Beyond the NORM
Couple helps students

ALSO
‘Rolling on the river’
New chairs in Poli Sci, Chemistry
Geology Field Camp
Monograph series revived
and Abe Thompson: ‘making connections’
**Biological Sciences**
Mary A. Bennett Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Senior (Award Amount: Varies)
Dr. Robert Henry Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Full-time undergraduate majoring in Biology (Award Amount: $150)
Mary McCutcheon Holbess Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 25 ACT, Freshman preference (Award Amount: $1,000 Minimum)
Jean S. and Roger M. Morris Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Junior (Award Amount: $300)
R. M. Myers Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Junior (Award Amount: Varies)
Paul Nollen Biology Honors Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Junior/Senior, 3.5 or better GPA (Award Amount: Two awards at $1,000)
Roy M. Sallie Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Freshman (Award Amount: Varies)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Internship Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Undergraduate (Award Amount: $500 per semester)
H. D. Stiffler Memorial Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA, Sophomore (Award Amount: Varies)
Whitetails Unlimited Inc. Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Junior/Senior; 2.5 GPA (Award Amount: Varies)

**Chemistry**
Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Hardin Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Junior (Award Amount: $500 annually)
F. H. Currens Memorial Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding Senior (Award Amount: $350 annually)
Dr. Norbert Goekner scholarship in chemistry — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.5 or better GPA, undergraduate or major graduate, other requirements: chemistry major, preference will be given to Burmese student (Award Amount: $500)

**English and Journalism**
Dr. Paul Blackford British Literature Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA (Award Amount: Two awards - $300)
Bill Bradshaw Memorial Scholarship Fund — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA, Junior (Award Amount: $1,000)
Louise Cordell Bruner Writing Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Open to all WIU undergraduates, any major (Award Amount: Varies)
John F. Castle Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: ACT 28, 3.0 GPA (Award Amount: $500)
Kenneth L. Dixon Memorial Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: ACT 26, Rank top 20%, McDonough County High School, Preference: Chesterfield/First Time Freshman (Award Amount: $500)
English Department Scholar of the Year Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding GPA and at least junior class standing (Award Amount: $500)
Dr. Olive Fite, American literature scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA (Award Amount: $750)
Dr. Irving Garwood Shakespearean Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA, Junior (Award Amount: $50)
Eula Cordell Lamar Writing Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: WIU Undergraduates, All majors, All classes (Award Amount: Varies)
Lila S. Linder English I Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.3 GPA, Sophomore (Award Amount: $750)
Lila S. Linder English II Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.3 GPA, Sophomore (Award Amount: $750)
Alfred J. Lindsey Memorial Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Junior, Senior, Graduate student (Award Amount: $1,000)
John Merrett Scholarship in English — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Junior/Senior/Graduate (Award Amount: $750)
New Graduate Fellowship in English — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Graduate student who has completed one semester of work in department of English and Journalism. Must have a GPA of 3.5 or above (Award Amount: $500)
Beth M. Stiffler Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA, completed eligibility requirements for student teaching (Award Amount: Varies)
Drs. Nai-Tung and Lee-Hsiang English Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Undergrad or grad (Award Amount: $750)
Wanninger Foundation Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Undergrad or grad whose education was interrupted by at least 2 Years (Award Amount: $500)

**Foreign Languages and Literatures**
Foreign Languages Alumni Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: ACT of 25 or above, 25% class rank, entering freshman (Award Amount: $1,000 ($250 for four))
Foreign Languages and Literature Western Opportunity Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Entering Freshman, Transfer, or Currently Enrolled (Award Amount: $500-$1,000 per year)
Blenda Olson Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.5 GPA Foreign Lang/3.0 Overall, Junior/Senior (Award Amount: $1,000 annually)
Jerry Pardum Memorial Scholarship in French — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Must be full-time student, any class-freshman through senior, New freshman must have 25 or higher ACT and continuing students must have 3.0 or higher GPA (Award Amount: $1,000 annually)

**Geography**
Robert K. Fryzek Memorial Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Currently enrolled graduate student in Geography; 3.0 or better GPA (Award Amount: $300 annually)
Ruth Russell Memorial Scholarship in Geography — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA, 60 or more sem. hrs. at time of application (Award Amount: $1,000 annually)
Tillman Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Entering Transfer and Community College Student, 3.0 GPA, 30 sem. hrs. at time of application - 48 sem. hrs. at time of enrollment (Award Amount: $500 to $1,000-2 Year)

**History**
David P. Pasquini Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Grad Student (Award Amount: $500 annually)
Emily V. Leonard History Memorial Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: ACT 27/ACT 22 and top 10% (Award Amount: $750 per Year for 4)

**Mathematics**
H. Glenn Ayre Award — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA, Junior/Senior/Graduate (Award Amount: $1,000)
Jacob Burlock Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding Scholarship, Undergraduate (Award Amount: Varies)
The Elizabeth Gladstone Gibb Mathematics Scholars — GPA, ACT, Year in School: ACT 27/ACT 22 and top 10%, Freshman (Award Amount: $750-Freshman and Sophomore)
Mathematics Alumni Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Outstanding academic record (Award Amount: Varies)
Ronald Maurer Memorial — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Good standing (Award Amount: $250 semester)
Fred Rattner Memorial Mathematics Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: All math majors: 3.0 or higher for enrolled students and 24 ACT or higher and class rank of 10% for new freshmen, Transfer and Community College students also considered (Award Amount: Varies)
The Joseph and Mary Stipanovich Mathematics Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.5 GPA, Undergraduate (Award Amount: $500)

**Philosophy/Religious Studies**
Mary Olive Woods Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 GPA (Award Amount: Varies)
Mary Olive Woods Scholarship for Minors in Religious Studies — GPA, ACT, Year in School: Strong grade point average; minimum of 3.0, must be enrolled as full-time student (Award Amount: Up to $500/semester)

**Physics**
Dr. Vui N. Linh scholarship in physics — GPA, ACT, Year in School: graduate or undergraduate student outstanding GPA in major, other requirements: physics major; preference is to be given to a Burmese student (Award Amount: $500)

**Political Science**
Glarence E. Neff Memorial Scholarship — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.25 GPA, Jr., Sr., Transfer (Award Amount: $500 each award)
Clifford A. and Rosa Jutlinson Scholarship-Foreign Languages and Literature — GPA, ACT, Year in School: 3.0 cum. GPA, Junior (Award Amount: $500)

**Psychology**
Donald Piontkowski Research Award Fund — GPA, ACT, Year in School: One student each year will be selected to receive a $150 award to help support his or her research. Student must be an American ethnic minority, and have a research proposal approved. (Award Amount: Up to $150)
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Monograph book series revived, new chairs for Poli Sci and Chemistry, Geology prepares for Summer Field Camp, new hire in Biology replaces mentor

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Poli Sci grad found success in associations

Focus, published twice a year; Vol. 1, No. 3, c/o 114 Morgan Hall/WIU, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455; email BK-Knight@wiu.edu.

