Ken & Lorraine Epperson gift achieves WIU’S Capital Campaign goal

By Julie Murphy '94 M.S. ’95

The Western Illinois University Foundation is pleased to announce that its Higher Values in Higher Education Campaign has met its $60 million goal with a most generous gift from distinguished alums, longtime friends and loyal supporters Dr. Ken ’46 MS-Ed ’52 and Lorraine Epperson ’48 MS-Ed ’52.

“Our commitment to Western and to this campaign is a gift of love and appreciation for what Western has meant to us, and an investment in the future of Western and the Center for Performing Arts,” said Lorraine.

The Epperson’s seven-figure gift, a combination of an outright gift and a bequest, directs $1.5 million to the Center for Performing Arts (CPA) to be located on the southwest side of campus along Western Avenue. Both Ken and Lorraine selflessly worked to bring a Center for Performing Arts to the campus of Western Illinois University and the Macomb community since 1970s.

“We will be so happy when the CPA is constructed at last, and believe strongly that it will positively impact the quality of life for the University, the community and the region,” Lorraine added.

The more than 5,000-square-foot iconic lobby of the Center for Performing Arts will be named in honor of Dr. Ken and Lorraine Epperson in recognition of this gift. Ken and Lorraine have been involved with Western in some way for most of their lives.

“Our loyalty to Western has never changed a bit since we were students,” said Ken. “We got our start at Western, and everything we have achieved is possible because of the education we received. We are giving back so that current and future students can be as fortunate.”

The couple met as students at Western and were married the year following Lorraine’s graduation. As students, they were both involved: Ken as a three-sport letterman (football, basketball and track) and Lorraine as the first president of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. They both earned education degrees then went on to education careers – Ken as a teacher, principal, superintendent, and later Community College Relations Director for Western; Lorraine as a teacher and 18 years as guidance director for Macomb High School.

Lorraine entered the real estate business in 1974 and Ken joined her upon his retirement from Western. Together, they purchased the Purdum Real Estate Firm in 1985, and in 1990 acquired a Century 21 franchise.

The Eppersons have strengthened their commitment to Western throughout their lives. As a couple, they have served on the Performing Arts Society Board of Directors. Lorraine was a member of the WIU Alumni Council for several years, serving as its president for two years. She was a Board of Governor’s Trustee, then appointed by Gov. Jim Edgar to Western’s Board of Trustees in 1995, including terms as vice chair and chair of the Board. In 1988, she received the College of Business and Technology’s Distinguished Alumni Award, and in 2006, was awarded Western’s Distinguished Alumni Award. She is currently in her third term on the WIU Foundation Board of Directors. Lorraine received the Sigma Sigma Sigma Centennial Woman of Distinction given by the national sorority. She received her bachelor’s degree in 1948, and master’s degree in 1952 from Western.

Ken earned his bachelor’s degree in 1946, and his master’s in 1952 from Western, and later his doctorate in 1969 from Indiana University. He was awarded WIU’s Alumni Achievement Award in 1987, and was initiated into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 1996. Ken is a talented woodworker, crafting the large WIU seal on display in the Registrar’s Office (made in 1974 in honor of Western’s 75th anniversary) and the Ceremonial Mace (a symbol of university scholarship and integrity since the 11th century) featured in convocations and commencements. Ken learned basic woodturning skills while at Western, nearly 70 years ago, from Wayne Wetzel, for whom Wetzel Hall was named.

“The Foundation and WIU are thrilled that this noteworthy gift, the one that achieves our campaign goal, comes from Kenny and Lorraine,” said Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter ’79 M.S. ’83. “Their relationship with Western and their history of giving, both of their time and resources, makes this particular gift and attaining this goal all the more meaningful. Truly, all of Western is grateful to them for all they do.”

The Eppersons have supported numerous Western initiatives, including the Leatherneck Club, Performing Arts Society, the College of Business and Technology, University Libraries and several scholarships. They made a commitment to the previous Centennial Campaign in 1996 to establish an endowment to support future generations and are among the University’s leading donors.

