \$1,000 and purchased through the School of Agriculture were disbursed among 12 agriculture student organizations.

Next year's event will be held Saturday, Sept. 10.



Business and Technology

CBT Professional Development Series 2015

Western Illinois University College of Business and Technology (CBT) students had a unique opportunity

to participate in a wide variety of sessions designed to prepare them for the job search and a career in business. The 2015 WIU CBT Professional Development Series was held Sept. 11-25.

The series offered more than 20 sessions that focused on networking, personal branding, professional dress, résumé building, interviewing, nonverbal communication, legal issues in social media, using LinkedIn, personal finance, social responsibility, dining etiquette and health.

Series highlights include a networking social where community business leaders and University administrators gathered to give students the chance to practice the art of networking.

"I had the opportunity to visit with many different students that evening, and I complimented them all for attending and making this event a priority," said a Macomb community business leader. "I thought the students who took

the time to come and put themselves in a position to network with professionals demonstrated the understanding of how

important this type of exercise can be, and particularly, how they can benefit from something like this."

In addition to the networking social, employers and alumni shared their expertise as part of panel discussions allowing students to get answers to their job search and career questions. One of the less than 40 nationally certified résumé writers in the nation helped students improve their résumés. Presenters from Illinois, Iowa and Arkansas took part in delivering the sessions.

Employers and CBT alumni who are interested in participating in the 2016 CBT Professional Development Series are encouraged to email [Becky Mahr '83 MS-Ed '84](mailto:Becky.Mahr@wiu.edu), the event coordinator, at cbtpds@wiu.edu or call (309) 298-2442. Ideas for professional development session topics are always welcome.

The 2015 Professional Development Series was made possible with funding from John Deere North America Recruiting and Staffing.



College of Business and Technology students interacted with alumni to get answers to their most intriguing career questions during an "Alumni Panel." Panel members l-r: Emily Doubet, client insights analyst, IRI (Marketing, 2003); Caleb Markey, assurance associate, McGladrey (Finance/Accountancy, 2013); and Ketra Russell, Residential Facilities assistant director, WIU Housing/Dining Services (MBA, 2011)

2015 Ferguson Lecture

Tyler Gage, co-founder and co-CEO of Runa, delivered the annual Robert and Mary Ferguson lecture at WIU in October. The lecture, "Profit and Sustainability: It's All About People," was sponsored by the WIU College of Business and Technology (CBT) and coordinated with the WIU 2015-16 theme, "Environment: A Foundation for Social Responsibility."

Gage, who has been recognized as a Forbes "30 Under 30 Entrepreneur," was featured in Richard Branson's book, "Screw Business as Usual," in "Fast Company," National Geographic and Men's Health. He recently received the Citizen of the Year Award from the International Specialty Food Association. He spent the last 10 years working with indigenous communities in the Amazon to develop rainforest conservation programs and economic development.

He helped found Runa, a social enterprise that produces clean energy beverages and uses its supply chain to improve the livelihoods of thousands of indigenous farming families in the Amazon. Runa, which is on the "Inc. Magazine" 500 Fastest Growing Companies in America in 2015 list, supports more than 3,000 farming families in Ecuador and sells products in thousands of stores in the U.S.

Runa is now one of the fastest growing brands in the U.S. and purchased over 1 million pounds of fresh guayusa leaves produced by more than 3,000 farming families in 2015.

The Robert and Mary Ferguson lecture was started 25 years ago by the generosity of the late **Robert (Bob) '43 MS '48** and his wife, Mary. Robert received his bachelor's degree from Western and later served as a professor and the business education chair for 20 years. He was instrumental in guiding the WIU Department of Business Education through numerous changes, including the 1966 establishment of the WIU College of Business.

The lecture series is based on Robert's belief that all college students should benefit from the depth and breadth of experience, especially by seeing and hearing from key business leaders who have been successful.

College of Business and Technology Celebrating 50 years of SUCCESS!

1966



2016

SAVE THE DATE! September 2016 will mark fifty years since the School of Business officially opened its doors in 1966.

Business and Technology

WIU Farm Manager, Livestock Judging Coach Bruce Engnell passes away

Retired Western Illinois University Farm Manager and Livestock Judging Coach **Bruce Engnell** passed away in Peoria, IL Nov. 2 at age 72. Funeral services were held in Macomb in early November.

Before his retirement from Western in 2011, Engnell's 44-year career impacted thousands of the University's agriculture students. He was hired by WIU in May 1967, to manage Western's swine evaluation station, which was part of Western's Agriculture Field Laboratory.

Engnell later became manager of the entire University Farm operation, including WIU's highly-regarded Bull Evaluation Station and Bull Test Sale. He also served as the coach of Western's successful Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Team for many years, with students and the team winning numerous regional, state and national competitions under his direction.

Engnell served as an official swine judge at the National Swine Conference, as official swine judge at junior and open swine shows at state fairs across the nation, as the chair of the official swine judges at the National Barrow Show

and as the official swine judge at the international swine competition in Brazil.

Engnell, who received his bachelor's degree from Iowa State University, also served as an official swine, beef and sheep judge at numerous 4H and FFA exhibitions in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri. At Western, he also instructed livestock evaluation classes and was advisor to the University's Hoof and Horn Club.

After retirement, Engnell assisted the West Prairie High School FFA Chapter and its livestock judging program.

He is survived by his wife, Victoria, two sons, **Tim '87** and **Ty '92**, four grandchildren, and two brothers.

Memorials can be made to the Bruce A. Engnell Ag Scholarship at Western, in care of the WIU Foundation, 301 Sherman Hall, Macomb, IL 61455-1390, or online at wiu.com/giving. Donations should be designated to the "Bruce A. Engnell Ag Scholarship."

For additional obituary information, visit dodsworthfh.com.



Bruce Engnell and a WIU student are pictured at the bull barn, where the bulls are kept for the School of Ag's annual bull test.

Faculty members receive 2015 Teaching Innovation Award

Two Western Illinois University faculty members, Management and Marketing Assistant Professor **Honey Zimmerman '02 MBA '04** and Professor **Mike Tracey**, were recently awarded the 2015 Teaching Innovation Award after their paper, "Developing an Industry-Friendly SCM Program: A Two-Phase Approach," won for the best paper at the 2015 Council of Supply Chain Management Professional's (CSCMP) Educator Conference.

WIU Management and Marketing Professor **Bart Jennings** also attended the conference, where Zimmerman and Tracey presented in the Teaching and Innovation Track.

"The paper demonstrates how the WIU SCM [Supply Chain Management] Program uses a structured approach to gather and utilize input from practitioners to refine its program to produce the most desirable graduates possible," explained Zimmerman. "The first phase of the process included surveying professionals from companies that regularly recruit WIU SCM students about the desired skills qualified candidates should possess, then matching those skills to the required courses to ensure adequate coverage. The second phase then surveyed those same

professionals about the desired electives students wishing to work in a particular SCM career track—i.e. purchasing, transportation, distribution, etc.—should take."

As a result of this information, a tool was created to help advise the students which electives best fit their career aspirations, according to Zimmerman.

"This innovative tool has proven helpful to the SCM students, advising and SCM faculty," she added. "Additionally, recruiting companies were not only willing to be involved, but seemed pleasantly surprised to be given the chance to contribute to the curriculum and program development."

According to the CSCMP website, the educator's conference provides academics and students a forum to hear the latest in supply chain

management and logistics research. This conference is open to all academics and annual conference attendees and offers informative and interactive sessions, while providing a venue for networking with colleagues from around the globe.

For more information on Western's Supply Chain Management Program, visit wiu.edu/scm or call (309) 298-1535.



Two Western Illinois University faculty members, Management and Marketing Assistant Professor Honey Zimmerman and Professor Mike Tracey, were recently awarded the 2015 Teaching Innovation Award.

Economics chair and office manager work together for 30 years

By *Alisha Looney MA '13*

WIU Department of Economic Chair **Tej Kaul** and Office Manager **Deb McDaniel** are trying to set a new record for number of years working together. After 30 plus

years, Kaul said other than their relationship growing stronger, the main thing that has changed is he no longer has a full head of dark hair.

Kaul came to WIU in 1981, and McDaniel started in 1983. The two began working together when McDaniel was in the secretarial pool based out of human resources and Kaul was a faculty member. Throughout their time together, the department has gone through many name—and other—changes, from the original Department of Quantitative and Informational Sciences to Business Education and Administrative Office Management to the Management Information Resources Department to what is now the Department of Economics and Decision Sciences.

In 1990, Kaul went from a faculty member to department chair, which changed their relationship, as Kaul became McDaniel's supervisor.

"My position has changed a lot over the years," said McDaniel. "A lot of it has been at Tej's urging. He continues to give me more and more responsibilities, and because of that, I have moved up to office manager."

She added that Kaul is great to work with and because of their long relationship; she knows what he expects of her and the office staff.

Kaul added that working together for so long can be good and can be bad.

"You know you can rely on each other, but you can also start to take one another for granted," Kaul said.

Over the years, not only has the department changed names, but it has changed locations, as well. Kaul has a good memory of the reorganizational changes the University and the College of Business and Technology have gone through, including moving from six colleges down to the current four.

"Frankly speaking, those who know Debbie know she can be the center of attention in a department," he said. "When we were in information systems, everyone from the fourth floor of Stipes would stop by to talk to her and catch up. Then we moved, and the same thing happened."

"I have been very fortunate to work with her this long," added Kaul. "She and the phenomenal faculty and staff have kept me here and kept me alive."



Tej Kaul and Deb McDaniel



Fine Arts and Communication



WIU alumna executive director of Mike Ditka's Gridiron Greats

By Jodi Pospeschil MA '15

The classroom experiences Western Illinois University alumna **Shannon (McGrath) Jordan '94** gained in Macomb helped shape the executive director of Gridiron Greats into an effective communicator and helped her overcome her initial fear of public speaking.

Gridiron Greats is a Chicago-based charity formed by former NFL great Jerry Kramer in 2007, after he saw many former NFL players struggling medically and financially, and wanted to help. Former Chicago Bears Coach and NFL Hall of Famer Mike Ditka got involved with the organization and became the board chair in 2008.

Gridiron Greats helps former players and their families who are struggling with medical, financial and emotional issues.

"What most people don't know is the players who paved the way for what the NFL is today did not have the salaries, pensions, medical insurance or other forms of assistance like they do today," said Jordan. "We assist with day-to-day needs, such as food, shelter and medications, and we also have developed a medical program with facilities across the country to assist them."

Other football-related issues the organization faces is players suffering from traumatic brain injuries, concussions, depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health issues. Gridiron Greats provides recommended referrals to facilities and doctors who are experts in these areas.

The most rewarding part of the job, Jordan said, is seeing the positive results in the lives of the players and their families after receiving Gridiron Greats assistance.

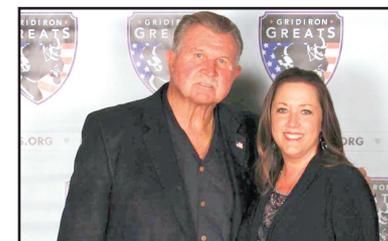
In addition to developing her job skills at WIU, Jordan met her husband, **Bryan Jordan '94**, during their sophomore year at Western.

"We have been together 24 years, and I made some of the best friendships at Western that I cherish to this day," said Jordan. "I learned to really focus and find out who I was and what I wanted to be when I was at Western. I learned if you work hard enough and have the passion you can do anything."

Both Bryan and Shannon were part of WIU's Greek system, Sigma Phi Epsilon and Alpha Sigma Tau, respectively, and have both kept in touch with friends they made during that time.

The Jordans are proud to be graduates of WIU and are grateful for the academic jump the University gave them to begin their careers.

"The classes and professors (at Western) really prepared me for life after college," said Jordan. "My communication and broadcasting classes taught me how important it was to be a great communicator and listener. I have always been social, but I did not like to publicly speak. My classes pushed me to get over that hurdle. I was one of the broadcasters on WIU's cable station for a few semesters and it helped me immensely. In my whole adult career, public speaking has been a big part of what I do so I'm thankful for going through those exercises and classes."



Shannon Jordan '94 pictured with Mike Ditka.

Second set of Rocky on Parade statues placed

By Darcie Shinberger '89 MS '98

When the phrase "gone to the dogs" is used, it's usually not uttered in the most positive fashion. But in Macomb, Illinois, the term is 100 percent positive as the community has embraced a local beloved canine figure and showcases the dog—or rather, dogs—throughout this west-central Illinois community.

When Rocky on Parade public art project, named after Western Illinois University's iconic bulldog mascot, Col. Rock III, aka Rocky, debuted in 2013, WIU Art Professor **Bill Howard**, the brainchild behind the community art project, was "thrilled" to have 14 sponsors step forward to claim a Rocky statue. He would have been happy with 10 this year. Instead, Howard got an additional 23 sponsors—that's 23 new Rocky on Parade statues—and in less than two weeks, something he calls "amazing."

"The community support, the backing, for this project just blows my mind," Howard said.

The total number of dogs, which have been painted by local artists—WIU students, faculty, staff and community members showcasing their talents and creativity—

throughout Macomb and the WIU campus now total 37. The dogs were placed at their permanent homes following Western's Oct. 3 Homecoming weekend celebration. The dogs, which are installed on concrete pedestals, bear the name of the artist and the sponsor on a plaque, and stand guard outside numerous Macomb-area businesses and campus buildings. And in the age of social media, the dogs are often the focal point of selfies, in Facebook posts and throughout Twitter.

For a town of 20,000, half of which is comprised of students part of the year, Howard said it's simply incredible for business owners and residents to commit to making the public art project bigger and better each year. Sponsors pay \$1,500 for life-size dogs or \$3,000 for larger-

than-life statues, with money raised supporting student scholarships in the Department of Art.

"This isn't Chicago, but I think Rocky on Parade is just as big as the Cows on Parade project. We are a small town, and our businesses and organizations are constantly asked to support a project or a program. The fact that 37 sponsors have stepped forward over the past two years to support this project is outstanding and says a lot about how this community feels about this University," added **Billy Clow**, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

Queen Hibbler, a senior art major, of Romeoville (IL), whose dog "Jean-Michel Rocky" will grace Western's Alfred Boyer Baseball Stadium, sponsored by the WIU Parent and Family Association Class of 2011, summed up her experience as

a chosen artist for the 2015 project, "As artists, we are immortalized, so to speak through this project," Hibbler said. "Because of Macomb's size, more people are going to notice our work and enjoy these for many years to come."

WIU junior graphic communication student **Mariah Bartz**, of Macomb, who created "Molecule Rocky" sponsored by the WIU Foundation, echoed Hibbler, adding that the artists have left a legacy.

Hibbler created her dog after her favorite artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, while Bartz created "Molecule Rocky," which features the chemical symbols for love and happiness in the brain. Bartz's mother, stepfather, aunt and uncle are all science educators as well, so the chemical symbols were a "natural choice."

Wesley Village residents will have a super hero—"Super Rocky"—standing watch over them thanks to senior art student **Erin Lundgren's** design.

"I hope that Super Rocky makes the residents and visitors of Wesley Village smile every time they see him," Lundgren, of Galesburg (IL), said.

Howard added that the local artists selected for the 2015 Rocky on Parade project "exceeded all expectations and then some."



The new 23 Rocky on Parade statues were unveiled Sept. 24 during the annual Town and Gown event in downtown Macomb.

"We are so fortunate to have so much talent in our community," Howard said. "This project is at a national level in terms of talent and artistry, but also the support from campus and community members. It's just awesome."

A map showing all of the statues can be found at wiu.edu/vpaps/rocky_on_parade/docs/ROP-map2.pdf.



Local artist Natalie Shelly works on her creation for this year's Rocky on Parade statue.

School of Music director passes away

Western Illinois University School of Music Director **Bart Shanklin**, 64, passed away Sunday, Oct. 25 in Iowa City (IA).

"The Western Illinois University community mourns Dr. Shanklin's death," said President **Jack Thomas**. "We extend our deepest sympathies to his family and friends."

Shanklin had been the director of the WIU School of Music since July 2005. He was named the school's first director upon the renaming of the department to the School of Music.

Prior to coming to WIU, Shanklin taught at Southern Utah University for 15 years and served as music department chair there since 1992. Previously he was a choral director and an assistant professor of music at the University of Arkansas at Monticello and Blue Mountain (MS) College. He also has taught at the high school level and has served as a minister of music.

Shanklin directed Western's comprehensive curriculum with bachelor degree programs in applied music, including instrumental performance, vocal performance, jazz studies and composition; as well as in music education, music therapy and music business and graduate programs.

Memorial donations can be made to the New Hope Cemetery Association, c/o Kenneth Rogers, 117 Walker Road, Dresden, TN 38225.



KARISSA KOUCHIS

**Communication & Journalism
Double Major • Senior • Softball
Student Athlete Advisory President
Society of Professional Journalists
President Academic Honor Roll Scholar**



**I am a #WIUSuccessStory.
I am a Leatherneck!**

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THE DAILY WESTERN

Western Illinois University, serving the state and beyond since 1902



Western Graduates Find Success The Economist Scorecard Ranks WIU Third Among 11 Illinois Public Schools

By University Relations

MACOMB, IL -- The Economist, a weekly international newspaper owned by the Economist Group, has issued its inaugural college rankings based on the U.S. Department of Education "college scorecard," which was unveiled in September. Western has been ranked third out of 11 public schools in Illinois that were ranked, and ninth of 50 Illinois schools. Overall, Western appeared at number 303 on the list of 1,275 schools (top 25 percent). According to The Economist, its rankings are based on a simple premise: the economic value of a university is equal to the gap between how much money its students subsequently earn, and how much they might have made had they studied elsewhere.

WIU Associate Professor of Economics Bill Polley noted from an economist's perspective, the value-added incentive students receive in a degree from Western is greater than that of many of its peers. WIU does better than three out of four schools in the country (public and private) at increasing the earning potential of graduates. When predicting earnings outcomes of alumni based on institutional characteristics, Western alumni outperform the predicted earnings by more than 5 percent [\$41,100 median vs. \$38,923 predicted].



Students in Western's signature academic program, sports broadcasting, get hands-on experience from day one, preparing them for a successful career. Students have outstanding internship opportunities, and the program offers excellent placement for graduates.

"I am pleased that The Economist has rated Western Illinois University third among 11 Illinois public institutions. This speaks to the quality, well-rounded education that our University provides its students," noted WIU President Jack Thomas. "Our students graduate from Western Illinois University as prepared citizens who are ready for the workforce. The skills and knowledge gained at WIU make our graduates sought after, and valuable, employees."

Western's Institute for Research and Planning report that 90 percent of WIU baccalaureate degree recipients are employed or enrolled in further education within one year of graduation.

For more information about Western Illinois University, its programs and successes, visit wiu.edu. Become a part of our proud Leatherneck Family today!