“FOCUS will inform college stakeholders about College of Arts and Sciences activities and encourage their involvement in the life of the college.”
I admit it: I’m a warm weather person. I love the long, sun-filled days of spring and summer. Spring holds special interest for me as the landscape transforms from browns and grays to one of seemingly endless and changing color. I’m amazed at how the birds return home year after year after wintering in warmer climes.

This issue of FOCUS seems to be ideally fit to welcome spring as we learn about members of the WIU family returning to campus in various fashions. For instance, Norman Teeter, a 1967 psychology graduate, discusses his academic and professional career and how his work and that of his wife, Carmelita Bostre-Teeter, M.D., have ultimately led to assisting college students from around the world — including three students at WIU. You will read about Dr. Wendell French, who joined CAS’ Biology department this year, having started his career at WIU in 1986 studying zoology. You’ll also read about the revival of Western’s Monograph publication, which focuses on this region and the research that alumnus Frank Hicks, an engineering graduate, did on the former MIL (Macomb, Industry to Littleton) train line. And Tammy Becker, a 1999 graduate of CAS, recalls her academic preparation from some real-life tales of life on the river as an environmental conservationist and educator.

I’d like to spin my own brief story of coming home by announcing the new chair of the Department of Political Science, Dr. Richard Hardy. Hardy received his B.A. in History from WIU in 1970. Rick is a constitutional law expert who has been instrumental in founding the Institute for Leadership in Civic Education and directing the National Institute for Advanced Civic Studies. He replaces retiring Dr. Charles Helm, who served as chair of the department for nine years — and 33 years as a faculty member at Western. Rick moves here with his wife, Linda, and will assume his duties on July 1, 2006.

On July 1, we also will welcome Dr. Rose Marie McConnell to campus as the chair of the Department of Chemistry. McConnell comes to us from the University of Arkansas/Monticello. Her husband Scott will join WIU’s Institute for Environmental Sciences as associate director.

While we are on the topics of the environment and coming home, I’d like to take this opportunity to invite each of you home to Western to experience the Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station through the various public field trips we will offer beginning this summer. These are two-day trips to the center. On June 9-10, we will offer “Bird and Bees,” which is not as saucy as it sounds, but will still offer a lot of fun as we take a look at the birds, wildflowers and native orchids that inhabit the station’s grounds. Other trips will include “Meet Old Man River” (August 18-19), “Head’n South” (October 13-14), and “Eagles and Icicles” (January 19-20, 2007). These field trips are great ways not only to reconnect with WIU, but to also learn a great deal about the natural assets our region has to offer. The field trips start in the early afternoon on Friday, include dinner on Friday night, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday — as well as dorm-type accommodations at the station. I hope you will join my husband, George, and me as we enjoy these trips to one of the most interesting parts of WIU. Please look for the registration page elsewhere in this issue.

Earlier this year, I had the good fortune to meet Abe Thompson, a 1974 graduate of the department of psychology. You’ll read about him in this issue, as well. He is a remarkable man who really exemplifies the importance of a liberal arts degree. He is all about making connections in his extraordinarily busy and successful life. I hope you get a sense of the energy Mr. Thompson exudes.

It is said that spring is a time of renewal. I hope you will take time to renew your interest in and reconnect with WIU’s College of Arts and Sciences. Even if you’re no longer taking classes, there are plenty of opportunities to be involved, to learn, and to enjoy what we hope is an integral part of the community.
Series gets back on track with new monograph

By Margaret Eaton

After 15 years, Western’s own Monograph publication series about the region is being revived, rescued by a generous gift from the late Lillian Snyder, Western’s long-time political science professor with a special interest in regional history.

Published as a joint venture between the College of Arts and Sciences and the University Libraries – where starting in the 1970s it was run by English Professor John Hallwas and History Professor Bob Sutton – the series will expand to an annual publication schedule thanks to Snyder’s recent endowment of $250,000, according to Jeff Hancks, endowed Professor of Icarian and Regional Studies.

The original journal-style books, devoted to Western Illinois’ literature, history, geography, politics and culture, ended in 1991 after eight books, due to budget cuts.

The timing was right to resurrect a series, because a suitable project was almost done when the idea arose, Hancks says.

“Everything really just kind of came together perfectly for us when we were looking for something to publish,” he says.

Hancks details the first Monograph due out this spring, by Frank Hicks, a Western engineering graduate who worked in WIU’s library and had a passion for trains.

“He used years of his own time to just sit up here in the library and compile all these notes about trains,” Hancks says. “He researched this old line, the MIL – [the] Macomb, Industry to Littleton line, which doesn’t run anymore.

“When he was graduating, he was going to give us all these notes in a box and someone just said to him, ‘This is too much work. You’ve put too much time into this for it to just sit in a box. Why don’t you turn it into a manuscript?’

“He gave it to us and it was really good.”

Hancks says he anticipates having Hicks’ publication in hand, completed in a matter of months.

“We’re going to print about 300 copies,” he says. “I know that doesn’t sound like a lot, but it is. We’re going to give some of them to the bookstore and some to local railroad museums. They’re being printed at DPS [Western’s own Document & Publication Services]. That way, if we need like 100 more it will be no big deal to just run down there and ask them to print off 100. If we were outsourcing it, it would be a big deal.”

Hancks says he thinks that selling 300 copies will be enough to cover the cost of the publication and then have some funds left over to start the next one. The board is still working out how to solicit future topics’ manuscripts.

“They have to be 100-150 pages,” Hancks says. “We’re going to get in touch with other local colleges and let them know so that their graduate students can submit things. It’s a good way for grad students to start.”

The series won’t be limited to grads and scholars, Hancks adds — anyone who has done research and has a well-written manuscript can submit material.

