



WESTERN  
ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY

# Campus Connection

News for the Campus Community

Feb. 5, 2010 • Vol. 25, No. 10

## IBHE approves master's in biology at Shedd Aquarium; funding for steam line replacement, Heating Plant upgrade

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

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

According to WIU Provost and Academic Vice President **Jack Thomas**, the degree program at Shedd Aquarium



is designed to prepare students for highly competitive careers in zoos and aquariums, and builds upon the strengths of the University's existing biology degree programs.

In other business, the IBHE approved a \$12 million non-instructional capital project request from the University to replace steam lines and update Western's heating plant on the Macomb campus, as well as reimbursement for the installation

of sprinkler systems in the residence halls.

In December 2009, Western's Board of Trustees approved selling certificates of participation to complete the renovation of the heating plant (\$5 million); replacement of steam lines serving four academic buildings and six residence halls, as well as constructing tunnels to replace original direct buried steam lines (\$5 million); and reimbursement for the installation of sprinkler systems in student housing (\$1.5 million).

According to **Jackie Thompson**, vice president for administrative services, the renovation of the heating plant is necessary to ensure continued operational reliability and to improve the efficiency of the sole heating source for the WIU-Macomb campus. The project includes replacing the coal masonry smoke stack, updating the coal handling system, relocating 80-year-old electrical equipment and other smaller, related miscellaneous projects.

## Corbin/Olson renovations to begin in Fall 2010

Call it "Extreme Makeover: Residence Hall Edition."

As part of Western Illinois University's University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) Master Plan, Corbin and Olson halls, two of the Macomb campus's longest-standing residence halls, will be completely rehabbed and renovated beginning October 2010. According to UHDS Director of Residential Facilities **Matt Bierman**, renovations and reorganization of the University's 10 residence halls are two of the primary focuses of the UHDS Master Plan.

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

Since the 2007-08 school year, UHDS staff worked to develop its master plan for

current and future housing facilities.

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

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

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



Biernbaum added that a programming study was conducted during the Fall 2009 semester, with Corbin and Olson halls renovation slated to begin in October 2010. The entire project should be completed by Fall 2012.

Beginning in Fall 2010, the Fine Arts floors will be housed in Grote Hall on an interim basis, while the Honors communities will be located in Bayliss and Tanner halls.

## Professional activities

**Kathy Barclay**, Curriculum and Instruction (C&I), published "Together We Can: Uniting Families, Schools and Communities to Help All Children Learn" (2nd Ed.) through Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. Barclay also provided the keynote address, "Paying Attention to Young Children's Language," and presented two break-out sessions on "Using Literacy Centers to meet Young Children's Individual Literacy Learning Needs" at the Southern Illinois Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Conference in Mt. Vernon, IL.

**Kimberly Dodson**, LEJA, was interviewed on KWQC, Channel 6 in Davenport, IA, regarding a secret release program for inmates in Illinois. For the full article, go to [kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=11812501](http://kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=11812501).

**Barclay Key**, History, presented "High Achieving Students in a Mainstream Schooling System" Jan. 16 at Wszechnica Świętokrzyska (Holy Cross University), Kielce, Poland.

**Lloyd Kilmer**, EDL, co-presented (with Georgie Koenig and Ken Krumweide of the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency) the session "Service Agencies Making a Difference in Student Achievement Through Effective Professional Development" at the Annual Conference of the Association of Educational Service Agencies in Austin, TX.

**Roberto Mazza**, History, presented "The Effects of the First World War upon the Identities of Jerusalem" in January at the Workshop on Violence, Trauma, and Displacement in the Middle East and Eurasia held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Rob Porter**, RPTA, has been invited to serving on the Green Universities and Colleges Subcommittee (GUCS) of the Governor's Green Governments Coordinating Council for the State of Illinois.

**Jack Rozdilsky**, Health Sciences, authored the chapter "Emergency Management in Isreal - Context and Comparison" in an electronic book for the FEMA higher education project. The book can be accessed on FEMA's Web site or by going to [training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/CompEmMgmtBookProject.asp](http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/CompEmMgmtBookProject.asp).