FIND YOUR SUCCESS AT WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

- Western is one of three Illinois public institutions named to the "Best in the Midwest" list by The Princeton Review.
- WIU is one of four Illinois public universities appearing in the top 50 of U.S. News & World Report's "Best Regional Universities" list.
- Western Illinois named a "Military Friendly School" - GI Jobs Magazine.
- WIU is listed as a "Best for Vets College" - Military Times EDGE Magazine.
- Western is named U.S. President's Honor Roll for Service for its community service and social responsibility efforts.



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Arts and Sciences

WIU students learn from Doppler weather truck's Macomb stop

By Jodi Pospeschil MA '15

Students at Western Illinois University had a unique learning opportunity in September as the Doppler on Wheels (DOW) truck visited the University for the second time in three years.

The high-resolution truck-mounted radar gives WIU students the benefit of hands-on experience with high-tech equipment used to predict and track weather patterns.

The DOW is operated by the Center for Severe Weather Research (CSWR) in Colorado. Its WIU visit was made possible by a National Science Foundation Education and Outreach Program grant proposal, which was written and submitted by WIU Associate Professor of Geography

Redina Herman.

"The DOW is normally used for storm chasing and has been featured on the hit TV show 'Storm Chasers' many times," said Herman. "DOW has also been used to study hurricanes as

they come on shore, winds in the Front Range mountains in the western United States, wildfires and dust storms. When the DOW is not being used for a project or storm chasing, it gets sent to universities for students to gain experience using this million-dollar piece of equipment."

Students in Herman's weather instruments course used

the truck and its equipment to analyze and conduct field projects.

"Students, either individually or in groups of two, came up with two project ideas, one for clear air (no precipitation) and one for a precipitation event," said Herman. "The reason they came up with two project ideas is because we cannot guarantee that it will rain enough times to let every student use the DOW during a rain event."

Clear air projects include tracking of power plant smokestack emissions, analysis of wind farm generated turbulence, downstream extent and evolution of wind blown debris during a harvest, analysis of a morning inversion, and looking at variations of humidity/wind before and after a dam on the Mississippi River.

In addition to being used by WIU students, the DOW truck traveled to Galesburg High School, the WIU-Quad Cities campus, Macomb High School and Junior High and Lake Argyle State Park in Colchester for Conservation Day.

The DOW truck was last at WIU in Fall 2013. While the DOW truck was on campus, WIU students senior meteorology major **Nicholas Stewart**, of Chicago, senior meteorology major **Alex Adams**, of Macomb and junior geography major **Jake Thompson**, of Edwardsville (IL) were presented with the opportunity to travel with the team from the CSWR to study Hurricane Joaquin as it approached the east coast earlier this year. The three students were trained to operate the DOW truck and were chosen to help drive a mobile weather truck to the east coast.

Before the students could leave town, the hurricane changed course, making the trip unnecessary.

For more information on the DOW vehicle, visit cswr.org/dow/DOW.htm.



The DOW weather truck was on the WIU campus for several weeks in September to train students on weather instruments.

Schmidt delivers annual Hallwas Lecture

Western Illinois University Foreign Languages and Literatures Chair **Gary Schmidt** delivered the 13th annual John Hallwas Liberal Arts Lecture on the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses Sept. 9-10.

The lecture, titled "The Role of the Liberal Arts in Fostering Empathy: Language, Literature, and Human Understanding," was presented Sept. 9 on the WIU-Quad Cities campus and Sept. 10 in the University Union Grand Ballroom on WIU's Macomb campus.

"As a relative newcomer to WIU, I was particularly honored to have been chosen to deliver this lecture, which is such an important annual event for the College of Arts and Sciences and the entire University," said Schmidt. "Studying the liberal arts as an undergraduate had a positive impact on every aspect of my life; it is the fulfillment of a dream for me to become a public voice for them."

In addition to his department chair responsibilities, Schmidt has been teaching a liberal arts literature class on the Macomb campus during the Fall 2015 semester. He received his bachelor's degree from Knox College, his master's degrees from Northern Illinois University and the University of California, Santa Barbara and his doctoral degree from Washington University in St. Louis (MO).

Schmidt has research and teaching interests in

Contemporary German Literature and Film, Thomas Mann, Austrian Literature, Gender Studies and Queer Theory and Post World-War II Literature.

"In the Hallwas lecture, I focused on how the critical study of languages and literatures empowers students to intellectual self-determination and, along with other core disciplines of the liberal arts and sciences, creates the foundation for our ability to empathize, to place ourselves in the position of others who on the surface appear to be different," Schmidt said.

The annual liberal arts lecture is named for English Professor and Historian John Hallwas, who delivered the inaugural address in 2003. The lecture is managed by the WIU College of Arts and Sciences and serves to promote education in the liberal arts at Western.

For more information about the lecture series, visit <http://bit.ly/1PDKBOT>. For the text of Schmidt's lecture, visit <http://bit.ly/1VWE17d>.



WIU Foreign Languages and Literatures Chair Gary Schmidt

Students honored at national meeting

A graduate student in the Western Illinois University Department of Biological Sciences recently won a national award for research she conducted at the University.

Terry Tobias '91, a biology graduate student, from Augusta (IL), was honored in July for having the best graduate poster at the Mycological Society of America meeting in Edmonton, Canada. At the meeting, Tobias presented "A Study of Glycine Max (soybean) Fungal Communities Under Different Agricultural Practices," funded by the Illinois Soybean Association. The project was done in collaboration with WIU Assistant Professor **Andrea Porras-Alfaro**, WIU Professor **Winthrop Phippen**, WIU Assistant Professor **Joel Gruver** and Sarah Dean from Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), serving as co-authors.

During the same meeting, WIU biology graduate student **Terry Torres-Cruz**, of Costa Rica, received a travel award from the Mycological Society of America. Torres-Cruz was the only student from a primarily undergraduate institution to receive a travel award at this year's meeting. The balance of the award winners were from research universities.

Torres-Cruz presented "Heavy Metal Tolerant Fungi in Surface Soils of a Temperate Pine Forest" at the meeting with support from a WIU Sustainability Award, the Department of Energy (DoE) and the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

This year's award marks the second consecutive year a student from WIU has won honors in mycology at the national level. During the 2014 meeting, current WIU biology graduate student **Paris Hamm '15**, of Macomb, was honored for having the best undergraduate poster award.

Six WIU students attended the international meeting this year: Hamm presented her honors thesis with additional support from a WIU Research Inspiring Student Excellence (RISE) program travel award and a summer REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) award; WIU research assistant **Ryan Deaver**, supported by a WIU Sustainability Student Award; Torres-Cruz, supported by a sustainability award; Tobias, supported by an award from the Illinois Soybean Association; biology graduate student **Shiloh Lueschow '14**, of Elmwood (IL), and WIU research assistant **Cedric Ndinga Muniania**.

The research at Western was also supported by Los Alamos National Lab-DoE, and travel was supported by the various grants and the WIU Department of Biological Sciences.

For more information on the conference, visit botanyconference.org.



Terri Tobias



Terry Torres-Cruz

Arts and Sciences

Physics department ranks second nationally for degrees

The Western Illinois University Department of Physics has been ranked second in the nation by the American Institute of Physics (AIP) among institutions offering a master's degree as its highest degree.

In 2014, 16 WIU graduate students received a master's degree in physics. Only Northern Arizona University ranked higher in the most recent list, awarding 20 master's degrees in 2014.

WIU Physics Chair **Mark Boley '87 MS '89** said WIU's ranking came from the department's faculty and staff working as a "unified team."

"This is a strong testimony to the growth of our physics graduate program here at Western Illinois University," said Boley. "It could not have happened without the outstanding graduate faculty of our department who work tirelessly in involving our graduate students, many of them from their first day on campus, in cutting-edge, faculty-mentored student research projects that strengthen and complement our academic program and make it so attractive to incoming students."

Boley also credited support from College of Arts and Sciences Dean **Sue Martinelli-Fernandez** and WIU's graduate school with helping increase the number of assistantships available to graduate students.

"We recruit across the Midwestern states, from among our own undergraduate program, and even internationally through our faculty connections with alumni and collaboration with former schools," said Boley.

For more information on AIP, visit aip.org. For more information about the WIU Department of Physics, visit wiu.edu/physics or call (309) 298-1596.

Janus named CAS Distinguished Alumna

After a distinguished career as a suburban Chicago teacher, Western Illinois University alumna **Linda Janus, '70 BA**, was presented with the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Distinguished Alumna Award during the annual dinner Nov. 7.

The dinner also celebrated CAS student scholars, as well as donors.

Linda Janus and her twin sister, **Laura Janus '70**, both of Arlington Heights (IL), were the first in their family to graduate from college. Linda received her bachelor's degree in history from Western. She then went on to get her master's degree in history from Northeastern Illinois University and continued with graduate-level history and literature courses at Roosevelt University.

Laura received her bachelor's degree in accountancy from Western, is a founding partner of Holland Capital and serves as the chief investment officer for fixed income and as the fixed income portfolio manager. She was previously named a WIU Distinguished Alumni Award winner in 2012.

Linda spent her career as a teacher, introducing the study of American Studies and Women's Studies into suburban Chicago schools. She also fought for inclusion of the two academic fields into the curriculum and has served as a mentor who worked with fellow teachers, volunteers and church members.

While in college, Linda was a student teacher at Conant High School in 1970.

After her graduation from WIU, Linda began teaching social science at Fremd High School in Palatine (IL) in 1971. She continued teaching at the school until her retirement in June 2003. During her tenure, she also taught American studies, history, literature and the arts.

Linda was intrigued by how American studies integrated the teaching of American history, American literature and the arts. The course prepared Linda to teach

AP U.S. history, which she taught for 18 years.

As American Studies became part of the curriculum in many high schools, the Conference on American Studies Education (CASE) was created. Fremd hosted one of those conferences and Linda was invited to present at two conferences.

In the four years before Linda retired, she became involved in the high school's women's studies program and mentored the teacher who would instruct the program.

Linda previously served as a board member for Northwest Center for Sexual Assault (NWCASA), which provides services for victims of sexual assault. She has also been an active member of the United Church of Christ in Arlington Heights since 1999, helping with the church's programs to provide meals and a place to sleep for the homeless.

For more information about the WIU College of Arts and Sciences, visit wiu.edu/cas or call (309) 298-1828.



Linda Janus '70

WIU School of Nursing garners academic honors

By **Jodi Pospeschil MA '15**

The Western Illinois University School of Nursing has received two academic-based awards in recent months, reinforcing the quality of the program, its students and alumni.

The School of Nursing's RN-BSN completion program has been named to the list of the top 50 most affordable colleges for online RN-BSN programs. WIU was 38th on the list, which was compiled by the Best Master of Science in Nursing Degrees website (bestmasterofscienceinnursing.com).

"I am pleased to again be ranked in the top schools for our RN-BSN Completion Program," said WIU Nursing Program Director **P. Lea Monahan**. "The School of Nursing faculty work hard to offer the kinds of courses that nurses returning to school need to advance in their careers."

The WIU program was previously ranked 27th by CollegeChoice.net in November 2014, which was based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, U.S. News & World Report, program websites, as well as faculty, technology and student support, accreditation and cost.

The latest honor for the WIU RN-BSN program highlights the affordability of WIU's program, which

moved to a completely online format in Fall 2014 to accommodate the schedule of working nurses who wish to further their education and who already hold an associate degree and are currently licensed as a registered nurse. This honor is based on accreditation, the maximum percentage of applicants admitted (60 percent) and the lowest tuition price for each program.

The WIU program is accredited by The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). WIU's nursing program began in 2008 and its first student cohort graduated in December 2010.

The department boasts a 100 percent job placement rate after graduation, and WIU students who take the National Council Licensure Exam have a 90 percent pass rate. The school received its accreditation status in Fall 2010 as a CCNE-Accredited Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Program.

In addition to the online ranking honors, the Western Illinois University Nursing Honor Society was recently approved and was chartered as an official chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) in October.

The WIU chapter was approved at the STTI biennial convention in April.

Membership in STTI is by invitation and is extended to undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty and professional nurses who have demonstrated superior scholastic, leadership and nursing achievements.

One hundred nurse leaders and students were inducted as charter members of the new WIU group.

STTI is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health of people worldwide through leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research. The honor society has more than 480 chapters at institutions of higher education worldwide.

For more information on the WIU School of Nursing, visit wiu.edu/nursing or contact Monahan at (309) 298-2571, or PL-Monahan@wiu.edu. For more information on the honor society, visit nursingsociety.org.





Intercollegiate Athletics

Continued from Headlines p. 1

Leathernecks knock off nationally ranked Wisconsin

The Western Illinois University men's basketball team kicked off its 2015-16 season in a spectacular way Nov. 13, knocking off the No. 17 Wisconsin Badgers 69-67, in Madison (WI). The Wisconsin Badgers reached the Final Four during the team's 2014-15 season.

The win by the Fighting Leathernecks marked the WIU program's first win over a nationally ranked opponent in the program's history and the fifth road win over a ranked opponent by a Summit League team in the league's history. The last time the Leathernecks beat a power conference team was in 1994, when Western beat Northwestern in Macomb.

The win by WIU was also the first road win for Leatherneck Coach **Billy Wright** as a head coach. Prior to the loss by Wisconsin, the Badgers had won each of the team's last 13 regular season opening games.

"I'd like to start off by saying it was a tremendous honor and opportunity for us, and we are very grateful," said Wright. "We talk about how it's not who you play, it's how you play. I thought our young men did a great job of maintaining their composure

against a very well coached program. It was a tough environment and I'm very happy we were able to come out winning."

Western scored the first five points of the game before battling back and forth with Wisconsin. The Leathernecks went to the locker room at halftime trailing 44-37, but Western then scored the first seven points of the second half to tie the game at 44-44.

With two minutes left, the two teams were tied 67-67, when WIU junior **Garret Covington** hit two free throws to move Western into the lead. Wisconsin's Bronson Koenig missed a jump shot as time expired, giving WIU the win.

"Obviously I'm thrilled for our program; I shed a few tears of joy," said Wright. "I think it's something that can help us moving forward. With all we went through last year as a program, for those kids to not give up and not quit—our motto is all in and play hard, play smart, play together, all

for one and one for all."

For the remaining Leatherneck schedule, visit bit.ly/1HWMkJU.



WIU Coach Billy Wright addresses the media after the Leathernecks' two-point win over nationally-ranked Wisconsin Nov. 13.

Nielson named MVFC Bruce Craddock Coach of the Year

Western Illinois head football coach **Bob Nielson** received the Missouri Valley Football Conference's (MVFC) top coaching honor as he received the Bruce Craddock Coach of the Year award.

The conference's top awards were announced following a vote by the head coaches, sports information directors and select media. Teams were not allowed to vote for their own personnel in the final ballot.

It is Nielson's first MVFC Coach of the Year award and fifth conference coaching award in his 23-year career.

Nielson, a three-time National Coach of the Year at the NCAA Division II and III levels, has now taken a team to the NCAA Playoffs at the Division III, II, and I FCS level.

"I am extremely honored. Receiving the Bruce Craddock Coach of the Year award is a recognition of the work of our entire staff and the effort of our entire team," said Nielson.

Nielson's resume also includes three Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference honors while at Minnesota-Duluth (2010, 2008, 2002) and one from the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference while at Wartburg (1993).

The MVFC coaching award is named after former Leatherneck coach Bruce Craddock, who was a two-time Coach of the Year himself during his tenure from 1983-89. He passed away in 1990 after battling cancer.

Nielson becomes the fourth Leatherneck head coach to receive the award, joining: Craddock (1987, 1988), Randy Ball (1997) and Don Patterson (2000, 2002).

Men's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 1	IUPUI	2 p.m.
Jan. 14	Denver	7 p.m.
Jan. 16	Oral Roberts	7 p.m.
Jan. 23	North Dakota State	2 p.m.
Feb. 3	Omaha	7 p.m.
Feb. 20	South Dakota State	2 p.m.
Feb. 25	Fort Wayne	8 p.m.
Feb. 27	South Dakota	7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 1	Oral Roberts	1 p.m.
Jan. 9	IUPUI	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 15	Denver	7 p.m.
Jan. 27	South Dakota	7 p.m.
Jan. 30	Omaha	4:30 p.m.
Feb. 4	Fort Wayne	7 p.m.
Feb. 25	North Dakota State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	South Dakota State	4:30 p.m.

Four new members inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame

Western Illinois University Athletics welcomed the four newest members of the Athletic Department Hall of Fame.

Tony Bresky '98 (men's tennis), **Jennifer (Dockemeyer) Hogan '00** (volleyball), **Mark Kaczmarek '73** (football) and **Justin Langan '04** (men's soccer/football) were selected for their outstanding record of performance while representing Western Illinois Athletics.

"The achievements of Tony, Jennifer, Mark and Justin distinguished them from an outstanding class of nominations," said **Matt Tanney**, interim director of athletics. "The strength of the inductees' credentials is indicative of the historical success of Leatherneck Athletics."

The four inductees were honored during halftime of the Leathernecks' football game against Southern Illinois.

To be considered for selection into the Western Illinois University Athletic Hall of Fame, an individual must fall

into one of the following areas and qualify as the criteria in that area describes. All candidates must have been nominated for consideration, and receive 100 percent support from the final selection committee.

Athletes, Coaches, and Administrators

The athlete/coach/administrator nominee must qualify under one of the following:

- Be a student at Western Illinois University at least two years
- Be a graduate of Western Illinois University
- Be a coach at Western Illinois University
- Be an athletic administrator

The inductee must have had an outstanding record while performing

in athletics at Western Illinois University. Athletes are eligible for admission into the Hall of Fame 10 years after their athletic eligibility expires or they graduate.



L to r: Interim Director of Athletics Matt Tanney, Justin Langan '04, Mark Kaczmarek '73, Tony Bresky '98, Jennifer (Dockemeyer) Hogan '00 and WIU President Jack Thomas.

Intercollegiate Athletics



Leathernecks and adidas renew partnership

Interim Athletic Director **Matt Tanney** announced the Western Illinois Athletics Department and adidas renewed their partnership for potentially the next 10 years. The contract makes adidas the official apparel provider for Leatherneck Athletics.

Western continues as a member of the adidas college family for the next five years (through 2020-21), with an option of five one-year contract extensions. Other NCAA Division I adidas partners include: UCLA, Texas A&M, Nebraska, Indiana, Wisconsin, Kansas, Louisville and Arizona State. Various professional sports leagues also have marketing agreements with adidas.

A partner with adidas since 2001, every Leatherneck

coach and student-athlete will wear official Western Illinois adidas products including: practice clothes, game and travel uniforms, hats, apparel, coats and shoes. Signage around the various athletic venues will also promote the partnership between adidas and Western Illinois.

According to Tanney, renewing the partnership with adidas was a sound financial decision.

"We're pleased to continue our partnership with adidas. The competitiveness of the proposal ensures that our coaches, staff and student-athletes remain outfitted in a high quality product," said Tanney. "We look forward to featuring the 'three stripes' even more prominently on the sidelines and in Leatherneck athletic venues."