“We look at it as a service to the school and to the state,” Hancks says. “We are trying to increase Western’s name as a research institution.”

CAS Dean Inessa Levi set up a new board to oversee the Monograph series. Board members are: Martin Dupuis (Poli Sci), Raymond Greene (Geography), Greg Hall (History), John E. Hallwas (English and Journalism [retired]), Jeffrey Matlak (Libraries), Polly F. Radosh (Women’s Studies), and David Stevenson (English and Journalism), with CAS’ associate dean Susan Martinelli-Fernandez and Hancks serving as Series Editors. Levi is an ex-officio member of the Board.

Eaton is a senior journalism major from Shabbona, Ill.
Several campus organizations, including the Women’s Center and Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center, on March 4 sponsored the third annual Women of Color Seminar. Physics chair VIVIAN INCERA this year helped coordinate Western’s outreach celebration of the World Year of Physics, for which the region’s junior and senior high schools were invited to write essays about Albert Einstein and his career. Assistant professor MATTHEW BONNAN was one of the dinosaur experts sourced in the December issue of Science magazine, in the article “How Fast Does Your Dinosaur Grow?”

Life Stories, a chapbook collection of stories by English and Journalism Department students who interviewed residents of Macomb’s Wesley Village, was published this spring. The January issue of Teaching Theology & Religion included an article entitled “Vanishing Boundaries:

For decades, the Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station has provided a unique chance for students to see and work in Mississippi River environments, and this summer Western will offer the opportunity for alumni and others, too.

Through a series of field trips, participants can experience the various flora and fauna that make Kibbe such a valuable educational and outreach resource.

“This would be an excellent opportunity for alumni who attended classes or conducted research at the field station to revisit what for many has been a key event in their academic experience,” comments Rick Anderson, chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, “— or to just become reacquainted with the outdoors.”

The two-day field trips will occur over four different Fridays and Saturdays, he said. Participants would arrive at the field station by 1 p.m. of the first day, with introductions followed by a guided outing. In the evening, a meal would be served at the field station, followed by a presentation by a faculty member from Biology. On Day 2, participants would have a light breakfast followed by a morning trip ending with a short presentation and lunch. In the afternoon, participants would be free to continue to explore along the many trails at the field station or begin their journey home.

Each of the field trips is scheduled for a different season of the year and designed to let participants observe some of the distinctive and exciting plants and animals at the field station and its surrounding area, and to learn about these organisms from the experts who work with them. The field trips are:

- **“Birds and Bees”** (June 9-10) will feature the station’s many birds still nesting in late spring. Also, many of the local wildflowers are in bloom — such as native orchids.
- **“Meet Old Man River”** (August 18-19) will focus on the Mississippi River itself. In late sum-
mer, the miles of shoreline have turtles and clams, and ancient fish can be surveyed.

- “Head’n South” (October 13-14) will team with birds heading south for the winter along the mid-continental migratory corridor. Species from hummingbirds to pelicans pass through.

- “Eagles and Icicles” (January 19-20) will showcase one of the region’s most prominent inhabitants, the bald eagle. Eagles can gather by the hundreds, moving from roosts in the timber to fish in the open water.

Each field trip will be limited to 24 people, selected on a first-come, first-served basis, Anderson says. The fee is $75 per person and includes dinner on Friday night, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and dorm-style overnight accommodations at the station.

(See ad on page 19.)

When Teaching About Religion Becomes Spiritual Guidance in the Classroom” by JOHN SIMMONS, chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies.

Dr. KRISTINE KELLY of the Psychology Department was awarded a CAS Faculty Grantwriting Mentoring Grant for $3,000 for work on Children of Divorce Intervention.

BOB MANN of Mathematics coordinated the 55th annual Western Regional Mathematics Conference, hosted by WIU in March.

The History Department was awarded a three-year partnership grant, “Exploring American History: Teachers Bringing Traditional American History to Students,” from the U.S. Department of Education. Shared with the Illinois Regional Office of Education Number 26, the $581,000 grant will fund an attempt to improve the teaching of American History in secondary schools.

TAMA BALDWIN of the English and Journalism Department was a finalist in two writing competitions: her “Vanishing” in the Annie Dillard Creative Nonfiction Award and her “Sun Elegy” in New Millennium Writings. Geography’s CHRIS MERRETT was named Western’s 2006 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer. Director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, headquartered on campus, Merrett this spring addressed audiences at both WIU’s Macomb and Quad Cities campuses on “In a Global Economy, The Marlboro Man Needs A Neighbor – The Enduring Need for Community in the 21st Century.”

WIU alumnus THOMAS GRAFF, now an associate professor at the University of Arkansas, returned to campus in February, when he presented “Unequal Competition Among Chains of Supercenters: Kmart, Target and Wal-Mart” as part of the annual Gabler Lecture, named for WIU’s longtime Geography chair Robert Gabler.

Bill KNIGHT and MARK BUTZOW of English and

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New professor fills shoes of his own mentor

By Rachel Matecki

If faculty and staff are key members of the university family, there’s something comforting about the passing of an academic torch between generations.

At Western’s Biology department this year, Dr. Ken Keudell retired, replaced by Wendell L. French, a Keudell student decades ago.

French, who specializes in microbiology, molecular biology, pathogenic bacteriology, and immunology, started his career at Western Illinois University in 1986, initially studying zoology, with minors in both chemistry and Spanish.

“I started as a pre-med major,” French says. “I graduated in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree and decided to continue my education in the graduate program in the Department of Biological Sciences at WIU.”

Keudell helped him choose what classes to take, and answered questions about what areas to specialize in, said French, who described Keudell as a valuable guide.

“He was a wonderful mentor and I learned a great deal from him while I was a graduate student.”

Undergraduate and graduate

Continued on page 17
Summer could be hot for Geology campers

By Christina Forbes

Trying to get immersed in the study of geology sounds like a physical impossibility, but every other year, Western’s geology students travel to the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City to do just that.

Coordinated by Drs. Kyle Mayborn and Leslie Melim, the Geology Field Camp is a requirement for geology undergraduates, and is especially valuable to those planning to continue with graduate studies, according to Dr. Peter Calengas, Geology Department chairman.

“It’s a very intense experience,” Calengas says. “It teaches you a lot about observation, discipline and time management.”