## VPC adds online ordering option

With nearly 107,000 Western Illinois University-related images on the Visual Production Center's (VPC) online photograph database, customers from both on- and off-campus can view University photos from the comfort of their home or office; and effective immediately, they can place orders online via a new secure credit card payment gateway at [photos.wiu.edu/lightbox](http://photos.wiu.edu/lightbox). Customers placing orders of \$50 or more online will receive a free 6-inch Rocky wall cling.

Customers can register as a new user and then begin reviewing photos by clicking on the appropriate folder, for example "Western Illinois Academics."

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

**Brian Kreps**, VPC digital imaging specialist II, maintains Lightbox and

updates the site with new photographs on a weekly, or as needed, basis. Lightbox can also be found at [wiu.edu/vpc](http://wiu.edu/vpc).

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

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

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

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## Grants & Contracts

**Phyllis Self**, Libraries, and **Mary Jane Clark**, IIRA, have received funding in the amount of \$38,830 from the University of Illinois at Chicago for "Building the Future with Community Health Information."

**John Graham**, University Art Gallery, has received funding in the amount of \$640 from the Illinois Arts Council for "Art Gallery General Operating Support - FY2010."

**Micheal Musick**, Bureau of Cultural Affairs, has received funding in the amount of \$12,000 from the Illinois Arts Council for "BCA General Operating Support - FY2010."

**Thomas Erikson**, CBT, has received supplemental funding in the amount of \$140,224 from the Quad City Manufacturing Laboratory for "Professional Services to Quad City Manufacturing Lab (QCML)."

**Courtney Blankenship**, School of Music, has received supplemental funding in the amount of \$10,380 from the National Association of Music Merchants for "NAMM Internship (Reem)."

**Andrew Baker**, Agriculture, has received funding in the amount of \$42,000 from the Illinois State Board of Education for "Growing Agricultural Science Teachers - FY10."

**Richard Mathers**, Sociology & Anthropology, has received funding in the amount of \$259,801 from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "Test Construction, Delivery, Scoring, Test Evaluations and Trainer / Course Evaluations - FY10."

**Paul Kreider**, COFAC, has received funding in the amount of \$950 and \$2,910 from the Illinois Arts Council for "Performing Arts Society General Operating Support - FY2010" and "K-12 Outreach - FY2010," respectively.

**Dorie Vallillo**, WIUM/WIUW, has received funding in the amount of \$34,910 and \$4,390 from the Illinois Arts Council for "Basic Grant for Public TV / Radio - FY10" and "Celebration Concert Series - FY10," respectively.

**Jack Rozdilsky**, Health Sciences, has received a \$2,000 Quick-Response Grant from the University of Colorado / National Science Foundation to study the aftermath of natural disasters in the Midwest.

**Gisele Hamm**, IIRA, has received supplemental funding in the amount of \$175 from various sources for "MAPPING Community Support."

# Civil Service News

## Retirement Information

### *HR to present session*

The HR/Benefits office will present retirement-related information at **9 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9** and **10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10** in the Sherman Hall third floor auditorium.

Individuals who register will be provided with a personal data sheet. Contact **Joan Richards** at (309) 298-1853 or [JH-Richards@wiu.edu](mailto:JH-Richards@wiu.edu).

### *SURS on campus*

A SURS counselor will be at the Macomb campus **Tuesday-Wednesday, March 23-24**. Counselors will be conducting one half-hour appointments to discuss retirement annuity estimates with employees.

To be eligible an employee must:

- \* be within 4 years of retirement
- \* be age 55 and have 8 or more years of service
- \* be age 62 and have 5 or more years of service
- \* be any age and have 30 or more years of qualifying service

To participate employees must call SURS at (800) 275-7877, press two (2) for customer service and request a retirement annuity estimate. Employees can request estimates for two different retirement dates. Employees are entitled to one appointment every 12 months. Appointments are filled on a first come, first served basis.

If you need assistance completing the information requested on the estimate form, contact the Benefits Office at (309) 298-1853.