Niemann hired as assistant director of Athletic Academic Services

Western Illinois University announced that **Tori Niemann '13 MS '15** has joined the Fighting Leatherneck staff as the assistant director of Athletic Academic Services. Niemann is responsible for advising Division I student-athletes and maintaining a life skills program with emphasis on career and leadership development.

"I am thrilled to have Tori join our department as the assistant director of Athletic Academic Services," said Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services **Lisa Melz-Jennings MS '94**. "Her prior competition background as a Leatherneck student-athlete, coupled with her sport management post-graduate experience, has more than prepared her for this assignment. Tori will be spearheading the career and leadership development programs in our department, and our student-athletes will benefit from her knowledge and experience. Tori bleeds purple and gold, and I know she will continue to foster that Leatherneck pride in our students."

Niemann is no stranger to Western Illinois and the Leatherneck family, as she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism in December 2013 and her Master of Science in sport management in May 2015 from Western. During her time as a student, she was a member of the

women's basketball team during the 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons.

"I am excited and extremely fortunate to have this opportunity to stay at Western and begin my career in a field that I am passionate about. I am so grateful for the many years Western has given me as a student-athlete and that I now have the opportunity to work and give back to Western," said Niemann.

While pursuing her master's degree, Niemann served as an athletic department intern, working primarily in Academic Services and Compliance.

As an intern, Niemann academically mentored student-athletes from the football, men's and women's soccer, baseball and softball teams. She also supervised study halls and assisted at-risk student-athletes while assisting in Life Skills events. While working in compliance, Niemann developed NCAA presentations targeting student-athletes, staff and boosters among other responsibilities.



Tori Niemann '13 MS '15

WIU Broadcasting, Athletics games carried on ESPN3

Western Illinois Athletics and the Department of Broadcasting have expanded their coverage reach with a new collaboration that features live Leatherneck sporting events on ESPN3.

With ESPN's live multi-screen sports network, all five Leatherneck home football games were delivered on ESPN3, along with two volleyball matches. In addition, most men's and women's home basketball games and select baseball and softball games during the 2015-16 season will be aired.

The new arrangement allows Leatherneck fans nationwide to log in and watch events live on ESPN3, a part of the ESPN family of networks. Fans can watch the events online at WatchESPN.com on smartphones and tablets via the WatchESPN app or stream on televisions through connected devices. Western Illinois sporting events will now reach more than 100 million people nationally (99 million households, 21 million U.S. colleges/universities and U.S. based military personnel), and have the look of an ESPN broadcast.

"The airing of Leatherneck Athletics events on ESPN3 features our talented student-athletes on a national platform and enables a wider audience to follow the success of our sports programs," said **Matt Tanney**, interim director of athletics. "It's also another example of the valued partnership between the Athletics department and the University's sports broadcasting program."

Leatherneck Athletics has worked with the sports broadcasting department for several years airing games on radio and television. All video streamed events on GoLeathernecks.com (through SIDEARM Sports) are a broadcasting department production.

"The opportunity for our sports broadcasting students to produce events that will be carried on ESPN3 and for our student-athletes to be seen on a national stage is a truly great one," added College of Fine Arts and Communication Dean **William "Billy" Clow**. "This has been a joint effort and shows the professionalism and collaboration with which both programs operate here at Western Illinois University."

SAVE the DATE

39TH ANNUAL LEATHERNECK CLUB GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, June 6, 2016
Harry Mussatto Golf Course

Join WIU student-athletes and coaches for a fun day on the course! Leatherneck Club members are also invited to the pre-golf social at the Macomb Country Club Sunday, June 5.

Leatherneck Athletics raises more than \$50,000

Thanks to the support of more than 500 in attendance for the 26th annual Purple & Gold Auction, Western Illinois Athletics

received a net profit in excess of \$50,000.

Funds from the event will help sponsor various projects for student-athletes, including the Purple & Gold Auction scholarship.

"The great turnout for the Purple & Gold Auction was only exceeded by the generosity of the attendees. The scholarship support generated from this event makes a tangible difference in the lives of our student-athletes," said interim athletic director **Matt Tanney**. "It takes a significant effort from many people for an event of this magnitude to succeed, but we remain committed to the best experience possible for Leatherneck student-athletes."

The total dollars raised is the highest in four years. Sodexo catered the meals while the Lowderman Auction Company ran the live auction portion of the evening. Some of the more popular items purchased that night included: 2013 Yamaha golf cart (\$6,000), autographed Ernie Banks Cubs jersey (\$1,500), stay at Club Barbados (\$1,600) and the St. Louis sports weekend (\$1,350).

The student-athlete speeches were delivered by softball's **Karissa Kouchis** and Ephraim Okeke from men's soccer.

"The supporters of WIU Athletics never cease to amaze me," said **Michael Jones MS '12**, assistant director of Athletics for Development. "Thank you to all the people who donated items and attended this year's auction, helping us raise more than \$50,000 for WIU student-athletes in one night."



27TH ANNUAL PURPLE & GOLD GALA AUCTION

Saturday, August 13, 2016
Western Hall

Join us for our social event of the year in Macomb! The evening will feature a social, dinner, silent and live auctions, cash raffles and a night full of entertainment.



Foundation

Claire and Hazel Faust Horn Scholarship established at WIU

By Amanda Shoemaker MS '11

If you've ever attended concerts at the Western Illinois Horn Festival or a Western Illinois University Brass Ensemble performance, you have heard some of the greatest music performed by Western Illinois University horn students. And, thanks to the Claire and Hazel Faust Horn Scholarship established at WIU by Hornist and School of Music Professor **Randall Faust** and his wife, **Sharon**, more WIU students will have the opportunity to further their studies, participate in these types of festival and concert performances and directly enhance the outreach of the University.

To support outstanding horn students who go above and beyond the regular music requirements, the Fausts have established the Claire and Hazel Faust Horn Scholarship, named after Randall's parents.

"My parents' professional history ties in directly with the history of Western Illinois University. While they were never affiliated with Western, other than the fact that they were my parents, they had a parallel experience to a lot of our students here," he said.

Randall's parents were first-generation college students, similar to many students at Western. Following graduation, his father began his professional career as a high school band director in Iowa, teaching in several communities—including Garden Grove—where he started the school's first band. A decade later, after completing



WIU School of Music Professor Randall Faust and his wife, Sharon.

his doctorate at the University of Iowa, he joined the staff at Minnesota State University—Mankato, where he served as a professor, department chair and ultimately, vice president for Administrative Affairs. During his time in Mankato, he was active as a member of the Mankato

Symphony Board, the Mankato Municipal Band, the Symphonic Band of MNSU (Minnesota State University) and the Chancel Choir of Centenary United Methodist Church. Even after retirement, music continued to play a role in his life as he played in the university band with many college students, until

his mid-80s. Randall's mother was also a musician, serving as a choir director and an MTNA (Music Teachers National Association)-certified piano teacher. His parents had a long history of contributing to important causes, including higher education, which is why Randall and Sharon established this scholarship.

"They (Randall's parents) were very much interested in education and helping youth excel; they did what they could to help students with their careers. They were always involved with young people. I think that's one of the reasons why we wanted to make sure there

was a legacy here as well," said Sharon, who also had experiences as a student oboist.

"If we can keep a student in school, in a practice room, doing the things they need to do to be successful as they move on, this little bit of money that might come their way, may be just what they need," she added.

"My parents were a real inspiration in that way ... as parents, teachers, music teachers ... in support of our education and things in their community," said Randall.

The Claire and Hazel Faust Horn Scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding returning graduate or undergraduate applied horn student who is also a member of WIU Brass Chamber Ensembles and is active in the support of the Western Illinois Horn Festival and Outreach Programs.

"The School of Music at Western Illinois University has an outstanding reputation for excellence. We greatly appreciate this gift from Randall and Sharon," said Vice President for Advancement and Public Services **Brad Bainter '79 MS '83**. "Their gift will allow us to continue to recruit and retain outstanding students for Western Illinois University and the School of Music."

The Fausts believe that the recipients of this scholarship won't be the only ones impacted. Randall explained that many of his Western horn students interact with high school students at festivals and encourage them to enroll at Western.

For some, a scholarship like this is the only way to stay in school and continue to hone their skills—and in doing so, they have a positive impact on other students in the region. This type of giving is something Randall said his parents would do today and did do throughout their lives.



Randall's parents, Claire and Hazel Faust

Record set: Fallen Soldiers 2015

This year's Fallen Soldiers 5k at Western Illinois University, held in October, set a new record with close to 600 participants (595) registering, 100 more than the 2014 event, making it the largest race in McDonough County.

More than \$18,000 was raised for the WIU Fallen Soldier's Scholarship Fund. Since the event's inception in 2011, more than \$64,000 has been raised for the scholarship, which honors WIU alumni **Capt. Derek Dobogai '03** and **Lt. Col. Robert Baldwin '93**, who were both killed in the line of duty.

At this year's event, Vice President for Advancement and Public Services **Brad Bainter '79 MS '83** announced that retired WIU Vice President for Administrative Services **Jackie Thompson '85 MS-Ed '94** and her husband **Dave '72**, both WIU alumni, have made a major commitment to fund the creation of a life-size statue of legendary war hero and long-time WIU coach and athletic director **Ray "Rock" Hanson** to be placed on the Macomb campus. Hanson's determination and persistence, along with his Marine Corps legacy, helped secure The Fighting Leathernecks as WIU's team name. Western remains the only public school in the U.S. with permission to use the Leathernecks as its nickname.

Esters named executive director of development at WIU

Kellie Esters MS '93, former vice president for development and donor relations for Trinity Health Foundation, is the new the executive director of development at Western Illinois University.

Esters had served in her role with Trinity since August 2012. Previously, she was the vice president for fund development for the Scott County (Iowa) Family YMCA (2007-12) and director of foundation and development services at WIU (2002-07). Esters also served as director of major gifts and donor stewardship (2000-02) and assistant to the vice president for advancement and public services (1995-00) at Western. She was the director of alumni relations and annual giving at Monmouth College (1991-95).

"We welcome Kellie back to the Division of Advancement and Public Services. Her many years of fundraising experience, across numerous organizations including higher education, and her familiarity with Western will serve her well in this new role," said **Brad Bainter '79 MS '83**, vice president for advancement and public services. "It is essential that we have qualified and dedicated development staff working to raise funds for scholarships to support students and for programs

that our students, faculty, staff and University need to succeed."

Esters earned her master's degree in College Student Personnel from WIU and her bachelor's degree in education at Monmouth College.

Esters works with Western's development officers, along with support personnel engaged in institutional advancement efforts at Western. As executive director of development, she coordinates and executes a development strategy to meet fundraising objectives and assists in the planning, execution and management of comprehensive campaigns for WIU.



Kellie Esters MS '93, executive director of development

University Housing & Dining Services



John (JB) Biernbaum, 2014 WIU Honorary Alumni Award Recipient

A Note from Associate Vice President for Student Services

It has been another extremely busy fall in the residence halls at WIU. Move-In Day went well, and we had a very successful Mud Volleyball tournament to start the year, with over 84 teams participating, raising nearly \$4,500 for the Macomb Fire Department. Students who moved into Tanner Hall were welcomed with a newly renovated lobby. The lobby renovations have been popular with

the students and staff. The various Homecoming events were well-attended this year, including a reunion of about 50 Bayliss-Henninger staff from the 1994-03 era.

Big Pink Volleyball, Safe Trick-or-Treat and Stuff the Bus were also great events this fall and it turned into another busy and successful semester.

As we prepare for the upcoming year, we continue with the plans and preparation to bring down Higgins Hall, with an anticipated Summer 2016 implosion date.

Clear as mud: Residence hall memories lead to alumnus' marriage proposal

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

Taking part in one of the messiest annual residence hall events in 2009 ultimately resulted in a treasured moment late this summer for Western Illinois University alumni **Michael Dillon '12 MS '14** and **Hillary Higgins '11**.

It was in Fall 2009, just before the Bayliss-Henninger Mud Volleyball Tournament, that Dillon (an Elmhurst, IL, native) and Higgins (originally from Oneida, IL), met on their mutual floor in Corbin Hall.

"Our first interactions with each other occurred when we each signed up to be a part of our floor's mud-volleyball team, which was happening one of the first weekends on campus. We became fast friends leading up to the event, and then we continued to be friends after," Higgins noted.

"We were lucky enough to live approximately seven doors down from one another in Corbin," Dillon added. "I was a transfer student in my first year at Western, and I was looking for opportunities to become involved. One of the big events we were told about early on in the school year was the Bay-Henn Mud Volleyball Tournament, so it seemed like a great opportunity to get to know fellow floor mates—one of whom was Hillary. After the event concluded, I was still eager to be involved, so I began to look for more opportunities in my residence hall. Sure enough, Hillary was also involved in a lot of the same activities. It was throughout our involvement in residence hall activities that Hillary and I began a friendship that will now last our lifetime."

In early August, Dillon, who earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in instructional design and technology, and Higgins, who earned her bachelor's degree in education, traveled back to Western's Corbin Hall to revisit the first place they met. Little did Higgins know that Dillon had more in mind than just a visit to their old stompin' grounds.

"The residence hall brought us back to the roots of our friendship and our relationship. There, I shared many laughs, many hours of studying, and it was there where I truly got to know Hillary. One of the best memories I have of living in Corbin was me asking Hillary to be my girlfriend in the second floor study lounge. With all the sentimental value that Corbin Hall has for Hillary and me, it was clear to me that's where I wanted to ask her to be my wife."

So on Aug. 1, Dillon asked Higgins to marry him, and Corbin Hall Complex Director **Danielle Tucker** was there to take a photograph of the couple for their WIU love

story. Dillon and Higgins both said they are considering setting the wedding date for some time in the next couple of years.

Since graduating from Western, Higgins has earned her master's degree in library and information science. She now works as a children's librarian at the Galesburg Public Library. Dillon, who now lives Elmhurst (IL), currently works at Everspring Partners, an education technology company as an associate instructional designer. In his job, he works with the faculty of his company's client schools to design online master's degree programs.

"As for the wedding, we haven't made any concrete plans yet, but we are thinking some time in 2017. We are working toward living in the same area first," Dillon said.

"Looking back, I am glad the resident assistants in Corbin Hall encouraged us to get to know others on our floor and to participate in activities," Higgins added.



Michael Dillon '12 '14 (far left, in color) and Hillary Higgins '11 (fourth from left, in color) first met in 2009, when they were team members for their Corbin Hall floor team in the annual Bayliss-Henninger Mud Volleyball Tournament.



On Aug. 1, Dillon asked Higgins to marry him, and Corbin Hall Complex Director Danielle Tucker was there to take a photograph of the couple for their WIU love story.

Student Services Homecoming social



Front l-r: Jacki (Gloger) Stone MS '05, Bianca (Hollman) O'Neill '99 MS '03, Sara (Pump) Allen MS '04 and Admissions Associate Director Sara (Watterson) Lytle '00 MS '02. Back l-r: Amanda (Schnarr) Wheeler MS '05, James O'Neill '99, James Edlen '98, Chris Wheeler '97 MS '00, Nick Allen '99 MS '03 and Don Baumgartner '03.



L-r: Jim Kostelny '01, Monica (Emery) Nyman '01, Jenny (Keime) Wright '01, Jody (Muir) Park '02, Budget Director Matt Bierman '97 MBA '03 and Stacy (Watson) Bierman '96.



L-r: Diana (Bierman) Van Osdell '00, Lindsay (Reynolds) Roisen '99 MS '11, Amy Price '97, Bianca (Hollman) O'Neill '99 MS '03 and Mandy (Blood) Geiger '97 MA '03.



Front: Terrell Glenn '96. Middle l-r: Amy Price '97, Mandy (Blood) Geiger '97 MA '03, Stacy (Watson) Bierman '96 and Assistant to the Vice President for Student Services Jessica (Bunch) Butcher MS '96. Back l-r: Associate Vice President for Student Services and Honorary Alumni Award Recipient '14 John Biernbaum (JB), James Edlen '98 and Budget Director Matt Bierman '97 MBA '03.



WIU Libraries partner with Athletics on 'Baskets for Books' fundraiser

Western Illinois University Libraries and Western Illinois Athletics are partnering on an initiative to help raise money for new books at Western.

"Baskets for Books" encourages participants to make an individual pledge for every three-point basket made at men's and women's home basketball games during the 2015-16 season. Those who take part will receive an invoice in March 2016 from the WIU Foundation for the final pledge amount (based on the total number of three-point baskets made at home games). Last year, each team made roughly 100 three-pointers during their home schedules.

According to University Libraries Dean **Michael Lorenzen**, the initiative will help strengthen academic resources on campus.

"We appreciate the support," Lorenzen noted.

Western Illinois Athletics Interim Director **Matt Tanney** said Athletics is pleased to partner with the University

Libraries on the "Baskets for Books" initiative.

"We regularly advocate academic excellence among our student-athletes, so to contribute toward the University's core values for all WIU students is a logical fit. Providing the highest quality resources to educate our students is integral to the institution's mission and is fully supported by Athletics," Tanney added.

"University Libraries is a tremendous resource for all student-athletes, and expanding the resources will help us with our academics," added **Tate Stensgaard**, senior WIU men's basketball player. "All pledges are greatly appreciated, and as a student-athlete, I am excited to have the opportunity to connect even more with the University and the community."

For more information about, or to make a pledge for, "Baskets for Books," contact WIU Libraries Development Director **Suzanne Woodward MS '98** at (309) 298-2356.

Mallory Sajewski named music librarian

Western Illinois University Libraries recently welcomed **Mallory Sajewski** to WIU as the new music librarian. Sajewski oversees the Music Library in Sallee Hall and serves as liaison between the Libraries and the School of Music.

Originally from Cleveland (OH), Sajewski received her Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Music from Kent State University. While there, she also worked with the Performing Arts Library, the Bands and Orchestra Library and as a graduate assistant in the Honors College.

"Everybody's really friendly and welcoming at Western," Sajewski said. "I have a great staff here in the Music Library, which makes my job a lot easier."

She also said she is looking forward to continuing to get to know the faculty in both the libraries and the music school, as well as the students.

"I've gotten a lot more research consultations lately,"

she explained, "and I enjoy getting to know the students and their interests, and where they're from."

Outside of the library, Sajewski enjoys reading, and exploring the area around her new home with her boyfriend, Christian, who accompanied her to Macomb. As her Master of Music was in oboe performance, she still tries to play regularly.

When asked about her favorite composer, she stated that she's been "on a Shostakovich kick lately." Her favorite book is "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley, as "the whole notion of dystopia really makes you think."



Mallory Sajewski

Pineapple harvest at Malpass Library

The first "Malpass pineapple" was harvested by Dean of Libraries **Michael Lorenzen** in September.

In August, Lorenzen and his wife, Julie, were recognized in the annual Plant Recognition Ceremony. The yearly event honors donors who give to the Libraries at the Gardener Level or above by naming a plant after them. WIU Alumna **Joanne Findley MS-Ed '70**, who also donated at that generous level, had her named bestowed upon a bat flower, which now graces the sixth floor of Malpass Library. The Lorenzens shared their moniker with a pineapple plant, located on the fourth floor.