This year, the field camp starts May 21 and continues until July 1. Considered by the department to be its “capstone course,” the six weeks of concentrated study puts into practice most of the concepts students discover in course work. Many activities that are impossible to do in the classroom or on short area field trips become possible in South Dakota.

Melim, who teaches the first half of camp – which focuses on sedimentology — says she hopes to teach students how to map while showing them how to move in the field and do field work without getting lost or hurt in the process.

Throughout, field camp pushes students physically as well as mentally.

But students and faculty alike anticipate the “Eureka! Moment,” as Melim describes it — the point at which a concept suddenly makes sense. “That Eureka! Moment is part of the process,” she says. “It’s an important part.”

Students can get frustrated, she adds, but they learn to keep going, too.

The length of the program can

Continued on page 11

Journalism in March conducted a Rural Press Workshop for reporters and editors from the region, including newspapers from Havana, Carthage, Macomb, Kewanee, Toulon and Keokuk, Iowa.

SIYOUNG PARK of Geography was awarded a $67,000 Fulbright-Hays grant for “Understanding Korea Today: Traditional Values and Modern Technology.”

Foreign Languages and Literatures chair ANDREW LIAN delivered the keynote address at November’s 2005 AsiaCALL Conference in South Korea: “The Future of CALL,” about Computer Assisted Language Learning.

PEARLIE STROThER-ADAMS of English and Journalism received a $5,000 grant as a Journalism Excellence Fellow of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

A 22-year veteran of WIU’s Institute for Regional and Community Studies, BILL GRIFFIN, this winter was appointed to Western’s Board of Trustees by Gov. Rod Blagojevich. Griffin also was on the editorial board of Western Illinois Regional Studies.

TOM BLACK of Mathematics coordinated the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics math contest this winter.

TOM JOSWICK of English and Journalism won the Editor’s Prize Contest of Isotope: A Journal of Literary Nature and Science Writing for five poems on Audubon.

SALEEM G. RAO of Physics presented “Carbon Nanotubes: Introduction, Properties, Applications and Research Findings” at a colloquium on campus this fall.

The Bulletin of the Illinois Geographic Society named two WIU faculty as editors. RAyMOND GREENE is new editor and cartographic editor is CHRISTOPHER SUTTOn.

**Constitutional law expert, alumnus named WIU Political Science chair**

A WIU alumnus who became an expert in constitutional law will be the chair of Western’s Political Science department effective July 1, according to College of Arts and Sciences Dean Inessa Levi.

Richard “Rick” Hardy will succeed Charles Helm, who is leaving the department this spring after nine years as chair and 33 years as a CAS faculty member.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Hardy back to his alma mater as chair of the department of political science,” Levi said. “His impressive resume of administrative posts, research publications, and teaching combined with his familiarity with WIU make him an ideal candidate to fill this position. I know his contributions to the College of Arts and Sciences will be far-reaching.”

Joining the Western Illinois faculty from the University of Missouri is a homecoming of sorts for Hardy, who was born and raised in nearby Burlington, Iowa, and graduated with the first class from Southeastern Community College in 1968. He transferred to Western and earned his bachelor’s degree in political science in 1970, then taught 11th grade U.S. history for one year at Macomb Senior High School before going on to graduate school.

Hardy earned his Master’s degree in political science from the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks (1972) and his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Iowa (1978).

“I can’t wait to get started. I am a product of WIU and have profound respect for the institution,” Hardy said. “What draws me to Western is the progressive, dynamic leadership from the top down. President Goldfarb’s strategic plan that emphasizes the need for civic education and civic engagement especially caught my eye. And I am particularly impressed with Dean Inessa Levi’s positive, visionary leadership style. Her boundless enthusiasm is contagious.

“I will be joining a collegial and talented department laden with gifted teachers and fine researchers,” he continues. “My predecessors, Charles Weston and Charles Helm, have set the bar high. I will be forever mindful of the need to carry on a rich tradition.”

Levi echoed his praise for the department’s leadership in general and Helms in particular.

“We have been so fortunate to have enjoyed Charles’s leadership,” Levi said. “We are especially grateful for his efforts to establish and direct the Western Survey Research Center and the scholarship he brought to the Liberal Arts Lecture in 2004. Charles’s hard work has given the department of political science a solid foundation on which Rick can build. Dr. Helm’s dedication, intelligence and humor will be...”

**FACULTY’S NEW FACES**

New in the History Department is assistant professor JENNIFER McNABB. Holding a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, McNabb’s interests include 16th and 17th century English social history, especially Renaissance-Reformation European history ... The Department of Sociology and Anthropology has gained four new members this semester. Assistant professor of anthropology DAVID CASAGRANDE focuses on human-environmental relationships in Mexico and Venezuela. He co-founded and edits the Journal of Ecological Anthropology. Assistant professor of sociology ROBERT HERONIMUS-WENDT has researched ties between racial inequities and unemployment within the urban labor market. In previous university posts at James Madison, Millikin and Xavier, Hironimus-Wendt has implemented community-based service learning projects for students. Dr. CRAIG TOLLINI, assistant professor of sociology, specializes in the areas of applied sociology, collective action, and the sociology of knowledge. He earned his Ph.D. from Western Michigan University in December. Dr. OSWALD WARNER, Assistant Professor of Sociology, has interest in the areas of race/ethnic/minority relations, urban sociology, and...
"Oh, I had several majors that first year or so," he says. "I’d been in the Air Force and was interested in airplanes, but soon realized that’s engineering and I was not cut out for abuse was not the way to go, that it was heading down a road people would be sorry to travel. "Substance abuse can be persuasive and destructive and I got more and more interested in addictions," he adds. "I thought – I still think – that it’s an area of study not given enough interest in course work, especially considering that it’s a social problem that accounts for such a large percentage of our nation’s resources.”

Teeter’s own resources grew out of his professional and personal partnership with Carmelita, whom Norman married in 1977.

“We met working at a hospital, both doing the same kind of work,” Teeter says, “and after a while we thought we’d set up our own business and start doing for ourselves what we’d done for hospitals. It’s a real partnership, a working relationship before we were married and one that’s continued.

“We practiced together in what became eight clinics in Kentucky and Tennessee, and sometimes we’d be separated for days – although we talked every day – and if there ever was a down side it was that we tended to work too long,” he says. “It...
was funny, though. We’d get back together and want to be more than emotionally connected. She’d be gardening and I’d be in another part of the house or whatever, and one of us would say, ‘Hey! Where are you? Why don’t you work where I can see you?’