## Employee Wellness

### *Training for Ironman Competitions*

**Bill Brewer**, an "Ironman athlete," of the Physical Plant, will discuss training for an Ironman at **4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb 9** in Stipes Hall, Room 121.

### *Portion Size Me*

WIU alumnus **Jim Painter**, nutrition expert and chair of the School of Dietetics at Eastern Illinois University, will present "Why We Eat More Than We Think" at **3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17** in the University Union Grand Ballroom.

## Employee Wellness con't

### *Get Back Into the Swing of Things*

**Mel Blasi**, director of golf and the men's golf coach, will host a golf swing, putting and chipping analysis from **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18** in the Spencer Recreation Center. Clubs will be provided or you may bring your own. Registration, while not required but encouraged, can be done in the Campus Recreation Office or by calling (309) 298-1228.

### *My Healthy Heart*

**Dr. Sujata Karkare**, Beu Health Center, will present "My Healthy Heart" at **noon, Feb. 19** in the Multicultural Center, Multipurpose/Activity room.

## Employee of the Month

**Sharon Brown**, senior library specialist in the Leslie F. Malpass Library, has been named the February Employee of the Month.

According to her nominators, Brown has been a major asset in helping with the merger of her former department and Acquisitions.

"Sharon has taken the role of being the team leader for her former department and has been instrumental in helping her new supervisor learn more about the department," her nominators added. "She has gone above and beyond her job duties to ensure that this transition has gone as smoothly as possible."

Brown began working at Western in 1976 as a secretary II in University Libraries. Two years later she was reclassified as a library clerk II, and in 1979, she was promoted to a library clerk III. Brown was promoted to library technical assistant II in 1980, to library technical assistant III in 1983 and to her current position in 2005.

Anyone wishing to nominate a civil service employee for this recognition should contact **Tishley Herrington** at (309) 298-3157 or e-mail [TA-Herrington@wiu.edu](mailto:TA-Herrington@wiu.edu).



## Green named sustainability coordinator

Sustainability efforts at Western Illinois University have grown in scope and importance over the past few years, and to further enhance the University's commitment to sustainability and the environment, a sustainability coordinator has been added to the roster.

**Mandi Green**, who will earn her master's degree in health education in May from Western, began her duties as sustainability coordinator Dec. 7.

"Having a full-time sustainability coordinator on staff, which was made possible due to the reallocation of an existing position, really pulls together all of the pieces of the puzzle. Various people in our department and throughout campus were handling different aspects of our sustainability efforts, so to have the work coordinated truly enhances our efforts," said Physical Plant Director **Charles Darnell**.

In her role as sustainability coordinator at Western, Green develops and implements initiatives involving energy, transportation, waste management, recycling, green purchasing and more, as well as prepares the required sustainability reports for the state of Illinois. Green will also work with students and other University groups to promote and raise awareness of Western's sustainability initiatives.

## Phi Kappa Phi nominations

Phi Kappa Phi, the largest all-discipline national scholastic honor society at Western Illinois University, is seeking nominations from faculty for 2010 faculty initiates.

A letter of nomination and a copy of the nominee's current detailed résumé – containing a list of outstanding scholarly, teaching and service accomplishments – must accompany the nomination. Self-nominations are appropriate. Phi Kappa Phi members are especially encouraged to nominate colleagues who they believe are deserving of the honor.

Send nominations to **Dale Adkins**, chair of the Phi Kappa Phi Faculty Initiates Committee, Currens Hall 400. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, March 5**.

## Hoops for Haiti

As part of Western Illinois University's ongoing efforts to raise donations for Haitian relief efforts, the Student Government Association, in cooperation with Western Illinois Athletics, will host "Hoops for Haiti" during the **Saturday, Feb. 6** Leathernecks women's (4:30 p.m.) and men's (7 p.m.) basketball games in Western Hall.

Individuals attending the games are encouraged to make donations, which will be given to the McDonough County Red Cross for Haiti.

On Jan. 25, Western's Office of Student Activities (OSA) launched the "Give \$1" campaign to help Haiti. The idea behind the campaign is for every member of the Western Illinois community to donate just one dollar each for relief efforts.