The Libraries' Gardener **Rebecca Fross '00** kept an eye on the plant until the fruit of the pineapple, which had been present but unripe at the time of the ceremony, was ready to be cut away from the plant. Using a saw blade and expert directions from Fross, Lorenzen separated the heavy fruit from its stalk. The foliage surrounding the plant, removed during this operation, was kept by Fross in order to propagate further pineapple plants. The fruit itself was prepared and served by Julie Lorenzen.

"The purpose of libraries isn't to grow pineapples," said Outreach Librarian **Christina Norton**, "But is a reminder that University Libraries are a unique place for our students to develop as scholars."



University Libraries Gardner Rebecca Fross '00 looks over the pineapple.

WIU librarian receives first foreign language and culture degree

WIU Libraries Reference Unit Coordinator **Krista Bowers Sharpe MA '04** has become the first person to complete the Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages and Cultures at WIU, newly offered as a degree option in Fall 2014, as well

as being named the Department Scholar for Foreign Languages and Cultures for Fall 2015.

Bowers Sharpe began taking one German course per semester in 2005, as a non-degree graduate student.

Her interest stemmed from having family in Germany, and also from a love for art, music and literature, "in which Germans and the German

language have been very influential," she said. Eventually completing all the German courses available, she proceeded to take the two years of Japanese classes at WIU. Fast forward to Fall 2014: a new foreign languages and cultures degree was developed by the foreign languages and literature department, and Bowers Sharpe was encouraged by Department Chair **Gary Schmidt** to convert her years of study into this new degree. She lacked only three courses to complete the newly offered program.

Once accepted into the formal degree program, an opportunity presented itself to Bowers Sharpe to study abroad. During July 2015, Bowers Sharpe and seven other students attended language classes at the University of Bayreuth, and a culture class taught by Schmidt. Outside the classroom, activities included visiting the Nazi parade grounds and seeing an opera in Nürnberg; exploring museums about East Germany, the Schutzstaffel (SS) and Judaism in Berlin (as well as seeing the Wall); and excursions to art museums and Schloss Nymphenburg in Munich.

"My favorite memories from the semester are discussing books and politics with my fellow students while drinking Weissbier at the Herzogkeller Biergarten in Bayreuth, going on a day trip to the medieval city of Bamberg and seeing the Blaue Reiter paintings at the Lenbachhaus in Munich," said Bowers Sharpe. "And I can't forget an unintentionally long hike to visit the famous KaDeWe department store in Berlin."

During July and August 2015, Bowers Sharpe completed her required capstone projects and oral proficiency exam, and is on schedule to receive her second baccalaureate degree in December.

"It has been a joy to work with Krista," said Schmidt. "She is an ideal student who takes advantage of all the intellectual opportunities available to her, and is the perfect role model for the future graduates of the program who will follow her."



Krista Bowers Sharpe visiting the medieval city of Bamberg during study abroad.

Education and Human Services

WIU RPTA graduate student, faculty experience Chinese rural culture in Jinhua homestay project

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11 and Mary Fuller

Learning how to make tofu and soy milk were among the cultural lessons a Western Illinois University graduate student and a faculty member experienced last summer during a three-week stay in rural China as part of the pilot Jinhua Homestay Project.

"We also learned how to create Chinese calligraphy, play traditional musical instruments and had lessons about Chinese crafts, such as paper cutting, pottery and clay sculptures," explained **Mary Fuller** (Corning, IA), a master's degree candidate in the WIU Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration (RPTA). "In addition, we sat in on lectures about architecture, traditions and Chinese history with professors from the local college, Zhejiang Normal University."

Fuller and **Jeremy Robinett**, an assistant professor in RPTA, returned in July from Jinhua (Zhejiang Province), China. Through the work of **Richard Carter**—executive director of the WIU School of Distance Learning, International Studies and Outreach—they each were selected (among

a total of 42 participants from 15 countries) to take part in the pilot program. Sponsored by the Foreign and Overseas-Chinese Affairs Office of Jinhua Municipal People's Government, the Jinhua Homestay Project provides participants with comprehensive introductions to the history, customs and architecture of traditional Chinese villages and offers them opportunities to experience local culture and learn traditional Chinese handicrafts.

"Quite often when tourism opportunities are being developed, communities decide to go the route of mass tourism—they build hotels and create attractions they

think will draw in large numbers of people," Robinett explained. "Jinhua is approaching tourism development from a different angle. They're focusing their energies on saving cultural traditions and historical buildings by weaving tourists into the local communities through the

homestays. They are, in essence, making the experiences of rural Chinese villagers the attraction. And, rather than standardized hotels, they're creating opportunities for tourists to determine what levels of comfort they want by opening a variety of homestays for accommodations. They clearly want to increase economic activity in these areas, but they seem committed to cultural traditions and historical buildings being integral parts of their plans."

It was the through the efforts of Carter—who works to establish relationships with international embassies and organizations across

the globe to not only recruit international students for Western, but also to provide educational opportunities abroad for students and faculty at Western—that Fuller and Robinett were approached to take part in the program. Both applied separately, and in April, they found out they were each selected.

"Last fall, I visited the local governmental officials in this region during my recruiting

and the State of Illinois Higher Education Trade Mission to China," Carter said. "I was invited to share an invitation of the three-week homestay project with representatives of Western, and once I returned to campus, I shared

this opportunity in hopes of Leatherneck participation. I am excited we had two individuals represent Western in this program, and I hope many more will follow in the future."

The pair said they were attracted to the program because of the opportunity to stay with a local family and experience the culture of rural China in a way that many tourists cannot, or will not, through traditional travel plans.

"Roughly half of China's population lives in rural areas," Fuller noted. "This was a chance to experience China beyond Shanghai and Beijing, a side of China that not many people get to see. This was my first time in China, so everything was very different than any of my previous experiences traveling."

In addition to learning about Chinese culture, Fuller and Robinett helped develop materials designed to attract more international tourists to Jinhua and its historic villages. Fuller's team developed a magazine with information about the food, nature and culture of the Jinhua area.

"There were a total of five teams, each with about eight people. Each team worked on a different project aimed at promoting Jinhua," she explained. "My team was comprised of six Italians and one South African, along with five Chinese translators. The members of our team had different strengths, so by working together and using a visual approach (to help reduce translation errors), we were able to tell the story of Jinhua and its historic villages via a really cool magazine. Other projects included a brochure, a Tumblr site and a map of Jinhua. This part of the homestay project was appealing to me because I am interested in pursuing a career in tourism." (Fuller's team's magazine project is available at <http://pub.lucidpress.com/9c27d678-e495-4bbf-ac64-cacf56d163f3/>.)

Fuller is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV), who is studying in Western's RPTA department through the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs' Peace Corps Fellows Program in Community Development. She completed her Peace Corps services in Zambia. Robinett has previously taught study abroad courses on adventure tourism in New Zealand.



Fuller (right) during her time in the Jinhua Homestay Project. Sponsored by the Foreign and Overseas-Chinese Affairs Office of Jinhua Municipal People's Government, the project provides participants with comprehensive introductions to the history, customs and architecture of traditional Chinese villages and offers them opportunities to experience local culture and learn traditional Chinese handicrafts.



WIU Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration (RPTA) Assistant Professor Jeremy Robinett learning how to create Chinese calligraphy during his time in the Jinhua Homestay Project in the summer of 2015.



Robinett, an assistant professor in the WIU RPTA department, and Fuller (Corning, IA), a master's degree candidate in the WIU RPTA department, during their time in the Jinhua Homestay Project. Fuller is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV), who is studying in Western's RPTA department through the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs' Peace Corps Fellows Program in Community Development. She completed her Peace Corps service in Zambia.

Education and Human Services

Extraordinary motor clinics for students evolve with iPad app use

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

WIU faculty members and students are partnering with the Chicago-based app developer, Exercise Connection, to enhance an award-winning, "pioneering" adapted physical activity Motor Clinic for west central Illinois special education students.

The sounds of children engaged in boisterous activity have reverberated through Western Illinois University's Brophy Hall Gym several Friday mornings this semester. Working in and amid the noisy action—which is made by about 60 school-age kids from the West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative (WCISEC) engaged in physical activity—are WIU students from three different disciplines—kinesiology, special education and communication sciences and disorders (CSD)—as well as faculty and alumni from the various areas of study represented.

"This is an extraordinary thing we're doing here," noted **Lauren Brozman '08 '11**, a graduate student in the WIU Department of Kinesiology's graduate sport management program. "I hope this shows people everywhere, including our legislators, that higher education is very important. Without it, Western students who are delivering and learning from experiences in adapted physical education like this—which Dr. [Cindy] Piletic '84 MS '86 and other faculty here at Western have been providing for years for WIU students, as well as for the WCISEC kids—wouldn't be possible."

Brozman, who earned a B.A. in political science from WIU in 2008 and a B.S. in physical education K-12 in 2011, is referring to Piletic's award-winning Motor Clinic,

beneficial for the Western students. And for the kids from area counties who come to WCISEC for services, it provides a complementary program to the adapted physical education services provided within every WCISEC student's school day.

"It's important for us to be able to utilize this service Western offers. This is a chance for our students to get one on one with WIU students and to have those hands-on learning experiences, to build upon what we work on in the classroom. We appreciate the opportunity of being able to come here. Every year, when I start the school year, the kids in my program will say hello to me and almost immediately, their next question is, 'When do we start going to Western?' They remember year after year, and they love it," explained Johnson, who earned both her B.S. and M.S. in kinesiology from WIU.

In 2014, Piletic and her colleagues were honored by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD, also known as "SHAPE America") for the Adapted Physical Activity Motor Clinics. The award recognizes outstanding community-based programming designed for improving the lives of individuals with disabilities (see www.wiu.edu/news/newsrelease.php?release_id=11656). According to Piletic, the Motor Clinics would not be possible without the support of the WCISEC and the young students who come to Western's campus Friday mornings.

"We have a multidisciplinary team—the physical educator, the special educator and the speech and language pathologist—working with the students, so we're building on that concept of collaboration that our undergraduate and graduates students, once they graduate from Western, are going to see in the schools. I think the SHAPE America recognition came about because of that collaboration. Based on my experience in the adapted physical education world, I have seen few programs bringing in the speech and language people and the special educators like we do."

Another Perfect Partner: ExerciseBuddy

It is this multidisciplinary approach that drew the attention of David Geslak, owner of the Chicago-based company Exercise Connection (see exerciseconnection.com). In 2014, Geslak started selling an iPad app called ExerciseBuddy that helps solve the problem of introducing exercise to individuals with autism. Geslak, who has been working with individuals with autism for more than 10 years (see www.exerciseconnection.com/staff.html), describes Western's multidisciplinary approach to working with the students from WCISEC as "innovative."

"The students' and faculty members' use of

ExerciseBuddy was a complete coincidence," Geslak said. "My wife, Jessica, a speech-language pathologist and part of the ExerciseBuddy development team, saw **Amy Burke MS '90** (instructor in the WIU Department

of Communication Sciences and Disorders) present at the Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention last year. Amy's presentation focused on inter-professional education and the benefits of movement in speech and language production."

After seeing Burke's presentation, Geslak's wife told her about ExerciseBuddy, and Burke expressed interest.

"So I reached out to Amy, and she invited me to Macomb last spring. There, I met Dr. Piletic, observed the clinic and was inspired by the collaboration among Amy's CSD students, the special education teacher candidates and Dr. Piletic's kinesiology students," Geslak noted. In the public school system, a shift is happening for a cross-curriculum approach to better

educate students with autism. Educators are trying to figure out a curriculum that works, and faculty and students at Western are pioneering an approach that takes into account all the nuances and realities of this challenging population."

After Geslak's visit to Western last April, a few months later, Piletic and Geslak met again at a National Consortium for Physical Education for Individuals with Disabilities (NCPEID) Conference, where Geslak presented ExerciseBuddy to professionals who work with individuals with disabilities.



Colleen Krasich (Oak Lawn, IL), a graduate student in the WIU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, works one on one with Camryn Kreps, a WCISEC student, during a Motor Clinic this fall.



Alisa Boeke, a West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative (WCISEC) student, takes part in one of the WIU Department of Kinesiology's Adapted Physical Activity Motor Clinics. WIU students from three different disciplines—kinesiology, special education and communication sciences and disorders (CSD)—work for the WCISEC clinics, which are held in the Brophy Hall gymnasium and pool.

which enables WIU students studying kinesiology, special education and CSD (speech and language pathology) to work directly with the WCISEC students through the Motor Clinic, held about seven times each semester in Brophy Hall.

According to WCISEC's **Carie Johnson '02 MS '08**—who worked in the Motor Clinics as part of her graduate program at Western back in 2003—the clinic is, indeed,



Students, faculty members, and alumni involved with the WIU Department of Kinesiology's Motor Clinics I-r: Ashley Gerard (special education), Lauren Brozman '08 '11 (sport management), Cindy Piletic '84 MS '86 (kinesiology), Amy Burke MS '90 (communication sciences and disorders), Carie Johnson '02 MS '08 (West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative), Justine Pater (physical education K-12), Zachary Giertych (physical education K-12) and Sarah Hays (special education).

Education and Human Services

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"Dave had made some updates to ExerciseBuddy, which I knew could benefit our WIU students and the children we are working with; I want future teachers ready and equipped with all the best tools as they begin their careers as physical and adapted physical educators," Piletic explained. "Dave and I come to this from two different perspectives, and together, we were able to customize ExerciseBuddy to fit the needs of future teachers and the children they will be educating. This is a game changer for bringing together a cross-curriculum approach."

According to Geslak, ExerciseBuddy uses four types of evidence-based teaching practices proven to benefit autism: exercise, visual supports, video modeling and technology-aided instruction. Using the app, the user (parent, educator or professional) can set up an exercise routine.

"In addition to the health-related benefits of exercise, it is also proven to enhance the child's focus, and reduce his or her stress and maladaptive behaviors, which are present in the autism population," Geslak added.

Prior to using ExerciseBuddy, the WIU students and faculty had been using paper-based visual supports to introduce exercise.

"But research demonstrates that individuals with autism are better engaged with technology. ExerciseBuddy's use of video-modeling (30-second videos of individuals performing an exercise), visual countdown boards, as well as its structured exercise routines, are making a difference for both the WIU students and the individuals with autism. The video-modeling functionality has made the greatest impact. The WIU students or I may demonstrate an exercise, but many children would still be confused about what to do. But when watching the ExerciseBuddy videos, a proven teaching strategy, these children are more engaged and doing meaningful physical activity. It's incredible to watch this happen."

The iPads used in the Motor Clinic are part of a grant awarded from IAHPERD to Piletic and **Cathy McMillan MS '85**, assistant professor in the WIU Department of Kinesiology's exercise science program. They are using the devices and ExerciseBuddy in a tandem research project entitled, "Impact of the iPad on Physical Activity Levels of Young Adults with Intellectual Delays and/or Autism." (See "Exercise Science Students Involved in Cutting-Edge Research Project to Study Exercise and Use iPads with Students with Autism," p. 17.)

Educational Opportunity, Personal Growth

In the Motor Clinics, the WIU students work with the WCISEC students for about 60 minutes in the Brophy Hall gym in various physical activities and then another 30 minutes with them in the Brophy Hall pool. The opportunity is not only beneficial for their studies and individual skill sets, but it is also one that yields great personal reward.

"I began volunteering when I was a sophomore, and this is my fourth semester," explained **Ashley Gerard** (South Elgin, IL), a senior special education major. "It

used to be required as part of the special education curriculum, and we would take the class alongside other WIU students in the Motor Clinic. It has since been taken out of special education curriculum, so to help keep the clinics running, students in an organization I'm involved with, the Council for Exceptional Children [CEC] here at Western, began collaborating with Dr. Piletic. Now, CEC members volunteer to help with the clinic."

Gerard noted through her work at the clinics, she has learned to collaborate with different types of educators.

"I've learned a lot about adapted physical activity, too, and how motor skills complement cognitive learning. It's just been a big educational experience. As you're becoming a teacher, you learn mostly about the classroom

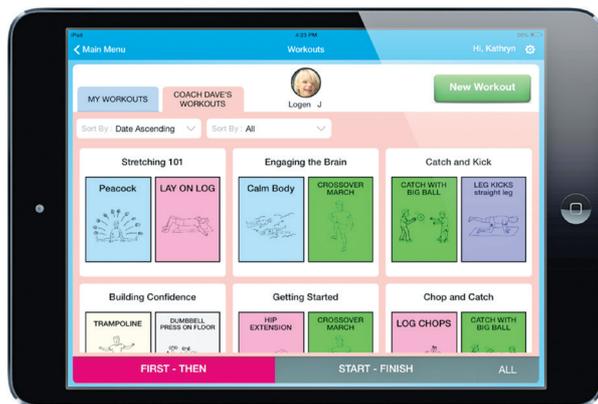
and what to do in the classroom—basically how to teach stuff. In the clinic, it is a different environment. The students are running and moving. It's awesome to see that side of their development," she said.

"It's that real-life, hands-on experience as an undergrad teacher candidate you strive for," Brozman added. "It's impossible to put into words how truly rewarding this is. I always like to tell the story about one student with autism who I worked with. When I was an undergraduate student working at the clinics, this student was just a little tot, and her first experience in the pool was with me. She went from being scared of the water, to getting her hair wet, to putting her face in the water. Now, she's in middle school, and she's swimming in the deep end. This is the progress she made from her participation in the WIU Motor Clinic. To see that progression—and the standard that we set here for our students to achieve—well... that is beyond description."

For Burke's graduate students in the CSD program, working with the WCISEC students in the clinics has helped to expand the way they work with individuals with autism, as well.

"One of the best things I have noticed is that we now utilize movement in our Speech and Language Clinics.

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Screen shot of the ExerciseBuddy application on an iPad.

Exercise Science students involved in cutting-edge research project using iPad app

By **Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11**

This semester, nine exercise science students at Western Illinois University are involved in research that could help show how using technology can be beneficial for individuals with autism when exercising. The research project, "The Impact of the iPad on Physical Activity Levels of Young Adults with Intellectual Delays and/or Autism," came about as the result from WIU Department of Kinesiology Professor **Cindy Piletic's '84 MS '86** and Assistant Professor **Cathy McMillan's MS '85** approved grant application through the Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAHPERD).

"The awarded grant funds enabled us to purchase 10 iPads for the research project. The focus of the project is to help the students with autism exercise better and become more self-directed at exercise," McMillan explained. "After receiving the grant funds for the iPads and purchasing them, our plans were to use them to motivate the students and to measure levels of physical activity," she added.

McMillan's and Piletic's research has since evolved through the use of ExerciseBuddy, an iPad app that helps solve the problem of introducing exercise to individuals with autism. (See "WIU Faculty, Students Partner with Chicago App Developer to Enhance Award-Winning, 'Pioneering' Multidisciplinary Motor Skills Clinic for West Central IL Special Ed Students" for more information about the use of ExerciseBuddy at Western.)