“We like to stay connected.”

Still connected to each other in various endeavors, Norman and Carmelita after more than 25 years have phased out their connections to their clinics, he says — at least the day-to-day operations. They sold most of them and manage none of them, he says.

“We never retired exactly,” he says. “We still have a lot of things to do. Plus, we didn’t just take the money and run. We sold to good people, excellent employees, who’d continue to operate in an ethical manner — people who’d done good work and needed to catch a break. We’re not in the rehab business.”

Laughing, Teeter adds, “We get quarterly reports; we work on a consulting basis. We helped a few former employees create three more facilities.”

His strong voice falling silent, Teeter lets his smile peer through his beard like the sun peeking out from behind a cloud. He laughs again and adds, “I don’t want to sound too … too Pollyanna. I’m not that nice a guy! We’ve done what we’ve done. We’re not out there to change the world or help everyone or fix everything,” he continues. “We have interests, we have resources — excess resources, in our view — and we try to create opportunities.”

Some of their creative activities have extended from professional assistance to helping schools in general and students in particular.

“We’ve been successful, and we had a few choices,” he says. “We could leave something at some point in the future, or we could take more of an active role in supporting people and educational institutions so that our goals are accomplished while we’re still alive. So we thought, ‘Let’s have a trust.’

“There are needs right now,” he continues, “especially in these days of cutbacks in quality education. That makes it tougher for some kids.”

Norman and Carmelita assist various students attend college, including three at Western.

“We were always interested in helping students, but we did that on a more limited basis while we were working,” he says. “Later we started having some students stay in our home. The interest in foreign students came from my wife having come from another country. We’ve helped students from the Philippines, Russia, the Czech Republic…”

Quiet some, Teeter almost whispers and laughs at the same time.

“You know, we enjoy nothing more than seeing a kid’s face who we’ve helped a little,” he says.

Well, maybe some time, Teeter concedes, he’d enjoy a little break, too.

“Here’s some advice. You know all those piles on your desk that you can’t get to because you’re working?” he asks. “Get rid of everything. Burn it. Otherwise, after you retire there’s no longer any excuse and you’ll be swamped.

“Even now, sometimes I think, ‘We gotta get back to work so I can get some rest!’”

Knight is as associate professor of journalism and editor of Focus.

be tiring, too, she adds. There is no real downtime and sometimes cliques develop and can become social pressure-cookers.

It’s even more difficult from the faculty viewpoint: They work 24/7 as professors and as leaders.

While most of the time is spent at the School of Mines, students also visit Yellowstone National Park, the Bighorn Mountains, and the Grand Tetons during the third week of the experience.

It’s possible that the field camp provides a little inspiration as well as practical applications of academic models.

In the past 10 years, for instance, about one-third of the department’s students continued to graduate school, and in the last four to five years, even more — about half — of the department’s graduates have pursued advanced degrees.

Most remaining students tend to find jobs in engineering firms or government agencies such as the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Western has run the camp since the early 1970s, according to Calengas, and enrollment has varied from summer to summer. In the early 1980s, there were as many as 30 students attending field camp. This year, 14 students already are registered to go to what promises to be a memorable experience.

In fact, Melim says, when students describe a list of what they found most valuable at WIU, many geology graduates write “field camp.”

Forbes is a senior Geology major from Cary, Ill., and is registered for field camp this summer.
‘River rat’ feels blessed to clean up

By Chelsea McDougall

Like many college students, Tammy Becker had no idea what the future held for her when she graduated in 1999.

But liberal-arts courses at Western Illinois University — English comp, sociology, biology, psychology — all helped ready her for the requirements of being Education Coordinator for Living Lands & Waters, a nonprofit group set up in 1998 to restore and protect the nation’s rivers.

“I do everything from grant writing to outreach — there’s my sociology minor at work! — which I drew on after graduating from Western,” Becker says.

First, though, Becker followed commencement in Macomb with a road trip out West for six weeks with her best friend, she says.

“I put 9,000 miles on my mom’s car!” she says, laughing.

After Becker returned, she hired on at a travel agency, then moved to Denver, Colo., to volunteer with Americorps-VISTA, where she was Life Skills Coordinator for Mile High Youth Corps, a nonprofit organization that gives jobs to inner-city teens, provides job skills training, and helps with GED courses.

Becker says she was responsible for putting together workshops for youths on a variety of “life topics,” such as drugs, gangs, nutrition, and how to manage money.

“It was during my time with Americorps that I applied to the Peace Corps,” Becker says. “I came home to Illinois in December of 2000 and lived at home with my mom and once again worked for six months. I left for my Peace Corps service in July of 2001.”

After her Peace Corps stint, in Kingston, Jamaica, Becker met Chad Pregrake, the Living Lands & Waters (LL&W) founder who was coordinating a St. Louis-area river cleanup where she was volunteering. When he offered her a staff job, her life changed drastically, she says.

The job she took requires her to be a “river rat” for 10 months of the year, living on a barge traveling rivers on clean-up campaigns. When not on a river, Becker lives in the Quad Cities, where LL&W is based, but on the barge, Becker directs educational workshops, applies for grants and does her share of cleanup duties.

Becker and a crew of eight take part in about 50 river cleanups, 20 workshops, and 20 restoration projects a year, she says, working in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

With all of that comes the logistical challenge of moving and maintaining all sorts of equipment.

“There is a lot to maintain,” she says, “—four barges, six trucks, five plate boats and boat trailers, a tug boat, pumps, generators, a skid steer, solar panels, etc.”

The crew also notifies local media and publicizes activities to recruit volunteers, she adds.

“It’s a lot of hard work, coupled with fun and adventure,” she says.

Although inexperienced when she started, Becker stresses the importance of her background in the arts and sciences from Western.

“My education at WIU gave me a broader knowledge base to understand the world — specifically how people interact with one another and the environment,” she says. “A couple of classes and professors instilled a new consciousness within myself ... making me more aware and sensitive to how particular groups of people are treated.”

Seven other people live and work side by side with Becker on the barge, including WIU alum Geoffrey Manis. (A third Western grad, Madeine Luloff, joined LL&W last year as manager of the group’s East Moline, Ill., office.) Most of the LL&W folks are in their 20s and share a common outlook, Becker says.