For more information on "Hoops for Haiti," contact Western Illinois Athletics at (309) 298-1190 or the "Give \$1" campaign, contact OSA at (309) 298-3232 or e-mail AT-Comerford@wiu.edu.

## First Tee event at Feb. 6 games

Western Illinois University's First Tee program will allow people of all ages to test their golf skills during an event that will take place in between the Leathernecks women's and men's basketball games **Saturday, Feb. 6** in Western Hall.

The First Tee Kick-Off will be held on the south balcony in Western Hall, around **6 p.m.** (between games).

The First Tee program will have their SNAG (Starting New at Golf) golf targets set up, as well as full-swing hitting areas with real golf balls and a three-hole putting course. SNAG offers specially designed equipment and easy to understand instructions, which allows golfers of any level to learn quickly. Clubs and balls will be provided.

"We want to get people to spend a few minutes hitting balls, and learning more about the game of golf," said **Lia Lukkarinen**, women's head golf coach, assistant director of golf and director of Western's First Tee program.

For more information, contact Lukkarinen at LB-Lukkarinen@wiu.edu or (309) 298-3676.

## Copper Chef competition Feb. 23

Former newspaper columnist and critic Harriet Van Horne once said "Cooking is like love. It should be entered into with abandon or not at all."

Two executive chefs at Western Illinois University will enter into the eighth annual Copper Chef competition with great abandon **Tuesday, Feb. 23** as they battle to win the coveted 2010 Copper Chef title. The event will be held from 5:15-6:45 p.m. at the Thompson Hall West Dining Center on the WIU-Macomb campus.

The culinary competition is Campus Dining Service's local take off on the Food Network's Iron Chef, complete with "play-by-play" coverage, kitchen-themed décor, over-the-top judges and scrumptious food. This year's competitors are Lincoln-

Washington-Grote halls Executive Chef **Nate Rebman** and Bayliss-Henninger halls Executive Chef **Laurence Shiner**.

The chefs will have one hour to prepare three dishes from three secret ingredients. Throughout the show host **Joe Perone**, North Quad manager, will interact with the chefs and the audience and conduct trivia games with prizes for the audience. A panel of celebrity judges will taste each dish prepared by Chef Nate and Chef Laurence, scoring them on taste, creativity and presentation. The winning chef will be presented a copper tray.

The Copper Chef competition, which is part of a yearlong series of events hosted by Sodexo Campus Services, is open free to the University and Macomb communities.

## BCA spring schedule

The Spring 2010 Bureau of Cultural Affairs (BCA) lineup at Western Illinois University features a variety of music and shows including jazz, traditional South African music, a guitar virtuoso, the Cirque Voila! Acrobats and the rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The Boston Brass opened the season Jan. 24, giving the featured performance for Western's School of Music Brassfest 2010.

Coming up this spring in the BCA series are the following:

**Thomas Booth in Remembering Mario Lanza: His Life and His Music:** Monday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall.

**Jesus Christ Superstar:** Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., Western Hall. The groundbreaking theatrical performance by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber tells the story of the final seven days in the life of Jesus of Nazareth.

**Ladysmith Black Mambazo:** Wednesday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m., University Union Grand Ballroom. The music sung by the group is called Isicathamiya (is cot a me ya), a singing style originated in the mines of South Africa.

**Mike Rayburn:** Thursday, April 1, 7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall. Rayburn has been called the "world's funniest guitar virtuoso."



Ladysmith Black Mambazo will perform at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10 in the University Union Grand Ballroom.

**Cirque Voila!:** Thursday, April 15, 7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall. These highly skilled individuals are more than aerial acrobats, jugglers, dancers and clowns.

**Kim Brothers Trio:** Friday, April 16, 7:30 p.m., COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb natives, Benny and Eric (Kim), return home to display their spectacular musical skills

For ticket information on the BCA events, contact the Hainline Box Office at (309) 298-2900 from noon-5 p.m. weekdays or go to [wiu.edu/bca](http://wiu.edu/bca) to order tickets online.