McMillan said nine students in her personal training course are working with individuals with autism from Macomb High School and from Bridgeway in Macomb. In their personal training sessions, the WIU students are using the ExerciseBuddy app, which enables educators working with a student or individual with autism to set

up an exercise circuit or plan, and then help keep the student on task.

"This semester we are in the pilot phase. Next semester, we're hoping to continue to collect data and into Fall 2016, as well," McMillan said. "We're the only school right now using ExerciseBuddy for research with exercise science students. Everybody else is using it for teacher education, but taking it into the fitness realm, well that is brand new."

McMillan explained when she first broached the project with her students in the personal training course, many were anxious about participating. But, as the semester has progressed, she said it has become clear to her the students are enjoying the experience working with the Macomb High students and individuals from Bridgeway.

"I am finding this opens students' eyes to an area of study that they had not considered before," McMillan noted. "They also love the idea that it's cutting edge and being at the

forefront of something new like this. I have been here for a long time, and I have to say I love this opportunity. It's always wonderful to find something new and different you can give your students, particularly something that will help make them more employable."



Amber Adams (Pittsfield, IL), a senior exercise science major, is one of Cathy McMillan's MS '85 students using the ExerciseBuddy app in "The Impact of the iPad on Physical Activity Levels of Young Adults with Intellectual Delays and/or Autism" research project.

Education and Human Services

WIU students tour NTN Bower's Macomb plant to observe safety in practice

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

From preventing accidents to reducing occupational noise level exposure to learning how to store and handle material properly, safety is something personnel at NTN Bower take seriously. In late October, about 26 Western Illinois University students were able to see just how seriously, when they toured the NTN Bower's Macomb nearly one million square-foot plant.

Students in WIU Department of Health Sciences and Social Work Professor **Fetene Gebrewold's** Environmental and Occupational Safety (EOS) 377 course learned about the many safety considerations necessary in a manufacturing environment during the class field trip. **Sarah Griffin** (Wheaton, IL) said the opportunity to hear about and observe some of the precautions present at NTN Bower's Macomb facility (which produces various types of bearings for the agriculture, construction and automotive industries) demonstrated the importance of occupational safety goals.

"We saw many different types of machines and how the employees there have to function around all these moving parts without anything going wrong. I was impressed we heard about the plant's safety goals and plans through a presentation, and then, we actually got to see some of the safety measures they use in practice," noted Griffin, a junior recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA) major. "When I graduate, I would like to be a safety manager for some kind of aquatic facility, so I will be dealing with a lot of different safety issues that have to do with water and first aid and that kind of thing. This was a great way to see how safety is practiced out in the field."

According to Gebrewold, the EOS 377 course—which enables students to earn Occupational and Health Safety Administration (OSHA) 30-hour general industry certification credentials for a minimal \$5 extra fee—covers the fundamentals of workplace safety, including work in permit-required confined spaces, as well as hazardous-waste regulations, industrial hygiene requirements, workplace violence and accident causation theories.

"I think it is cool we can get OSHA certified from this class and we are given these opportunities to go to other facilities to understand the hands-on approach, as to the 'why' behind what we are studying, and that our learning is not just confined to the classroom," Griffin added.



In late October, 26 WIU students were able to observe OSHA-required safety practices in place on a field trip to NTN Bower's nearly one million square-foot plant in Macomb.

New WIU alumna honored by Naperville fire chief for life-saving efforts

By Teresa Koltzenburg '92 MS '11

A recent graduate of Western Illinois University was heralded for her life-saving measures last June to help an individual experiencing a seizure and cardiac arrest.

Jalante Love '15, who earned her bachelor's degree in exercise science through the WIU Department of Kinesiology in August, was honored with the Fire Chief Citizen's Award from Naperville Fire Chief Mark Puknaitis for her quick action to resuscitate an Xsport Fitness (Naperville, IL) member.

Love, who served as an intern at Xsport Fitness over the summer, said her duties included personal training, as well as front-desk work, member check-ins and member account management. She said she was alerted to the club member's life-threatening situation by an Xsport Fitness employee.

"He ran to the front desk, where I was working at the time, and frantically informed me someone had collapsed on the treadmill in the back of the facility and he was unsure of what to do. I told him to call the paramedics, and then I ran to the back of the facility. Once I got to the scene, I noticed a male, who appeared to be in his mid-20s, collapsed across the treadmills," she explained.

Then Love did not hesitate to take action. She asked another nearby club member to help her move the victim, who had begun to convulse, to the ground to ensure he would not choke and so she could assess his condition.

"Soon, more of my team members came to the scene, while I continuously checked his pulse, which began fading, as he was still slowly convulsing. As his pulse faded, I informed my supervisor we needed the AED

[automated external defibrillator] just in case we started to lose him. While we were preparing to use the AED, the victim started to become cold, and I could no longer find his pulse. At that point, I informed my supervisor we had

to administer a shock because he no longer had a pulse. We administered two shocks, and soon after that second shock, the paramedics arrived and took over. Thankfully, they re-established a pulse in the victim," she added.

Love was honored for her life-saving efforts in early August in a ceremony in Naperville's City Hall.

"I was informed of the award by way of a letter sent to Xsport for me, which took me by surprise. The first thing I did was call my mom to let her know," Love said. "I didn't know a thing like this actually happens, but I was more than honored to attend the ceremony and accept the award."

Love attributes her decisive response and action to her exercise science classes at Western, particularly her cardiac-based classes.

"Those courses helped me understand the steps in identifying the source of the problem and how to treat it in a real-life scenario. Not only did those classes help me in my internship and my current job, but also being CPR/AED certified more than three times helped me to remain calm during the situation. You honestly never know if you are capable of using a skill until you have to apply it in real life," she added.

Love, who is currently working at Xsport Fitness as a personal trainer, said she was recently informed the victim is awaiting a heart transplant. Next year, she plans to attend a graduate physical therapy program.



A recent graduate of Western Illinois University, Jalante Love '15 (third from left) was recognized by the Naperville (IL) fire chief for the life-saving measures she took in June to help an individual experiencing a seizure and cardiac arrest. Love, who earned her bachelor's degree in exercise science in August, was honored with the Fire Chief Citizen's Award from Naperville Fire Chief Mark Puknaitis (next to Love) for her quick action to resuscitate an Xsport Fitness (Naperville, IL) member.

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Now, it's not as much about sitting at a table working on worksheets together. My graduate students are incorporating physical activity when they work with the students. They're jumping and doing all sorts of physical movement, which we know enhances language development," Burke noted. "The other thing my students learn is how to collaborate and work with other educators and specialists. They become aware about how other disciplines can contribute and complement their therapy. Through collaboration, they can incorporate other people's ideas into their work, which can benefit the students with autism," she added.

WIU Department of Kinesiology Chair **Janet Wigglesworth** said the Motor Clinic is one of the

exceptional programs Western not only offers its students, but also to the community in west central Illinois and beyond.

"We've got great things going here with our adapted physical education program, as demonstrated by the award Dr. Piletic and her colleagues won last year. Dr. Piletic is an important leader in the program," Wigglesworth noted. "We are one of the few physical education teacher education programs in Illinois that requires our students to take multiple courses in adapted physical education, so when they leave WIU and go out to become physical educators, they have a good background to be able to work with *all* students."

Continued from 2015 p. 1

Baughman, a 1960 education graduate and a 1967 education master's degree graduate, retired after 37 years as a teacher, coach, administrator, adviser and class sponsor at Lewistown High School. Baughman has also taught at Spoon River College, worked at an accounting firm and owns (and formerly managed) a farm.

Over the years, he has served on numerous local and state boards including the Masonic Lodge, Western Illinois Business Teachers Association, the Illinois Education Association, is a 40-year member of the Secretary of State's Antique Auto Show judging team and has served as a deacon at the Lewistown Presbyterian Church.

Baughman has also served on the alumni corporation board of Gamma Kappa Chapter. Baughman has been an avid supporter of WIU over the years, as well as of his fraternity, Delta Sigma Phi. As an alumnus, he has served as a member of the advisory board for the fraternity from 1960-66 and from 1997 until recently. He was named Greek Adviser of the Year in 2000. Baughman has also been a member of the WIU Alumni Council and is currently a member of Western's Library Leadership Board.

Through a planned gift in his estate, he established the George Baughman Scholarship for the College of Business and Technology and in 2008 he increased his gift to support the Malpass Library and Alumni Programs. Baughman also continues to support athletics, the libraries, Performing Arts Society and scholarships annually.

He has not missed a WIU Homecoming except during WWII and continues to drive Homecoming royalty in the annual parade and has attended more than 100 alumni events. He is a member of the Antique Auto Club of America and serves as Master Judge, as well as has awards at both the state and national levels for best antique car.

Nelson, a 1970 history graduate, has been an attorney and shareholder with Califf and Harper in Moline (IL) specializing in civil and commercial litigation, banking and financial institutions, bankruptcy, workers' compensation and real estate.

He has been admitted to practice in the states of Illinois and Iowa since 1977. He is a member of the Illinois and Iowa bar associations; is admitted to practice in the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois and the Southern District of Iowa, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts (Central, Northern and Southern districts of Illinois and the Southern and Northern Districts of Iowa).

Nelson has been an avid supporter of WIU throughout the years, both with his time and financially. In addition to annual gifts, he and his wife, **Regina MS-Ed '91**, have a planned gift to WIU, are members of the Leatherneck Club, Western Illinois Now and the Performing Arts Society.

He served on the WIU Board of Trustees from 2006-11, including as chair from 2008-10. He has served on the WIU Foundation Board of Directors for over 19 years, currently serving as vice president and as president from 1999-01; serves on the WIU-Quad Cities Advisory Board and has served on the WIU Foundation's Development Council. He taught business law as an adjunct professor at WIU-QC from 2000-03.

In his community, Nelson is a member of the City of Moline Project Management Team, the Alleman Catholic



**George O. Baughman
'60 and MS-Ed '67**

School Foundation, and the Seton Catholic School Foundation. He received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Drake University Law School.

Passananti, a 1975 physical education graduate, is the founder and senior managing partner of Business Strategies Group of Illinois at AXA Advisors, which helps business owners implement strategies to protect, preserve and pursue value from their business. He has more than 30 years of experience in the Financial Services Industry, and has achieved the American College, Charter Life Underwriter (CLU) designation.

After graduating from WIU, the two-time All American Offensive Guard was drafted by the Minnesota Vikings. Passananti has been involved with WIU since his days playing football. He is a member of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity (formerly Phi Sigma Epsilon) and remains an active alumnus of the fraternity. He was inducted into the WIU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1985 and was instrumental in organizing the inaugural All-Leatherneck Reunion.

Throughout the years, he has given back to WIU, both with his time and financially, supporting Alumni Programs, athletics and the President's Scholarship.

In his community, Passananti is a Sustaining Board Member of the JDRF (diabetes research) of Chicago, past board member of The Mulliganeers (Giving Kids a Second Chance), a past board member of the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame, past president of The Society of Financial Services Professionals and a past member of The J. Kyle Braid Foundation (Teaching Teens to Take Lead).

Thomas, a 1986 sports management graduate program alumnus, served as the director of athletics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, from 2011-15. Previously, he was the director of athletics for six years at the University of Cincinnati. He also served as director of athletics at the University of Akron and as associate athletic director at the University of Virginia.

At UI, he established the State Farm Center, a \$170 million renovation project, which included the university signing a landmark 30-year, \$60 million naming rights agreement with State Farm. It was the largest corporate naming rights deal for a college-only venue in the country.

Throughout his career, he has launched more than \$325 million in facility construction and renovation; served on national and conference committees, including chairing



**John C. Passananti
'75**

numerous subcommittees; and he has twice received the General Robert R. Neyland Outstanding Athletics Director Award.

During his Illinois tenure, UI student-athletes increased their overall GPA from 3.05 to 3.25 and annually rank near the top in the Big Ten graduation rates; the Illini won Big Ten championships in all four men's spring sports in 2015 for the first time since 1927; Fighting Illini athletics had its three highest fundraising totals ever in the past four years and the athletic programs performed over 7,000 hours of community service annually.

Thomas has also been supportive of Western over the years. He has hosted WIU guests at University of Illinois athletics events and has assisted in planning, hosting and recruiting for alumni and friends events, as well as speaking to the groups.

In his community he is involved in the Challenger Baseball League, and he and wife, Jeni, served as co-chairs of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children).



**Michael J. Thomas
MS '86**

Continued from WIU p. 1

"I have used every one of her teaching strategies throughout my 15 years of teaching. She was an inspiration for me," Huffman said.

Huffman was also named South Carolina History Teacher of the Year in June, and Teacher of the Year for Pinckney Elementary, a public school that employs 70 teachers.

Huffman plans to complete her doctorate in education next May, with a focus on college teaching and learning. Her dissertation topic is about the need for differentiated instruction in adult learning.

"I want to be like Dr. Simonson and teach methods education classes or recertification courses to teachers. I've been teaching 15 years now, and I think this will be a great transition in my life, but it will remain in the field of education, which I love," Huffman added.



**Mary (Petrus) Huffman '01
MS-Ed '08**

Women's Center

Western Illinois University's Women's Center founders and current and former directors, graduate assistants, student assistants, interns, practicum students, student organization leaders and members; advisory board members; donors and other volunteers are invited to attend the Women's Center's 30th anniversary celebration from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 16.

The event is a gathering of current and former WIU Women's Center staff and volunteers and will include a reception, fundraising dinner, program and sharing of memories. More details will be released later, including tickets/reservations for the event.

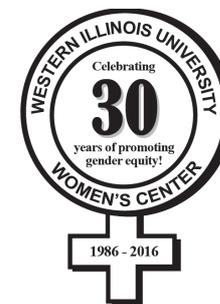
The cost for the dinner is \$30 per person for non-students, with \$15 of each ticket being a tax-deductible contribution to the Women's Center.

The Women's Center welcomes donations throughout the year, including monetary and planned gifts through the WIU Foundation.

Donations help:

- Provide financial assistance for students
- Provide funding for students to attend conferences
- Bring speakers and performers to campus
- Purchase books, DVDs and other materials for our Multicultural Center Resource Library Women's Center Collection
- Provide recruitment and retention initiatives

For more information, contact Women's Center Director **Janine Cavicchia MS '88** at (309) 298-2242 or J-Cavicchia@wiu.edu. Also, please "like" the Western Illinois University Women's Center on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



Honoring our Past;
Shaping our Future



Women's Center

COL. ROCK III 2016 CALENDAR, ROCK HANSON VINTAGE COLLECTION



The holidays are right around the corner, and if you're looking for unique and classic gift ideas, look no further than the Western Illinois University Bookstore for the 2016 Col. Rock III calendar and the limited edition Rock Hanson Vintage Collection. Items from the Hanson Collection feature Western's logos from 1926 through 1964.

From glassware to apparel, there are items in the Hanson Collection for every WIU fan, and keeping with the "Rock holiday theme," the 2016 Col. Rock calendar features 12 months of Western's adorable mascot. The items can be found at tinyurl.com/ozfz9y4 and tinyurl.com/pkxt744, respectively.



Photos taken by George Hartmann, Western Illinois University Visual Production Center.

Warm Holiday Wishes



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

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USI Travel Insurance Services ... Whether you decide to travel with WIU or even for trips you take on your own, we offer insurance for all types of trips. For more than a decade, WIU has chosen USI Travel Insurance Services to provide travel insurance plans for alumni and friends. Be sure you are adequately insured for your next trip—whether participating in a WIU Travel Abroad Program or traveling on your own. wiu.edu/alumni/insurance.php (800) 937-1387

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

WIU Diploma Frames ... Join the WIU tradition, and frame your diploma! Our officially licensed, Made-in-the-USA frames feature the WIU name and seal, and will preserve your hard-earned diploma for a lifetime. Frames are customizable so that you can match your own style and décor. Desk accessories are also available. Call or order your custom frame online. wiu.edu/alumni/diploma_frames.php (800) 477-9005

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

Career Development Center ... WIU alumni can enjoy continued access to benefits provided by WIU's Career Development Center (CDC). wiu.edu/cdc (309) 298-1838

Western's Leslie F. Malpass Library ... Alumni can use the physical library and search online databases when on campus. Use of online catalogs for books and media and access to the library's reference services, guides, etc. are included in your benefits. wiu.edu/alumni/library_access.php (800) 413-6544

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

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

Recreation Center Memberships ... WIU alumni and their spouses and domestic partners may purchase memberships. wiu.edu/alumni/rec_center.php (309) 298-1228

Updates from the Career Development Center

Spring 2016 Career and Internship Fair

Registration has opened for the Spring 2016 Career Fair, coordinated by the Career Development Center. The Spring Career and Internship Fair will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 2 in the University Union Grand Ballroom. The fee is \$150 per company for one recruiter and \$10 for each additional recruiter. Companies that send a WIU alumnus/alumna will receive a \$25 discount off the total registration price. The registration fee includes table space, lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

To register, visit student.services.wiu.edu/careers/fair.

Call (309) 298-1838 for questions or concerns.



Quad Cities Western Wednesdays, September 2, 2015
City Limits Saloon & Grill, Rock Island, IL

L-r: Director of Public Safety Scott Harris '04 '06, Retired Instructor Don Healy '84, Emily Walker '10, Don Walker, College Arts and Sciences Assistant Dean Jim Rabchuk, Dougal Nelson, Jim Lodico '62 '75, Mike Brewers '70 '82 '01, Bill Horrell '89 '95, Alumni Achievement Award recipient Steve McCann '78, Tom Ahlstrand '69, Board of Trustees Chair and Alumni Achievement Award recipient Roger Clawson '77 and John Baumann '83.



WIU vs. U of I Pregame Social & Football Game
September 12, 2015, Memorial Stadium, Champaign, IL

L-r: Todd Lester '90, Cindy Krider Goldsbury '79, President's National Advisory Council member and Alumni Achievement Award recipient Rich Goldsbury '79 '80, Laura Raczkowski and Jeff Lester.



WIU vs. U of I Pregame Social & Football Game
L-r: Bill Kelly '75, Jim Reichl '73, Alumni Council member Brian Savage '73, Pat O'Neill '72, Glen Follis, President's National Advisory Council member and Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Kirk Dillard '77 and Alumni Council member Kathy Sullivan '78.



WIU vs. U of I Pregame Social & Football Game

Recent Alumni Events



Chicago Western Wednesday, August 5, 2015

Kroll's, Chicago

L-r: Karen Salverson '95 '96 holding Caroline Huddleston, Margie McLaughlin '73, John Harris '15, Beth Zdeblick '76, Alumni Council President Carol Lewis Scott '70, Jim Carter '75 (back), Megan Pittman, Jill Speer Bainter '77, Alumni Council member Tom O'Brien '07 (back), Boomer Moore '08, Alumni Achievement Award recipient and Vice President Emeritus and Foundation Board President Jackie Speer Thompson '85 '94, Cecilia Diaz '92, Erin O'Brien (back), Jay O'Brien (back), Jane Rutledge Pittman '81 and Alumni Council member Brian Savage '73.