“We are all passionate about having a great opportunity to do something positive for individuals, municipalities and the natural environment,” she says. “And we are passionate about having fun.”

Becker says she feels lucky to be a part of something that makes such a big difference in the environment.

“Unless you’ve done it, you would be surprised at how good
pulling tires and rolling refrigerators can be," she says, laughing. “So we feel fortunate that we get to do something for the greater good — no one can argue against clean rivers — and have a blast when we do it.”

Tammy spends a lot of time on the river, travels all around the United States, steers boats through backwaters, watches the river change daily, observes birds and other wildlife, and makes business calls from a deck-side hammock.

“I feel blessed to do what I do,” she says.

But with all the good comes a little bad, she concedes.

“Granted, there are down sides to it all,” she says. “I often work in the cold when we have no heat on the barge, often work in the hot humidity with no air conditioning — working long hours, being away from family and friends, having little privacy, that sort of thing.

“But the pro’s of the job far outweigh the con’s,” she continues. “I do what I do for a very simple reason — because I feel that it’s just the right thing to do.”

Becker says she decided in high school that whatever she would do with her life, it would be a service job, and she always knew she wanted to do something positive because she feels that she’s always lived a comfortable life and wanted to give back.

“Most of the world doesn’t have the resources that I do in America,” she says. “Also, sitting back and complaining about all the problems in the world does nothing but make you and everyone around you feel worse. So I can’t allow myself to think that I am up against a never-ending challenge.

“There’s nothing more satisfying to me than trying to make others’ lives a little more comfortable and enjoyable,” she says. “Whether I was teaching, helping folks plan vacations, or getting people out to experience big rivers, it was doing something positive to enrich other’s lives.”

McDougall is a senior journalism major from McHenry, Ill.
One imagines a room full of movers and shakers, Abe moving and shaking hands and smiling — making connections, returning favors, extending friendship.

“I always say, somebody offers you a choice between a million dollars and friendship, take the friend,” he says. “Every time.”

“Two people walking down the street — me and you, say — and people might think, ‘Oh, he’s black and he’s white; he’s from Chicago, he’s from downstate; and so on and so forth. But if people look a little — just a little — they find a lot of common ground, a lot of connections.

“Most of us need to realize, we are all connected.”

Thompson, a 1974 WIU psychology graduate and successful broadcast executive, says he’s an example of someone who benefited from connections he noticed while at Western and in Macomb. He credits a broad-based liberal-arts education; extra-curricular activities including experiences as an athlete, activist and impresario of sorts; and introductions to ideas and people with whom he’d stay connected for decades.

He remembers his years at WIU as a time when he learned how to learn.


“I’m still thinking because I’m still learning,” he continues. “I was in Europe a while back and really saw how much less there is there in categorizing people. There are different dimensions but fewer labels, I guess you could say. I swear I heard the term ‘African-American’ applied to a black man in Europe once who certainly was not an American. But while traveling I noticed how arrogant Americans can be. Not malicious — arrogant and innocent. That was a learning experience.”

Thompson says he tries not to travel much during the school year because he wants to be present when his 13-year-old son Phoenix gets home.

“I want to drop him off, pick him up, help with homework, whatever,” he says.

A single parent after the death of his wife and Phoenix’s mom, Launa, in 2004, Thompson anticipated being present for his son even when he was absent.

“I didn’t have the intention to write a book, really, but just to collect some thoughts for my son,” he says. “The book was to leave a mes-
sage for my son, you know, in case I didn’t get a chance to talk to him about certain things. I wrote it out, thinking I’d go to Kinko’s or wherever and copy some, bind it up, then friends heard about it, and pretty soon it took a life of its own. It was in book form and I was doing book signings and so on.

“I gotta say, though: One time at school this little guy, a second grader I’d guess, pulled the book out of his book bag and said, ‘Mr. Thompson, I’m reading your book.’

“I would not have felt better if someone said, ‘Your book is on the bestseller list’.

The book, My Thoughts, Your Journal, Our Book, is an interactive title, inviting readers to jot down their responses to Thompson’s observations.

“Growing up, I was taught never to write in books,” Thompson wrote. “I made a great discovery [in] college – it was OK to write in your books. They actually sold special highlighter pens in the college bookstore. What a revelation!”

The book, which came out in 2000, also features Thompson’s reflection on mortality.

“Passing on is inevitable,” he wrote. “The only way that you will not experience death is if you have never lived.”

Some four years later, Thompson’s wife, the former Launa Turner, died at the age of 52 after a brief illness.

Launa and Abe both worked in radio sales when they met in the 1980s, marrying in 1985. Their shared career went from Chicago’s WVON and WGCI to Detroit’s WRIF and back to Chicago to manage WGCI, WVAZ and WGRB.

Now president of Focus Radio, Inc., in South Bend, Ind., Thompson also is CEO of Partnership Radio, Inc., in which Focus Radio has part ownership.

Thompson says he felt drawn to radio as a recent WIU grad 32 years ago.

“I’d had some slight experience with the music business and ran into some opportunities,” he says. “I thought, ‘Hmm, go to parties, meet people, have a nice time and work together. That became my goal right out of school: radio, newspapers, record business – it was all the same to me.”

Once active in radio, Thompson drew on talents developed at WIU, he says.

“Maybe psychology helps me deal with all the crazies in broadcasting,” he says, laughing. “I know statistics really were a big help. You know, when I got into radio, everybody else was like, ‘Oh, look at these numbers, what they show,’ because there was a lot of data from Arbitron and Nielsen around. But once I just said, ‘Hold on now, what about the reliability of the data?’

“Reliability and validity of numbers have meanings, and taking statistics at Western helped me appreciate what numbers meant – and didn’t mean, in terms of scientific research,” he says. “Learning that back then helped me later on – and I’d had no idea that would ever be useful. Still, when validity of the data was brought up, I thought, ‘Hey. I know this stuff.’

“It’s great sometimes to retrospectively make the connection between things that seem entirely unconnected.”

Thompson worked outside WIU’s classrooms, too.

“I did almost everything in Macomb,” he says, looking at the ceiling in his downtown apartment.