Chicago Western Wednesday

Front (kneeling) Kevin Gibson '81. Seated l-r: Mary Sunderland and Jessica Ball Mueller '09 '11. Standing l-r: Reggie Karas Devers '78, Mona D'Antonio '76, Brandon Mueller '07 '11, Ginny McGarrity '78, Debra Novotny Carter '75, Jim Burke, Jim Leopardo, Steven Sunderland '77, Lee Marcheschi, Jon Walcher '08, Kelsey Butson Sraga '07 and Steve Sraga '04.



Memphis Alumni & Friends, September 1, 2015

Autozone Park, Memphis, TN

Seated l-r: Chris Stella, Cynthia Ward, Samantha Bostere, President Jack Thomas, Honorary Doctorate recipient Carmelita Teeter, Julie Williams Jett '91 and Paula Barnes. Standing l-r: Ryan Stella, Mike Kakta '76, Minus Adams '82, Honorary Doctorate recipient Norm Teeter '67, Andrew Chan, Mike Sondag '74, Mike Jett, Will Risley, Cliff Barnes and Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter '79 '83.



Memphis Alumni & Friends

L-r: Honorary Doctorate recipients Carmelita and Norm Teeter '67, President Thomas, Samantha Bostere and Andrew Chan.



Nashville Alumni & Friends, September 2, 2015

Merchant's, Nashville, TN

Seated l-r: John Ranger '62 '66 '74, Denise Carroll Ranger, President Jack Thomas, Marie Papini '05 and Nicki Fosdyck Robins '03. Standing l-r: Steve Kummer '95, Diana Dugle, Retired Professor John Dugle, Jennifer Dugle Kummer, Patrick Leshner '06, Hazel Hall '10, Wesley Schmitz '05, Scott Benton '87 and Matt Robins '03.

CLASS NOTE CRITERIA

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

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

— WIU Alumni Association

1958

Morris Hicks, Tucson, AZ, is a retired dentist.

1962

Donna Chadwick Goemaat, Pella, IA, is a retired music teacher from the Pella and Cedar Rapids Public Schools.

1968

Gordon Taylor, Jr., Macomb, was inducted into the Hinsdale Central High School Foundation's Hall of Fame.

1969

Jeff Blackwell MS-ED, Coal Valley, is a volunteer coordinator – Quad Cities for Heartland Hospice/HCR-ManorCare in Davenport, IA.

1970

Marshall Laitsch MBA '73, Corona Del Mar, CA, is the Chairman of the board of directors for Community Bank in Pasadena.

Stephen Larson, Eatonton, GA, is a sr. consultant for Watkins Consulting Group, LLC in Annapolis, MD.

Carole Passarella Marmion, Toms River, NJ, is retired from Coastal Healthcare.

1971

Kenneth Brieschke, Bloomington, IN, is a security officer for Guardsmark Security Services in Carmel.

1972

Gloria McPherson, Springfield, is retired from teaching in the Springfield School District and continues to substitute teach at Lincoln Magnet Middle School.

Stephanie Kuczajda Mena, Ft. Myers, FL, is a retired teacher from Orland School District # 135.

1973

Ned Birkey, Ida, MI, is the owner of Spartan Agricultural Consulting, LLC and received the 2015 Ecology Champion Award from the Monroe County Farm Bureau.

Marjorie Hemp MS '75, Summerfield, FL, is retired and is a real estate broker.

Julie Morey Rowe, Moline, is retired and is a sales representative for Young Living Essential Oils.

Robert Weems, Jr., Wichita, KS, is the Willard W. Garvey Distinguished Professor of Business History for Wichita State University.

1974

Janet Kaiser Cunningham, Crystal Lake, is a retired teacher from Crystal Lake School District # 47.

Mike Drews, Aurora, is a broker-associate with Charles B. Doss & Co. and is the 2016 President of the Illinois Association of Realtors.

Les Hansen, Friendswood, TX, is the executive vp/CFO for Phoenix Millwork, Inc. in Alvin.

Dennis Yard, Galesburg, is retired from Pioneer HiBred in Good Hope.

1975

Fredrick McConnell, Marion, AL, is retired and teaching high school math at Marion Academy.

1976

Andrew Bitta, Libertyville, is a coach for Libertyville High School.

Susan Slocum, Winnebago, is a medical social consultant for UIC.

1977

Joan Tarnowski Blume, Naperville, is the vp for The Bank of New York Mellon.

Phyllis Campbell MS-ED '87, Anderson, SC, has written two books *Naked Me* and *Hell Outta Dodge*.

John Weiss, Pagosa Springs, CO, is retired.

Jeffrey York MA '03, Wheaton, is a retired special education teacher.

1978

Laurie Hillstrom Karman, Buffalo, is retired after 36 years from Ameren Illinois as manager of regulatory affairs.

Lesley Tucker, Snellville, GA, is retired from DeKalb County School District as the special education coordinator.

1979

Barbara Chiles MS, Aledo, received master board member level 2 from the Illinois Association of School Boards.

1980

Robert McCormick, St. Simons Island, GA, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his 28 years of service at ATF Bureau Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Michael "Mick" Myers, Mt. Sterling, is the Chief of Rushville Police Dept.

1981

John Cashman, Downers Grove, has been named vp of Holden.

1982

Christopher Sullivan, Alton, is the chief of police for the City of Aledo.

1983

LaVerne Council, Mendam, NJ, is the assistant secretary for information and technology and Chief Information Officer for the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

Stephen Hayes, Woodbridge, VA, works for the assistant secretary of the U.S. Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology) and is the deputy director of Acquisition Logistics Policy and Special Projects at the Pentagon in Arlington.

Steven Strasma, Edinburg, TX, is a sr. industrial hygienist for Saudi Aramco.

1984

Alina Komendowski Balko, Buffalo Grove, is a business insights and training consultant for Alina Corp.

1985

Bill Druffel, Lexington, KY, is a sr. field service supervisor of Kentucky and Missouri for MorphoTrust USA.

William Patterson, LeClaire, IA, is retired from the U.S. Army.

1986

Ron Barch, Roscoe, is an Associate Circuit Judge for the 17th Judicial Circuit.

1987

Maria Cruz-Reyes, Tracy, CA, is a behavioral healthcare provider.

Becky Hensley MA '89, Hammond, LA, is an instructor at Southeastern Louisiana University and has been elected President of the Association for Humanist Sociology for 2017.

1988

Angela Bartelt Myers, Belvidere, is a training coordinator for Blain's Farm and Fleet.

Kirk Rourke MS, Kirksville, MO, is a CDL examiner for the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Anthony Troeger, Greensboro, NC, is the president/CEO, private investigator for Aardwolf International Investigations, Protection, & Consulting.

1989

Rebecca Smith Souligne, Manteno, is an attorney and assistant public defender for the Law Offices of Rebecca Souligne in Kankakee.

Greg Williams, Villa Park, is a strategic consultant for Element Financial.

1990

Phillip Lockhart, Wake Forest, NC, is a sr. category manager in global raw materials for Patheon in Durham.

Pamela Nowak Reckamp MFA, St. Louis, MO, is the artistic director for Ozark Actors Theatre in Rolla.

Marlon Ricketts, Rochelle, is an ag lender for Holcomb State Bank.

Ben Williams, Chicago, is an account executive for Professional Dealer Services in Oakbrook.

1991

Letty Gutierrez-Bujak, Round Rock, TX, is the president for The Sales Farm.

Tamara Lutz, Oro Valley, AZ, is a clinical nutrition manager for Southern Arizona VA Health Care System.

Jeff Pentzien MA '93, Edinburg, is a training manager for the Illinois Dept. of Central Management Services.

1992

Sally Ross Anderson MS-ED, Springfield, is a teacher at North Mac Intermediate School in Girard.

Brian Eggers, St. Cloud, FL, is an operations manager for SodexoMagic LLC at Walt Disney World in Orlando.

Melissa Moens Gyure, Urbandale, IA, is a spanish and cultural issues teacher for the Urbandale Community Schools.

Carolyn Lockhart, Wake Forest, NC, is a finance manager – head of US Finance for Xellia.

1993

Deborah Wilson Boyles, Carthage, is an accountant for Professional Swine Management.

Rand Broutin, Edwards, is retired from Caterpillar as program/project manager.

Ronda Holliman Coleman, Urbana, is an associate judge for Champaign County.

1994

Rebecca Stekl Andersen, Oswego, is the band director at Kaneland CUSD # 302 in Maple Park.

Lee Eastburn, Billings, MT, is a driver sales representative for Con-Way Freight.

Scott Jones, Morton, is the director of athletics and activities for Morton High School.

Thomas Pachuta, Canton, OH, is an IT business analyst principal for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron.

Derek Wayland, Fuquay Varina, NC, is a sr. civil design associate – se regional CAD coordinator for Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in Raleigh.

1996

Gary Warren, Austin, TX, is the Fire Chief for League City.

Nicole Washington, Chicago, is the president of Association EMB Management in Bellevue, WA.

1997

Jason Cale, Macomb, is the branch manager for First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust in Quincy.

John Fletcher, Cedar Rapids, IA, is an economics professor for Kirkwood Community College.

Heather Engstrom Johnson, Elgin, is a K-12 tutor for HJ Tutoring and is an online tutor for InstaEDU.

Christy Hall Warren, Chicago, is an implementation specialist for Patron Technology in New York, NY.

1998

Sara Featherlin MLA&S '13, Springfield, is an assistant director of UIS I-card office for the University of Illinois Springfield.

Carrie Griffin, Buffalo Grove, is an assistive technology facilitator for CCSD # 15 in Palatine.

J. Dougal Nelson, Moline, is the director of development for Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities in Davenport, IA.

1999

Amy Sappingfield Adaski, Puyallup, WA, is an associate administrator for Roy Elementary School.

Stephanie Bartels Conover, Briarcliff Manor, NY, is the vp of retail for Derek Lam International, LLC in New York.

Recent Alumni Events



Charlotte Alumni & Friends, September 16, 2015
Blackfinn Ameripub, Charlotte, NC

L-r: Linda Hayward Niedermeier '91, Susie Seaman '15, Tim Niedermeier '95 '01, Deanna Niedermeier, Renemary Winston Dubois '83, Brian Hosey '90 and Damodar Nekkala '10.



Raleigh Alumni & Friends, September 17, 2015
Tyler's Taproom, Raleigh, NC

Seated l-r: Anna Harkness Roley '08, Ashley Lawson, Wendy Cox, Virginia Lawson Schaible '83, Anita Watkins and Wendy Viar Galloway '84. Standing l-r: David Pratt '88, Peter Roley '08 '10, Dean Meyer '92, Chris Lawson '92, Tony Troeger '88, Kevin Cox '89, Pat Lawson '91, Daniel Galloway '85 and Steve Schaible.



WIU vs. Coastal Carolina Pregame Social & Football Game
September 19, 2015, Conway, SC



WIU vs. Coastal Carolina Pregame Social & Football Game



Chicago Western Wednesdays, October 7, 2015
Toby Keith's, Rosemont, IL

Front l-r: Alumni council member Briand Savage, Kelly Humke Streg '09, Alumni Council President Carol Lewis Scott '70, Kevin Froehlich '05, Cyndee Kane Marciniak '74 '84, Orterio Villa '08 '10, Courtney James '10, Mark Carbonara '10, Mandi Hulme Dilling '10, Kim Hellstern LaDeur '78 and Ryan Kuro '04. Back l-r: Steve Sunderland '77, Sonny Liston '78, Jim Burke, Ted McClintic '80, Steve Prost '80, Norm Goldberg '71, Bill Howe '88, Cian Quinn '14, Ashley Rauch '10, Joe Balogh '08 '10, Jenny Douglas '10, Bob LaDeur '77 and Alumni Council member Phil Nathe '81.



St. Louis Alumni & Friends Reception, October 8, 2015
Kemoll's, St. Louis, MO

Front l-r: Distance Learning, International Studies and Outreach Director Rick Carter, Lynn Jacobs Payne '78, President Jack Thomas, Admissions Counselor Jamie Staggs and Office Assistant Tera Wiseman. Middle l-r: University Relations Assistant Director Teresa Koltzenburg '92 '11, John Butler '81, Angela Hutti Coulson '03, Rebecca Timko Mead '92, Rose Taylor, Jim Alexander, Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathy Neumann '86 '88 and Vice President for Student Services Gary Biller. Back l-r: Roosevelt Wilson, Glen Coulson, Professor Keith Holz, Alumni Council member Ty Taylor '79, Cortez Branch '90, Todd Fulton '88, Rosalyn Fulton and Dorian Hobbs.



Bears vs. Chiefs Pregame Social & Football Game
October 11, 2015, Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City, MO
L-r: David Schuber '09, Christopher Kudron '09, Thomas Mendenhall '10, Brian Esmon '09, Bill Siegert '09, Shawn Shotts '09 and Chris Knobbe '09.



Bears vs. Chiefs Pregame Social & Football Game
L-r: Amy McKenna, Sarah McKenna, Jacque McKenna '07, Public Safety Officer Jason Lytle '97, Residential Facilities Assistant Director Ketra Russell '09 '11, Alumni Council member and Residential Facilities Director Joe Roselieb '07 '09 and Peg Lytle.



Bears vs. Chiefs Pregame Social & Football Game
L-r: Jay Maloney, Pat Hanrahan, Tom Taylor '76, Tom Moran '76, Bob Maloney '03, Mary Maloney '79, Jim Maloney '78, Dave Ball '77, Anna Ball, Barb Hanrahan, Dan Hanrahan '77, Diane Hanrahan Garvey '85 and Dan Garvey '83.

Susan Hodgkins, Overland Park, KS, is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City.

Courtney Prentice, Roscoe, received the Lorain Means Award for 2015.

2000

Mary Gilliam Scheihing '13, Macomb, is a SNAP educator for the University of Illinois.

2001

Wenny Amandy M. Acct, Newtown, NSW, Australia, is a business finance controller for Huawei Australia.

Frank Bugaris III MBA, Orland Park, is the founder and chief helping officer for CareerLightning.

Mary Petrus Huffman, Goose Creek, SC, received the Gilder Lehrman National History Teacher of the Year Award.

Catherine Ryan McKnight, Shorewood, is a sr. manager of global employee relations for Gap, Inc.

Jena Stankiewicz Otto, Honolulu, HI, is a 3rd grade part time teacher for Jefferson Elementary.

2002

Jackie Keifer Anhalt MS, Bettendorf, IA, was awarded 2015 Outstanding Nurse Executive in Iowa by the Iowa Organization of Nurse Leaders.

Stephen Bauer, Greenfield, WI, is Chief of Staff for Public Allies in Milwaukee.

Jason Tanamor, Rock Island, has written a new novel Drama Dolls.

2003

Robin Jakubowski Ballard, Loves Park, is a graphic designer for SwedishAmerican in Rockford.

Matthew Hatting, Marysville, WA, is an adult clinical supervisor for Catholic Community Services.

Nina Wetzell Riggle MS '09, Williamsport, is an instructor for the American Museum of Natural History.

Clinton Singley, Shoreline, WA, is a sr. program manager for Amazon.

2004

Audrey Liszewski Chamber, Lombard, is an inventory analyst for Sears Holding Company.

Christopher Corona, Aurora, is a sales analyst for Navistar.

Steven Gustison, Georgetown, TX, is retired.

Rebecca Schmidt Haskins, Quincy, is a clinical therapist for Chaddock.

Whitney Carr May, S. Elgin, is a sr. marketing graphic designer for Sears Holdings.

Kate Briney Norburg, Washington, is a 1st grade teacher for Central School District # 51.

2005

Adam Ledger, Brighton, IA, is a farmer.

Julie Biebel Ledger, Brighton, IA, is a child care consultant for Child Care Resource & Referral.

Russell Vineyard MS, Ellensburg, WA, is the director of university recreation for Central Washington University.

Julie Du Plessis Zunic, Dunnellon, FL, is an LPN for Rescare.

2006

Marta Dobrzynski Nickols MA '08, Pleasant Hill, IA, is the supervisory immigration services officer for Dept. of Homeland Security in Des Moines.

Samantha Ramage Young, Pekin, is a residential supervisor/case manager for Tazewell County Resource Center in Tremont.

2007

Brittany Baumann, St. Paul, MN, is a news producer for Hubbard Broadcasting KSTP-TV.

Nicholas Bloomfield, DeSoto, WI, is a fisheries biologist for US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Amy Cramlett Buss, Mendon, is a pre-k special education teacher for Central Elementary School in Camp Point.

Tracy Lyons Darrah, Galesburg, is a laboratory associate I for the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture Animal Disease Laboratory.

Tiffany Hamling, Ellsworth, is a workforce management analyst for State Farm Insurance Company.

2008

Frank Delo MM, Downers Grove, is a co-owner/instructor for Amalgam Martial Academy.

Michel Phillips DeMoss, Rushville, is a sr. accountant for ADM.

Catherine Foy MA, Eugene, OR, has written *Psychards-A New Alternative to Tarot* and *Bartleby, the Scrivener's Tale*.

Steven Getty, Roscoe, is an attorney and has become an associate at Heyl Royster in the Rockford office.

Eddie Rybarski, Batavia, is a marketing copywriter for Enova International in Chicago.

Tony Wilk, Round Lake, is a construction project manager/estimator for Ernie Loberg Construction, Corp Inc. in Rolling Meadows.

2009

Allison Morgan Carroll MS '11, Denver, CO, is a technical recruiter for AIM Consulting.

Clarissa Cenci MS, Annecy-le-Vieux, France, is a global commercial manager footwear for Salomon.

Christopher Skalon, Decatur, is a police officer for the City of Decatur.

Gina Wadas, La Grange Park, is an editorial associate II for book acquisitions in the sciences, social sciences, and references for the University of Chicago Press and received her master degree in science and technology journalism from Texas A & M University in May 2015.

Katherine Wendland, Villa Park, is a registration specialist for Downers Grove Park District.

Jessica Roselieb Wirsing, Prophetstown, is a member service representative for IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union.

Christie Seagren Wood, Davenport, IA, is a librarian for the Davenport Public Library.

2010

Matthew Babiak, Joliet, is an estimator for Versitech.

Samantha Trimarco Bugger, S. Elgin, is a pe/health field leader & teacher for School District # 54.

Mark Carbonara MS, Bartlett, is an associate director of student involvement for the Dominican University in River Forest.

Bryan Dodds MBA, Rochester, MN, is the director of aftermarket product development for McNeilus Truck and Manufacturing in Dodge Center.

Steven Dryden, Charleston, is a technical support engineer II for Consolidated Communications in Mattoon.

Leaha Sharpe Jones MS-ED, Chatham, is a clinical supervisor for Family Service Center.

Jason Miller, Maryland Hts, MO, is a supply chain analyst for Bunge North America in St. Louis.

2011

Robert Elliott, Naples, FL, is a sales consultant for AT&T.

Samri Galho, Belmont, CA, is an IT engineer for Hewlett Packard.

Derek Himan, Mt. Sterling, is a police officer for the Mt. Sterling Police Dept.

Matt Johnson, Springfield, is a Sony experience expert for Best Buy.

Manpreet Kaur Sidhu MBA, Moline, is an ERP systems analyst for SBP Consulting, Inc.

Katherine Short Vega, Elk Grove Vlg, is a teacher for Skokie School District # 68.

Martin Vega, Elk Grove Vlg, is a police officer for the City of Elgin.

Ryan Vladesov, Cary, is a raw material buyer for Polynt Composites USA in Carpentersville.

2012

Lauren Armstead, Summerville, SC, is a 7th grade social studies teacher for Berkeley County School District.

Natalie Bybsky, Downers Grove, is a disaster specialist for the American Red Cross of Chicago & N. Illinois.

Stephanie Aimi Crockett MS '14, Macomb, is a teacher's aide for Catch A Star Learning Center.

Amanda Eschman, Belleville, is a K-3 special education teacher for Central School District # 104.

Nick Knuffman, Springfield, is the general manger of food service for Hy-Vee and is an adjunct instructor for hospitality business at Lincoln Land Community College.

Crystal Sewell, Springfield, is a community manager for the American Cancer Society.

Cayla Walsh MS '13, Bushnell, is an executive director for the McDonough County United Way in Macomb.

2013

Kolbi Kraft, Pana, is a police officer for the City of Pana.

Jonathan McGee, Washington, DC, is a legislative aide for Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson and received his master's degree in Political Management from The George Washington University.

Kristen Wyse Wagner MS, Indianola, IA, is an assistant director of student activities for Simpson College.

2014

Michael Bondi, Woodridge, is an intense behavior interventionist for Turning Pointe Autism Foundation.

Tiah Carlouth, Moline, is an accountant for Accountemps.

Duane Clow, Camas, WA, is a regional service manager for Stryker.

Megan Harrison, Warsaw, is a fifth grade teacher for Keokuk Catholic School.

Kathleen Holte, Oswego, is the residential family advocate for Safe Passage in DeKalb.

Daniel Mitchell, Racine, WI, is a tele-service product support manager for CNH Industrial.

2015

Rahshonda Brooks, Merrillville, IN, is a case manager for Capitol City Family & Education Services.

Kelli Kinsel Canevit, Canton, is an infection control/employee health RN for Graham Hospital.

Talah Kamran, Mechanicsburg, PA, is an operations supervisor for Ross Stores in Fortmill, SC.

Jessica Ashby Mosley, Macomb, is a program assistant for Macomb Senior High School.

Bridget Osborn MS-ED, Williamston, MI, is the lead preschool teacher for Williamston Community Schools.

Alison Oswalt, Davenport, IA, is a benefits coordinator at KJWN Corp.

Maria Salinas MS PB-CER, Annandale, VA, is the immigration services officer for the Dept. of Homeland Security -US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Maura Warner, Davenport, IA, is the communications coordinator for the Girl Scouts of E. Iowa and W. Illinois in Bettendorf.

Marriages & Civil Unions

Curt Alsvig '06 and **Meghan Mormann**, July 3, 2015.

Jaclyn Cawthon '13 and **Cody Arens**, Aug. 1, 2015.

Kayla Duley '08 MA '10 and **Daniel Mitchell '14**, June 6, 2015.

Jacklyn Henderkott '11 and **Braxton Edwards**, Apr. 11, 2015.

Audrey Liszewski '04 and **Jeremy Chambers**, Oct. 11, 2014.

Kelsey McGuire '13 and **Daniel Brakefield '14**, July 26, 2015.

Chris Mussman MS '08 and **Lisa Johnson**, Jan. 17, 2015.

Nick Navarro '11 and **Arianne Viola**, May 23, 2015.

Amy Neuser '12 MS '14 and **Nick Junkerman**, May 9, 2015.

Katherine Short '11 and **Martin Vega '11**, Oct. 18, 2014.

Lindsey Steffe '10 and **Gregory Pons**, July 18, 2015.

Stephanie Stenger '10 MS '15 and **Jeff Brown '04**, July 11, 2015.

Kristen Wyse MS '13 and **Craig Wagner MS '13**, July 24, 2015.

Births & Adoptions

Brendan Dimmig '15, and **Billie Ann**, a son, Jayce Anthony, June 23, 2015.

Rebecca Schmidt Haskins '04 and **Charles**, a daughter, Elsie Louise, Apr. 21, 2015.

Eric Huston '03 and **Mariah Baker Huston '12**, a daughter, Norah Maelynn, Oct. 17, 2015.

Abbie Wear O'Hern '09 and **Dan**, a daughter, Arley Anne, Oct. 18, 2015.

Jeff Pentzien '91 MA '93 and **Christy**, a son, Reed Parker, Feb. 24, 2015.

Nina Wetzell Riggle '03 MS '09, and **Joshua**, a daughter, Scarlet, Mar. 13, 2015.

Amanda Latta St. Leger '01 and **Nicholas St. Leger '00**, a son, Beckett John, July 23, 2015.

Deaths

David A. Aamodt, Mediapolis, IA, June 29, 2013.

Jo Ann Barnhizer Abrell, Friendswood, TX, Aug. 14, 2015.

Laverne G. Benhart, Itasca, June 20, 2014.

Patricia B. "Pat" Zumsteg Bowen, Hanna City, June 17, 2015.

George O. Braucht, Joy, July 29, 2015.

Ellis D. "Skip" Carlton, Brimfield, June 21, 2014.

Joseph L. "Joe Bob" Cassidy, Vermont, Oct. 19, 2015.

Elizabeth G. "E. Gale" Castrale, O'Fallon, Aug. 30, 2015.

Bruce A. Engnell, Macomb, Nov. 2, 2015.

Roger G. Ennen, Milford, June 9, 2015.

Mary V. Frohne, S. Bend, IN, Apr. 25, 2015.

Eileen C. Grigals, Bettendorf, IA, June 5, 2015.

Arthur Hasbargen, Valparaiso, IN, Sept. 29, 2015.

Frank S. "Scott" Helwig, The Villages, FL, May 29, 2015.

Doris C. Hightower, Macomb, Sept. 21, 2015.

Max L. Hudson, Good Hope, Oct. 21, 2015.

Daniel T. Johnson, Bella Vista, AR, Aug. 27, 2015.

Alberta M. "Bertie" Jurgens, Blandinsville, Oct. 2, 2015.

William E. Larson, Sr., Rockton, Sept. 19, 2015.

John T. Lawyer, Industry, Sept. 30, 2015.

Eugene "Gene" Lewis, Good Hope, May 12, 2015.

Anita C. Martin, Macomb, June 7, 2015.

Martin H. McIntyre, Lubbock, TX, Sept. 17, 2015.

Dorothy E. Kirby Miller, Galesburg, Sept. 29, 2015.

Martha L. "Marty" Sutton Mussatto, Macomb, July 30, 2015.

Sharon B. Nichols, Moline, Oct. 21, 2014.

Wilma L. Dietz Paris, Atlanta, GA, Oct. 6, 2013.

Beth Fitzpatrick Peters, Bettendorf, IA, May 2, 2015.

Ronald L. Rayburn, Industry, Sept. 2, 2015.

Dorothy E. Blair Sandidge, Chandlerville, May 26, 2015.

Jane Schreiber, Corsicana, TX, Feb. 17, 2012.

Marilyn G. Settles, Burlington, IA, Aug. 7, 2015.

James B. "Bart" Shanklin, Macomb, Oct. 25, 2015.

Elizabeth "Libby" Potter Sherrick, Carthage, Feb. 11, 2015.

George Waugh, Jr., St. Augustine, Jan. 30, 2013.

James S. Wehrly, Macomb, Oct. 22, 2015.

1935 Irene S. Carlson Nelson, Powell, OH, Aug. 15, 2015.

1938 Jean Close Ketzle, Aledo, Sept. 16, 2015.

1938 Opal Cortelyou Schroeder, LaHarpe, July 16, 2015.

1940 Esther M. Payne Kevern, Janesville, WI, June 15, 2015.

1940 Dorothy E. "Dot" McKie King, Knoxville, June 2, 2015.

1943 Mary A. Edie Graff, Napa, CA, July 31, 2015.

1947 Barbara J. McDowell McKean, Bradford, Oct. 2, 2015.

1947 Celeste K. Pohlman Pluester, Hardin, Aug. 7, 2015.

1947 Carrie E. Prentice MS-ED '57, Spokane, WA, July 27, 2015.

1947 Dorothy A. Reynolds '49, Barry, June 9, 2015.

1949 Paul E. Bates MS-ED '52 ED SP '71, Macomb, Aug. 30, 2015.

1949 Marilyn L. Stackhouse Cummings, Cambridge, July 26, 2015.

1950 Robert Marr, Jr., Bloomington, Aug. 27, 2015.

1951 Ruth A. Peecher Keller, Vernon Hills, Oct. 3, 2015.

1951 Jack E. Knake, St. Augustine, FL, July 5, 2015.

1951 James K. Lahr, St. Louis, MO, Apr. 29, 2015.

1951 Betty Bruner Moore, Hanover, July 25, 2015.

1951 John D. Shaver, Macomb, Aug. 28, 2015.

1951 Roland E. Smith, Wichita, KS, June 5, 2015.

1952 Joseph F. Mortier MS-ED '75, Moline, July 25, 2015.

1953 Patricia W. Warren Hoenig, Livermore, CA, May 30, 2015.

1954 Robert G. Carmichael MSE '56, Hanes City, FL, July 14, 2015.

1954 Helen J. Bloome McLaughlin, Mendota, Oct. 12, 2015.
 1954 Emma J. "Jane" Gardner Millsap, Wichita, KS, Dec. 16, 2010.
 1954 William M. Mitchell MSE '55, Sun City West, AZ, July 17, 2015.
 1955 John R. Thompson, Glasford, July 21, 2015.
 1956 Roger P. Brock, Tucson, AZ, Mar. 14, 2015.
 1956 Richard D. Fagan MS-ED '57, Lake Tomahawk, WI, June 18, 2015.
 1956 Bernard C. "Bernie" Gregory, Jacksonville, July 30, 2015.
 1956 John L. "Lee" Ledbetter, Eaton, CO, May 26, 2015.
 1956 Robert P. Winkelman IV, Chicago, June 7, 2015.
 1957 Richard C. Kiser MS-ED '58, Westminster, CO, June 15, 2012.
 1957 Iola I. Plate Landis MS-ED '63, Macomb, June 29, 2015.
 1957 Glenn A. "Al" Lentz, Moline, Sept. 23, 2015.
 1958 Roger L. Beghtol ED SP '77, Hendersonville, NC, Sept. 15, 2015.
 1958 Sara E. McMeekan Box, Davenport, IA, June 16, 2015.
 1958 Shirley J. Harnetiaux Coe, Sussex, WI, June 14, 2012.
 1959 Vance E. Newland, Sr., Seatac, WA, Nov. 1, 2014.
 1959 Austin J. "Joe" Wittmeyer, Neponset, May 29, 2015.
 1960 Francis "Frank" Gusman, Moline, May 20, 2015.
 1960 Gayle L. Nelson MS-ED, Colchester, Sept. 13, 2015.
 1960 Carolyn M. Zinser Nelson, Lanark, May 21, 2015.
 1960 Harold D. Showalter, Ashland, Oct. 12, 2015.
 1960 Stephen W. Steinke, Maricopa, AZ, Dec. 18, 2014.
 1960 Thelma M. Weller Wohlers, Franklin, May 13, 2015.
 1961 Ronald R. Barnes, Auburn, Sept. 1, 2015.
 1961 Robert R. Bennie MS '62, Nebraska City, NE, Sept. 8, 2015.
 1962 Kenneth R. Ebert, Hulbert, OK, May 24, 2015.
 1962 Nancy C. Albee Harp, Macomb, Oct. 13, 2015.
 1962 James L. May, Mesa, AZ, Aug. 26, 2015.
 1962 Laura M. Haynes Price, Galesburg, Oct. 15, 2015.
 1962 Roger L. Webel, Chesterfield, MO, July 22, 2015.
 1962 Carol A. Wheeler Zindel, Huntley, Oct. 4, 2015.
 1963 Hope Poland Siegrist, Phoenix, AZ, June 17, 2015.
 1964 Diane S. Bergailo Misk, Tigard, OR, Jan. 6, 2015.
 1965 Bruce M. Bambach, San Francisco, CA, May 18, 2015.
 1965 Ronald L. Beck MBA '71, Mooresville, NC, June 20, 2015.
 1965 Judith E. Schertz Schulze, West Bend, WI, Aug. 16, 2015.
 1965 Mildred M. "Millie" Kelly Zaborac MS-ED '78, Canton, Dec. 11, 2014.
 1966 Frederick H. "Herb" Anderson, Osprey, FL, Oct. 24, 2014.
 1966 John R. Glees, Rockford, May 27, 2015.
 1966 Virginia L. Welk Mahoney, Las Vegas, NV, July 9, 2015.
 1966 Jim D. Torrance, Bushnell, Oct. 19, 2015.
 1967 Stanley H. Girdler, Virden, Jan. 7, 2013.
 1967 Edward J. Gryska, Las Vegas, NV, Jan. 15, 2015.
 1967 Thomas R. Hyldahl, St. George, UT, May 30, 2014.
 1967 Gregory B. Kerker, Crystal Lake, Apr. 3, 2015.
 1967 Jean M. Morris, Pentwater, MI, Sept. 25, 2013.
 1968 Robert Deacon, Rockford, June 24, 2015.
 1968 Robert L. Martin, Springfield, Aug. 3, 2015.

1969 James W. Freyer, Mt. Prospect, Oct. 4, 2014.
 1969 Patrick F. McLaughlin, Jacksonville, FL, Aug. 28, 2015.
 1969 William C. Willis, San Antonio, TX, Aug. 14, 2015.
 1970 Ann Steins Atterberg, Keokuk, IA, Aug. 29, 2015.
 1970 Robert D. Ernst MS-ED, Independence, MO, Jan. 14, 2011.
 1970 Robert G. Jacobsen MS, Evanston, June 9, 2015.
 1970 Jay B. Manning, Lyons, May 10, 2015.
 1970 Dona J. Munger Roels, Savanna, May 20, 2015.
 1970 James R. Sumrall, Lafayette, IN, Sept. 22, 2015.
 1970 Mark R. Tebo, Chillicothe, Jan. 23, 2015.
 1970 Michael R. Walton, Bloomington, June 3, 2015.
 1971 Carolee Mason Smith MS-ED '82, Macomb, Aug. 17, 2015.
 1971 Dennis L. Wherley, Table Grove, Apr. 8, 2015.
 1972 Janet R. Lee Darovic, Orland Park, Nov. 21, 2013.
 1972 Mary M. "Peggy" Meighan Davern MS-ED, Tempe, AZ, Oct. 4, 2015.
 1972 Jane S. Peters Davis, St. Augustine, FL, Sept. 23, 2015.
 1972 Dan R. Erwin, Springfield, Sept. 10, 2015.
 1972 Donald C. Heggen MA, Long Grove, IA, May 23, 2015.
 1972 Linda S. "Susie" McGee Lowman, Hamilton, Oct. 21, 2013.
 1972 Bernard M. Marley MS-ED ED SP '75, Huntingburg, IN, Oct. 18, 2013.
 1972 Terry C. McKerr, Lake Villa, Aug. 26, 2015.
 1972 Chris W. Sepper MS, Shelby Twp, MI, Apr. 5, 2013.
 1973 Arlene E. Lewis Glesne, Pekin, Sept. 3, 2015.
 1973 Richard J. Glowacki, Orland Park, Nov. 9, 2012.
 1973 James E. Kurth, Akron, OH, Nov. 21, 2011.
 1973 Edward L. Olds III MS-ED ED SP '81, Mt. Carroll, Aug. 18, 2014.
 1973 Richard S. Rotz, Bloomington, June 7, 2015.
 1973 Terry L. Seegmiller, Chenoa, Feb. 20, 2015.
 1973 Thomas A. Walker, Mazon, May 12, 2009.
 1974 John P. Clark, Victoria, Sept. 30, 2015.
 1974 George H. Dreith, Godfrey, June 12, 2015.
 1974 Hal D. Harrison, Salem, Oct. 24, 2014.
 1974 Paula J. Ekonomos Kozlen, Rancho Mirage, CA, Aug. 29, 2015.
 1974 Geneva J. Davis Medhurst MS-ED '81, Alexis, July 27, 2015.
 1974 Donald L. Wadington, Mesa, AZ, Jan. 15, 2013.
 1975 Therese M. "Terri" Linehan, Palos Hills, Apr. 10, 2015.
 1975 John T. McGrath MS-ED, Bettendorf, IA, Sept. 15, 2015.
 1975 Elizabeth E. "Betty" Boyland Reynolds MA, Grand Rapids, MI, July 30, 2015.
 1975 Elaine S. Veith Unger, Park Ridge, Feb. 11, 2015.
 1976 Kevin R. Feldott, Dubuque, IA, July 30, 2015.
 1976 John A. Minton, Clarksville, TN, July 18, 2013.
 1976 Terence J. "Terry" Powell MA, Alto, MI, Dec. 6, 2014.
 1977 John P. Broida MS, Falmouth, ME, Sept. 6, 2015.
 1977 James A. Crowder MS-ED, Bettendorf, IA, July 20, 2015.
 1977 Sharon A. Kennedy George, LaFayette, June 2, 2015.
 1977 Christopher J. Harizal, Granite City, Mar. 22, 2015.
 1977 Brian D. Mahoney, Kankakee, Apr. 22, 2015.
 1977 Debra K. McDade-Stuff, Ann Arbor, MI, Sept. 15, 2015.