“I worked at the onion factory, making onion rings. I did a little on a grounds crew, worked some for Leroy Daniels in the Union. I picked up and redeemed bottles – this was the ’70s – and I managed a band, Tomorrow Today, which played all over but not in Macomb, I don’t think.

“No matter what it was, I worked and all those jobs made connections,” he continues, “—and I always felt safe in Macomb.”

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“No matter what it was, I worked and all those jobs made connections,” he continues, “—and I always felt safe in Macomb.”

While a student living in Henninger Hall – a Resident Adviser for a while, he says – Thompson especially enjoyed the campus.

“I loved the buildings there – walking by them, walking into them – I always had a sense of something happening in there.

“I played basketball, was in Black Student Association and went to things at the Brooks Cultural Center – ‘the Black House,’ we used to call it,” he says.

“In fact, it’s funny. One time, Dick Gregory, the great comedian, was on campus and he comes over to Brooks with a white guy in a business suit and somebody said something and Gregory said, ‘That’s my brother, George.’

“It turned out to be George O’Hare, an executive with Sears then, and I became close friends with him – and Dick Gregory.”

Abe Thompson, a 1974 psych grad, visits with Cubs Hall of Famer Ernie Banks this winter.

Continued on next page
In fact, Thompson was asked to help produce a TV special on Gregory filmed this February in Chicago.

Thompson’s connections extend from the campus at Western – which in December honored him with an alumni achievement award – to Hollywood. He was an invited guest at Oprah Winfrey’s Legends Ball last year. Between, Thompson has helped with motion pictures, promoted concerts such as the Cancun Jazz Festival and Sinbad’s Soul Music Festival, volunteered with Athletes Against Drugs and the Rainbow Push Coalition, and stepped up work as a motivational speaker.

“T’im most proud of my job as father,” he says.

Thompson is a tornado – breezy, energetic, grounded: connected.

And caring. A visiting friend mentions that her father decades ago had been an Oak Park eye doctor whose patients had included Ernie Banks, the Cubs legend who’s in town for the annual Cubs Convention.

His eyes gleaming, Abe makes one call and quickly arranges a brief rendezvous in a hotel lobby for his friend.

Minutes later, a few blocks away, Banks stands between a hotel elevator and a revolving door where a doorman tips his hat.

Handshakes, smiles, nods and small talk about the World Baseball Classic and the movie business all rise from a murmur to a conversation.

Finally, Banks has to leave but pauses and asks Thompson whether he’s thinking about marriage now, almost two years after Launa passed away.

“Well?” asks the Hall of Famer.

“It’ll come maybe,” Thompson says, shaking his head, still smiling.

“Two words,” Banks adds: “Halle Berry.”

Abe laughs and says, “Whoa, whoa, I think she’s with someone—”

“Halle Berry,” Banks interrupts. “Halle Berry.”

“Well,” Abe says, shrugging, “she is awfully pretty—”

“Halle Berry,” Banks’ face stays straight. “Halle Berry.”

“Abe shakes his head and smiles. Maybe thinking about connections.

Knight is editor of Focus magazine.

Dual hire fills Chemistry chair, faculty position

The College of Arts and Sciences this spring hired a professional teaching and research couple from the University of Arkansas at Monticello to fill vacancies in the Chemistry Department.

Rose Marie McConnell was named chair of Chemistry, and J. Scott McConnell will join WIU as the associate director of the Institute of Environmental Sciences and an associate professor of Chemistry. Both appointments are effective July 1.

“One again, through use of WIU’s dual career recruitment program, we have been able to attract two outstanding faculty to the department of chemistry,” says CAS Dean Inessa Levi. “We look forward to welcoming Rose Marie McConnell to Western’s College of Arts and Sciences as our newest chemistry chair.”

Rose Marie McConnell has taught and conducted research at UAM since 1992. She is the principal investigator on 17 external grants totaling more than $1 million. She continues to conduct research funded by the National Cancer Institute on developing and testing inhibitors of cathepsin D and B, which are linked to metastatic cancer. She also plans to continue researching in the field on polymer and material science.

“Scott has been listed as the principal investigator on $1.3 million of external grants,” Levi adds. “His primary research interest is environmental chemistry and sciences, and like Rose, he is dedicated to undergraduate research.”

Scott McConnell comes to Western from his position as associate professor in UAM’s department of crops, soils and environmental sciences. In addition to teaching, he has supervised more than 50 undergraduate research student projects, chaired national scientific committees and national educational programs, and helped establish the Journal of Cotton Science (1997). His research focus is on environmental and soil chemistry; natural water chemistry, composition and quality; soil fertility and plant nutrient dynamics; water and irrigation factors in the environment; and soil management and tillage.

Edited from material provided by Bonnie Barker, University Relations
students alike benefited from Keudell being a caring and brilliant adviser, French says.

“Dr. Keudell is a great mentor because he sincerely cares about the welfare of his students,” he says. “He is very nurturing and truly caring and compassionate in making sure students learn a great deal in the classroom as well as outside the classroom.”

Keudell was instrumental in helping French develop and advance his own academic career. Among many things he learned from Keudell, French became determined to make his ideas realities.

“I believe the most valuable thing I learned from Dr. Keudell was to continue in pursing my dreams, no matter what obstacle or adversity I would encounter in the future,” French says.

French plans to start a research program by this summer.

“This research will focus on the roles bacteriophage play in the virulence or pathogenicity of salmonella enterica serovar typhimurium,” he says.

French first started teaching as a graduate assistant at Western Illinois in 1990, coming back this year as an assistant professor.

“There is certainly no greater honor than to be back at WIU as an assistant professor,” he says. “It has been 20 years since I started my career here and nothing gives me more pleasure than being here.”

French says he hopes to give to his own students what Keudell gave him.

“Now is the time for Dr. French to give back to the students like individuals such as Keudell have given to me,” French says. “I thoroughly enjoy my new role in life, which is educating and mentoring students to the best of my ability.”

— excerpted from University Relations

from “Biology Mentor” page 7

African diaspora … New faculty in the Geography Department include YONGXIN DENG of the University of Southern California, REDINA HERMAN of the University of Illinois, and SU-YEUL CHUNG, of Ohio State University. Their specialties, respectively, are digital terrain analysis, interaction between gravity waves and large-scale atmospheric flows, and examination of urban racial and ethnic segregation … Mathematics this year welcomes VICTORIA BARABADZE, who earned her Ph.D. from the University of Georgia-Athens. Her interests include spline theory, computer-aided geometrical designs and atmospheric data analysis … The Psychology Department joined this semester by MELANIE HETZEL-RIGGIN, who teaches clinical psychology. Her research interest is in trauma. Also joining Psychology is SANDRA McFADDEN, whose teaching and research is in neuroscience, particularly audition … This spring Psychology also had a Visiting Scholar, DANIELLE BROWN, a graduate student in the Department of Psychology and Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. One of her public presentations was “Attention and Television: The Role of Individual Differences in the Everyday Skills of Children.”

Bonnie Barker and Geoff Rands contributed to this material. Barker is with University Relations. Rands is a junior journalism major from Macomb.
The Real Sequel

Western was foundation for Poli Sci student, grad and association leader

By Seth Hancock

While studying at Western, students sometimes don’t realize that life outside of Macomb can be filled with much success.

This is the case for 1975 graduate Christopher Mahaffey.

Earning a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Mahaffey credits his experience inside and out of the classroom as giving him the tools necessary for success after college.

Talking about his experience at Western, Mahaffey says, “It taught me lessons in the classroom and outside of the classroom.

“It gave me the overall foundation,” he adds.

He also credits several professors with helping to “make a student out of me.”

Mahaffey furthered his education by receiving his Master’s of Science degree (with distinction) in public-nonprofit management from DePaul University.

During his undergrad summers, Mahaffey worked on Capitol Hill for a U.S. Congressman. Then, after graduation from Western, Mahaffey went on to work for a national professional association in Washington as a legislative assistant.

Currently, Mahaffey is CEO of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons in Chicago. Before that he was CEO of the Association Forum of Chicagoland – what he calls the “association of associations” for 1,500 business, charitable, civic and professional organizations headquartered in the Chicago area.

“I saw first-hand how hundreds of associations ran, good and bad in that position,” Mahaffey says.

Even though it’s still relatively rare for a student to pursue association management as a career, it was natural for Mahaffey, he says. Because his father was CEO of another association, he “grew up knowing what they (association executives managers) were.”

Since graduating from Western, Mahaffey has achieved many successes, including becoming the nation’s youngest Certified Association Executive in 1983, being elected a Fellow of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) in 1986, and graduating from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Institute for Organization Management in 1987.

Mahaffey received the Western Alumni Achievement Award in 1992 and two years later received the ASAE Key Award, the highest honor in association management for professional achievement.

Even after all of these accomplishments, he is not done, he says.

“There’s another association waiting for me, somewhere, sometime!” Mahaffey says. “One more career move.”

Hancock is a senior journalism major from Hanover Park, Ill.
Western Illinois University’s renowned Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station on the Mississippi River opens up a singular opportunity to plunge into Nature.

In four distinctive outings -- one each season -- WIU offers participants an experience with various flora and fauna.

Participants in the two-day field trips start early Friday afternoon and continue overnight through lunch Saturday. Dinner Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday are included in the modest fee -- $75 each.

Guided hikes and expert presentations help participants find, appreciate, or re-discover wonders such as migratory birds, plentiful amphibians, abundant water life, and wilderness brush and beauty along trails.

The field trips are:

**June 9th and 10th -- BIRDS and BEES:** Conducted in late spring, this trip is during the nesting season for many of the birds that inhabit the field station environments. Males are often still in breeding plumage, the birds are still very vocal, and high levels of activity can be found in the woodland and grasslands as the birds hunt for food. For best viewing, Saturday’s outing starts early in the morning. Also, many of the wildflowers that prosper in the varied habitats are in bloom. Did you know we have native orchids in Illinois? If we are lucky you may see some – bring a camera.

**August 18th and 19th -- MEET OLD MAN RIVER:** This late-summer field trip will focus on the Mississippi River. With almost five miles of shoreline and associated floodplain forests, the field station has a direct link to the river. Pollywog for clams, capture turtles, or conduct surveys of some of the fishes of the river. Bring clothes that you don’t mind getting wet and muddy, and you will have an opportunity to “beat your feet on the Mississippi mud.” You may even help net the largest fish you have ever seen, or try to catch a flying carp!

**October 13th and 14th -- HEADIN’ SOUTH:** During the fall, the area at and around the field station becomes alive with birds heading south for the winter. Located in the heart of the Mid-continental Migratory Corridor and along a major river, the area welcomes everything from hummingbirds to pelicans. Waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, a tremendous variety of perching birds, and hawks all can be found in a single day of bird watching. Have you every watched an Osprey capture a fish or heard a Pileated Woodpecker hammering on a tree just above your head? It may happen here!

**January 19th and 20th -- EAGLES and ICICLES:** Historically, this area has been a critical location for wintering Bald Eagles. During the harshest winters, they collect by the hundreds to fish in the small amount of open water still present on the Mississippi River, and to spend cold nights in protected glens cut into the river bluffs. Get up at sunrise to hear the crows announce the coming day, and watch the eagles move from the roost sites to fish in the river. See eagles dive and capture fish, and compete for the fish on the wing as other birds try to pirate it from them. You may even see 30 or 40 eagles in a single tree as they perch, sunning themselves in the cold winter. Lots of warm clothes, gloves and boots are necessary items on this trip.

Each field trip is limited to 24 participants. Reservations are first-come, first-served.

To reserve your spot at Kibbe, complete the form below and send it to us with a check for $75 per person.

Information with travel directions, suggested items to bring, and other area sites of interest will be sent to you about three weeks before the field trip. **Join us on what we feel will be a unique experience.**

**Name(s) ____________________________________________**

**Address ____________________________________________**

________________________________________________________________________

**Contact: phone ____________________________ e-mail ____________________________**

**Field Trip ____________________________________________**

MAIL TO KIBBE LIFE SCIENCES FIELD STATION, C/O WAGGONER HALL, WIU, 1 UNIVERSITY CIRCLE, MACOMB, IL
Our VISION: Western Illinois University will be the leading comprehensive university in the United States.

Our MISSION: Western Illinois University, a community of individuals dedicated to learning, will have a profound and positive impact on our changing world through the unique interaction of instruction, research, and public service as we educate and prepare a diverse student population to thrive in and contribute to our global society.

Our VALUES: Academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility

To learn more, visit http://www.wiu.edu/.