1978 James G. Koenig, Lenzburg, Jan. 15, 2015.
 1978 Elizabeth A. "Betty" Moore MS-ED, Jacksonville, Oct. 9, 2015.
 1978 Patrick A. Sepich, Las Vegas, NV, June 7, 2015.
 1978 Christine A. Steinmetz Shea, Wheaton, July 27, 2015.
 1979 Dennis J. Nemeth, Troy, May 31, 2015.
 1979 Michael N. "Mike" Voyles MS-ED, Davenport, IA, Oct. 6, 2015.
 1981 Brenda M. Burwell Hasselbacher, Galesburg, June 11, 2015.
 1981 George Ann Wolfe Ingram MS-ED, Melbourne, FL, June 8, 2015.
 1981 Janice M. Mast Prior MBA, Stone Mountain, GA, June 11, 2015.
 1982 Gena C. Meyers MS-ED, Shorewood, Apr. 28, 2015.
 1982 Kenneth K. Pfaff, Rock Island, Nov. 4, 2014.
 1982 Julie A. Perry Schenkel MBA, Dallas, TX, Dec. 11, 2012.
 1983 Fred H. Coody, W. Monroe, LA, Aug. 7, 2014.
 1983 Larry A. Day, Bettendorf, IA, Sept. 7, 2014.
 1983 Richard D. Hedeem MS-ED, Davenport, IA, June 22, 2015.
 1985 James V. Johnson MA '86, Prairie Village, KS, June 14, 2015.
 1987 Rebecca A. Murphy MS-ED, Springfield, Mar. 31, 2011.
 1988 Martha A. Swan MS-ED, Bettendorf, IA, July 8, 2015.
 1989 Michael W. Heim, Roeland Park, KS, Mar. 29, 2015.
 1989 Helen K. Allen Henderson MS-ED, Springfield, Aug. 22, 2015.
 1989 Debra J. Duffy Kuzyk, S. Elgin, Sept. 20, 2015.
 1989 Rae E. Bramel Scott, Joliet, Aug. 29, 2015.
 1990 Marie L. Allen Flosi, Sterling, Dec. 18, 2014.
 1991 Bradd P. Sniadanko, New River, AZ, Sept. 29, 2015.
 1992 William W. Godfrey, Philadelphia, MO, June 20, 2015.
 1992 Sherry J. King LaVingon, Macomb, Oct. 9, 2015.
 1993 Gerri A. Conway Hatchett MA '96, Rock Island, Mar. 20, 2015.
 1993 Carla J. Musselman Pals MS-ED, Clinton, IA, July 8, 2015.
 1994 Carolyn A. Rees Fulton, Burlington, IA, Aug. 25, 2015.
 1995 Scott A. Brown MS '97, Woodstock, Sept. 14, 2015.
 1997 Gilbert F. Acker, Pompano Beach, FL, Nov. 2, 2014.
 1997 Deborah J. Kaul MS-ED, Franklin, WI, Jan. 15, 2013.
 1997 Donna M. "Marilyn" Schuster Oehler MS-ED, Davenport, IA, June 3, 2015.
 1998 Timothy A. Burger, Bettendorf, IA, Jan. 10, 2015.
 1999 Samuel R. "Russell" Lillard, Peoria, July 15, 2015.
 1999 Joseph A. Skelley, Richardson, TX, Apr. 15, 2015.
 2000 Andrew B. Maul, Jacksonville, Sept. 11, 2015.
 2001 Daryl L. Selhost, Moline, Sept. 18, 2015.
 2002 Donna L. Redus, Devine, TX, Aug. 17, 2015.
 2004 Charles H. Ragston, Des Moines, IA, May 15, 2014.
 2005 Leannett N. Hall Phillips, LaBelle, MO, July 12, 2015.
 2007 Elizabeth A. Wright Serano, Quincy, June 18, 2015.
 2012 Megan M. Soger, Lombard, Nov. 13, 2013.
 2015 Justin T. Lillesand, Sheboygan Falls, WI, Oct. 13, 2015.

Recent Alumni Events



WIU vs. ISU Pregame Social & Football Game
October 24, 2015, Hancock Stadium, Normal, IL
 L-r: Kelly Ard '14, Angie Gallagher Ard '94, Dave Ard, Ashton Dunlap, Kolette Herndon '14, Assistant Athletic Director for Development Michael Jones '12, Brock Bainter '04 and Interim Athletic Director Matt Tanney.



L-r: Jeffrey Lukejko, Paul Lubejko '75, Jeff Lindsey '14, President Jack Thomas, Howard Cox '86, Dione Cox, Alumni Achievement Award recipient and retired Campus Recreation Director Jim Miner '72 '73, Tom Pogue '71, Suzi Stambaugh Miner '72 '73 and Brian Liston.



Front l-r: AJ Holtschlag '14 and Melissa Holtschlag. Back l-r: Leigh Thorman '08, retired Institutional Research and Planning Manager Sue Holzwarth Thorman '86, Sandy Holzwarth Taylor '86 '90, College of Education and Human Services Emeritus Dean Dave Taylor, Extended and Continuing Education Emeritus Dean Linda Stickney-Taylor '82 and Chip Holtschlag '15.

Homecoming 2015 - Rocky's Road Trip All Roads Lead to Western

Town & Gown 2015 – Homecoming Kick-Off Sept. 24



L-r: Sue Kaufman Anstine '60, 2009 Honorary Alumni Award recipient Bob Anstine, Jacquie Brattain and 2007 Honorary Alumni Award recipient Bill Brattain.



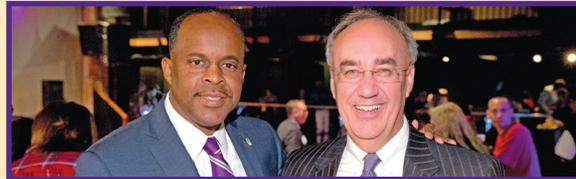
L-r: 2009 Town and Gown Award recipient Jerry Cremer '89, Diana Dubsy Cremer '74 '83 and 2010 Town and Gown Award recipient Lin Stults.



Front l-r: Kathy Chambers '04 '08 '13, Joy Hubner, Kari Albsmeyer Woodrum '09 and Diann Clem. Back l-r: Don Hubner, Dallas Mowen '84, Vice President for Administrative Services Julie DeWeese '83 '91, Cory Clem and Doug Erickson.



L-r: Assistant Director of Residential Facilities Ketra Russel '09 '11, 2015 Honorary Alumni Award recipient and Vice President for Student Services Emeritus Garry Johnson, Budget Director Matt Bierman '97 '03 and 2014 Honorary Alumni Award recipient and Associate Vice President for Student Services John Biernbaum.



L-r: President Jack Thomas and Mayor Mike Inman.

Homecoming Parade at the Alumni House



L-r: Nancy Blais, Marley and David Blais '85.



L-r: Patrick Pokorny, Melissa Downin '11, Leah Dean Jr. and Erin Dean.



L-r: Alumni Council member Brian Savage '73, Alumni Council President Carol Lewis Scott '70 and Kris Kelly '90 '92.



L-r: Joe Fitzsimmons, Danielle Fitzsimmons, Anthea Anderson and Derrick Pelino.

Old Stompin' Ground Runaround

29th Annual Old Stompin' Ground Runaround Winners

WIU alumni and friends joined in the 29th annual Old Stompin' Ground Runaround 5K run/walk held Saturday, October 3, 2015 with 150 participants. **Victor Lidaywa '05** was the overall male winner with a time of 19:51 and the female overall winner was 12 year-old **Gracie Jones** with a time of 21:20.

Male Winners

15 and under: **Camron Trost**, first place; **Jaylen Carter**, second place and **Brooks Wallace**, third place.

16 to 22: **Eric Kull**, first place and **Mitch Miller**, second place. There were no other male participants in this age bracket.

23 to 29: **Cole Hennessey '16**, first place; **Jeremy Randolph '10**, second place and **Aaron Miller '14**, third place.

30 to 39: **Pat Raftis**, first place; **Nick Knowles '02 '07**, second place and **Scott Lawson '01 '08**, third place.

40 to 49: **Simon Svenstrup**, first place; **Kenny Boyd**, second place and **Joel Gruver**, third place.

50 to 59: **Jeff DeJoodde**, first place; **Terry Hostert**, second place and **Steven Weissmann '83**, third place.

60 and over: **Dennis Werling '01**, first place; **Leroy Tappe '77**, second place and **Lawson Barclay**, third place.

Female Winners

15 and under: **Maren McIlvaine-Newsad**, first place; **Jane Hostert**, second place and **Sophie White**, third place.

16 to 22: **Kristen Goben**, first place and **Cassie Combs**, second place. There were no other female participants in this age bracket.

23 to 29: **Jessica Jones Moore '14**, first place; **DeSiree Dye '14**, second place and **Amanda Meiners '11**, third place.

30 to 39: **Kerri Trost**, first place; **Abby Fansler**, second place and **Renee Markert Gentry '98 '13**, third place.

40 to 49: **Heather Haare Jones '98**, first place; **Julia Burns '06**, second place and **Dawn Havens Torrance '93**, third place.

50 to 59: **Jeannie Crawford-Spencer '86**, first place; **Gloria Delany-Barmann**, second place **Lisa Peddle Hinman '82**, third place.

60 and over: **Brenda Malinoski Martin '73**, first place; **Pat Clawson**, second place and **Lora Brown '77 '85**, third place.

Walkers

Ryan Trone, first place; **Jim Duvendack '71**, second place and **Maris McKee**, third place.



25 - 40 - 50 Year Reunion



Front l-r: Sherry Capitelli Toberman '75, Pat Cox Stanley '75, Edna McCullum Brass '75, Debie Novotny Carter '75 and Norbert Zagas '75. Back l-r: Kevin Blackberg '75, Pat Cunningham '75, Steve Hacker '75, Jim Carter '75 and Ed Schaefer '75.



L-r: Jackie Rottman Kaelke '65, Kathleen McCune Boese '65, Evelyn Anderson Prasse '65 and Terry Whitedge '65 '66.



L-r: Christine Lowery '88 '90 and Kris Kelly '90 '92.

The Right Place Tent



L-r: Jennifer Keime Write '01, Emily Dutton Points '01, Paula Wood Rasmussen '01 and RPTA Chair Dan Yoder.



L-r: Sherry Polehos Salna, Peggie Underwood Powers '69, Marian Stange Kotner and Mary Jefferson '69.



L-r: Al Funck '70 and Thom Cornelis '71.



L-r: Lia Romeo '15, Teagan Walsh '15 and Sammy Marshall '15.

Alumni Travel Programs 2016

Ecuador ~ Quito & Cuenca

March 2-12, 2016

Discover Ecuador on a 10-night journey. Explore the historic district of Quito, Ecuador's capital and your home for a total of four nights, and travel outside the city to the town of Otavalo and the crafts markets. Visit Mitad del Mundo, home to an equatorial marker that dates from the 18th century. Experience the open-air museum of Cuenca, a beautiful city in the heart of the Andes where you'll spend six nights. Observe the artistic traditions of Chordeleg and Gualaceo, and journey to the Ingapirca ruins. This Alumni Campus Abroad program includes excursions, educational programs, accommodations and an extensive meal plan featuring wine with dinner. It also features an optional extension to embark on a four-night cruise of the stunning Galapagos Island.

Cuban Discovery

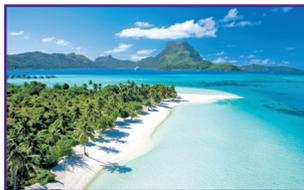
March 3-11, 2016

Cuba's turbulent economic and political past and vibrant, culturally rich present unfold on this journey developed for the WIU Alumni Association. This exclusive travel opportunity is organized and operated by Go Next, Inc., a qualified people-to-people sponsoring organization allowed to conduct educational exchanges in Cuba. Specially designed to showcase the island's spirit, this nine-day adventure goes beyond the tourist surface to reveal the rich culture, compelling history and architectural majesty of this long-forbidden island on the verge of great change.

Atolls & Islands of French Polynesia

March 25-April 4, 2016

Board Oceania Cruises' state-of-the-art Marina and sail to Tahiti's heart-shaped "Sister Island," Moorea. Explore the pearl farms of the remote atoll, Raroia. Relax on the sugary white-sand beaches of Fakarava, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Encounter the pearl farms and pink-sand beaches of Rangiroa, the second-largest atoll in the world; snorkel Bora Bora's sparkling seas, an underwater paradise teeming with colorful coral and tropical fish, and take in ancient temples set amid gorgeous scenery on Raiatea, before concluding your in Papeete, Tahiti.



Southern Grandeur

April 10-18, 2016 or April 24-May 2, 2016

Experience the American South as you cruise the Mississippi River aboard the American Queen. Begin your adventure in New Orleans, where the well-preserved French Quarter charms. Then board the American Queen and cruise to cities in Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. Admire the mansion at Oak Alley Plantation, and stroll beneath the canopies of its 300-year-old live oak trees. Explore St. Francisville, home to more than 140 historic buildings on the National Register, and take in the stunning gardens and palatial antebellum mansions of Natchez, the oldest settlement on the Mississippi. Before your seven-night cruise concludes in Memphis, browse Vicksburg's antique shops and museums, or step back in time at the renowned Vicksburg National Military Park.

Mediterranean Wonders & Waterways

May 11-21, 2016

Experience the Mediterranean, from the ancient ruins and cosmopolitan charm of Turkey to the age-old wonders of Greece, Italy and Croatia. Board Oceania Cruises' Riviera in Athens and sail to Kusadasi, a jumping-off point to explore the ruins of Ephesus. Behold villages on Santorini, and stroll past neoclassical mansions at Navplion. See the ruins of Mystras, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

European Hideaways

June 1-9, 2016

Sail aboard Oceania Cruises' Riviera to Spain, France, Monaco and Italy. Depart Barcelona for the "Island of Tranquility," Mallorca. Then explore France's oldest city, Marseille. Take in Monte Carlo, and cruise to Italy and visit the fishing village turned resort town, Portofino to see the beautiful cliffside villages of the fabled Cinque Terre. Before concluding your journey in Rome, stop at the port of Livorno.



Italy's Magnificent Lake District

June 21-29, 2016

Discover Italy's lakes while you explore the Renaissance villas and gardens that adorn their shores. Explore Lake Orta, and admire the frescoes on the island of San Giulio. Visit baroque villas in the Borromean Islands, and see rare birds, exotic gardens and a 16th-century palace filled with antiques. Cruise lakes Maggiore and Como, by private boat. See Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" and the opulent 14th-century Duomo in Milan. Roam the 18th- and 19th-century villas of Bellagio and the piazza of Como. Conclude with an interactive cooking lesson at a local restaurant and a visit to Villa Taranto. This Alumni Campus Abroad program includes all excursions, seven nights at the first-class Hotel La Palma on the banks of Lake Maggiore, educational programs, an extensive meal plan and wine with dinner. There is no single supplement for solo travelers.



Grand Danube Passage

July 25-August 8, 2016

Experience Eastern European culture, old-world capitals, cathedrals and villages as you cruise the Grand Danube Passage for eight nights aboard the exclusively chartered MS Amadeus Silver. Along the way, discover scenery in eight countries and 13 cities and towns. Visit Vidin, Belgrade, Budapest and Vienna, among others. Sail through the Iron Gate Gorge, the Carpathian Mountains' cliffs, the Danube Bend and the Wachau Valley. New for 2016, enjoy a customizable journey with a choice of included excursions in many ports of call. Begin with a three-night stay in Prague, and after your cruise, spend two nights in Oborishte district of Sofia, Bulgaria's capital, and admire the city whose name means "wisdom." This program features flexible excursions, lectures by local experts to enhance your insight into the region, accommodations, an extensive meal plan, wine with dinner and time for independent exploration.

Great Pacific Northwest

September 17-25, 2016

Experience the Pacific Northwest as you cruise the Columbia and Snake Rivers aboard the American Empress, the largest riverboat west of the Mississippi. Begin with a stay in Vancouver, Washington. Then discover the small-town charms of the oldest city west of the Rockies, Astoria, and watch ever-glorious landscapes glide by as you sail to The Dalles—the end of the Oregon Trail. Before concluding your voyage in Clarkston, explore the exhibits at Sacajawea State Park.

Spain ~ Rhonda

October 11-19, 2016

Begin your own journey here during a seven-night stay in Ronda, one of Spain's oldest white-washed hill towns. Visit the oldest bullring in Spain and enjoy views over the spectacular gorge while staying at Parador de Ronda. In Seville, the cultural heart of the region, explore the world's largest Gothic building and the Alcázar. A scenic drive takes you to Malaga and the museum dedicated to its most famous native: Picasso.

Adriatic Gems

November 1-9, 2016

Discover the remnants of ancient empires and the spellbinding beauty of Southern Europe as you cruise the fabled waters of the Adriatic aboard Oceania Cruises' chic Riviera. Depart Rome for Naples, a classic Italian city of breathtaking frescoes, archaeological and artistic treasures, and mouthwatering culinary delights. Find yourself in Sicily's second-largest city, vibrant Catania, graced with elegant Baroque buildings and a glorious 18th-century cathedral. Stroll the cobbled seaside promenade in Argostoli, Greece, and experience Montenegro's coastal port of Kotor, a medieval town enclosed by impressive walls.

More 2017 trips coming soon! For additional trip information, visit wiu.edu/alumni/travel.php or call (309) 298-1914.

Refer a Student to Western Illinois University

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

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

STUDENT'S INFORMATION

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

REFERRED BY

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

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

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

If this student chooses not to apply:

Please use the application fee for another deserving student.

OR

Please refund me.

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

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

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

Send Us Your News

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

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

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

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

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

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

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A. Total # copies (net press run)	110,939	111,982
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2. Paid in county subscription	0	0
3. Sales through dealers & carriers, etc.	2,229	2,385
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D. Free distribution by mail	0	0
1. Outside county	0	0
2. In county	0	0
3. Others classes mailed USPS	0	0
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F. Total distribution	110,939	111,982
G. Copies not distributed	0	0
H. Total	110,939	111,982
I. Percent Paid	100%	100%



In 2015, Western Illinois University and the Alumni Association celebrated Purple & Gold Day in 15 simultaneous locations around the world. You won't want to miss the 2016 celebration!

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 24, 2016

Western Wednesdays

Join your WIU Alumni Association as the Western Wednesdays After Hours tradition continues! We'll continue to rotate every other month in the Chicago and Quad Cities areas. Hundreds of alumni have joined us every month for great food, great conversation and a few beverages!

Chicago

February 3, 2016
Suburb, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

April 6, 2016
Downtown, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

June 1, 2016
Suburb, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

August 3, 2016
Downtown, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

October 5, 2016
Suburb, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Quad Cities

January 2016
No event due to holiday

March 2, 2016
Bettendorf, 5-7 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE HOMECOMING & REUNION 2016

Oct. 7-8



Visit wiu.edu/alumni for the tentative schedule.



Baseball and Western Illinois University in 2016

Sunday, April 10

San Francisco Giants vs. L.A. Dodgers
Social & Baseball Game
AT&T Park

Saturday, June 11

Chicago Cubs vs. Atlanta Braves
Social & Baseball Game
Turner Field

Tuesday, June 14

Chicago Cubs vs. Washington Nationals
Social & Baseball Game
Nationals Park

Saturday, June 18

Chicago Cubs vs. Pittsburgh Pirates
Social & Baseball Game
Wrigley Field



For all the details and to register, visit wiu.edu/alumni/events.php or call (309) 298-1914.

Upcoming Florida Alumni Events

January 31 - Gulf Shores (AL)

February 1 - Tallahassee

February 2 - Orlando

February 3 - Tampa

February 4 - Bradenton (luncheon)

February 4 - Ft. Myers

February 5 - Naples

February 6 - Ft. Lauderdale

Registration Form for WIU Alumni & Friends Events

Payment options:

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

Name _____ Class year _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Home phone _____ Home e-mail _____

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

Name of business _____ Job title _____

Work phone _____ Work e-mail _____

Work address _____ City, State, Zip _____

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

Card #: _____

Three digit security code: _____ Exp. date: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

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

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