“It is a day for rejoicing,” said WIU President Jack Thomas. “Not only are we celebrating Founders’ Day at Western Illinois University, we are celebrating meeting our campaign goal thanks to two very special people who have been connected to Western since the 1940s. We are so happy that they are part of this important occasion.”

The “Set the Standard: Higher Values in Higher Education” $60 million campaign for Western Illinois University began silently in 2006, and went public in 2010. The campaign has focused on increased scholarship support for students, support for faculty, improvements to capital facilities and enhancing information and technology for all the staff and students of Western Illinois University. The campaign will conclude Dec. 31.
Greetings from Western! I am so happy to share with you the exciting news you read about on the front page of this Fall 2013 Western News regarding the announcement of reaching the University’s $60 million capital campaign fundraising goal. We thank all of the generous alumni, friends and businesses who made gifts in support of the campaign. Finally, a very special thank you to Ken ’46 MS-Ed ’52 and Lorraine ’48 MS-Ed ’52 Epperson—two of the most loyal alumni any school could ever hope to have. We are truly, truly grateful for all they’ve done for their alma mater all these years, and especially for making the gift OF A LIFETIME to help put WIU over the $60 million goal. Thank you Ken, Lorraine and all of you!

-Amy E. Spelman
M.S. ’98

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From the President

As we welcome our students back for another academic year, we welcome all of our alumni back to campus to be active and to engage with the University. This is going to be an exciting, productive and successful year.

As we prepare for our upcoming Homecoming weekend at Western, I am looking forward to visiting with many of you on campus October 11-12, as well as at many other alumni events throughout the country. There are several activities taking place during Homecoming weekend, including the all-alumni social on Friday evening and the “Old Stompin’ Ground Runaround” on Saturday morning, followed by the parade, the alumni picnic and the Homecoming football game.

Although there are many exciting things happening on campus, Western Illinois University continues to face significant challenges with budget and cash flow due to limited state funds. However, we continue to practice very sound fiscal management while conserving financial resources. We will continue to provide the programs and services that our students need to be successful. Despite these challenges, Western Illinois University continues to move forward.

As we begin this new academic year, I would like to highlight a few of the initiatives that help our students achieve success during their time at Western. Our newly redesigned First Year Experience (FYE) program includes two FYE courses, which are specifically designed for our new freshmen students. We are in the second year of our “Building Connections” mentoring program, which assists students with their transition to college. More than 200 faculty and staff are volunteering again this year as mentors to help our students succeed, and the program has been integrated into our First Year Experience and required University 100 courses. We continue to enhance the Centennial Honors College on our campuses by recruiting a number of students who are in the top one percent in the nation, establishing the Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Association for transfer Honors students and premiering a student Think Tank. Because of our increased admissions standards and our strategic enrollment plan, we have enhanced our overall student academic profile.

We continue to make improvements to our facilities on both campuses. Thompson Hall renovations are complete, and the University Union phase one renovations are underway, which includes an enhanced food court. We continue to beautify the campus, and construction is ongoing for the new campus signage at the north entrance to our campus funded through student enhancement fees and approved by the Student Government Association. Additionally, phase two construction on the WIU-Quad Cities campus is underway and on schedule to open in August 2014. I encourage you to take note of the ongoing improvements at Western.

I look forward to continued growth and success at Western Illinois University and bringing you even more news regarding our achievements as the year progresses.

See you at “The Right Place” tent Saturday, Oct. 12.

All my best,
Jack Thomas
Interning at an eco-friendly boutique provides perfect fit for environmentally minded fashion merchandising major

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92 M.S. ’11

Newly minted Western Illinois University alumnus Chelsea Dieckow ’13 is no stranger to organizing fashion shows. During her time at WIU, the fashion merchandising major either spearheaded or helped coordinate shows that raised funds for breast cancer research and showed elementary teachers how to dress for their soon-to-be classroom work settings. But the Recycled Fashion Show Contest—an event she directed and facilitated for her major project during her senior internship this past summer—she described as the “icing on the cake.” Dieckow designed the show as a contest that asked local designers to create a recycled garment and submit it for display in the show.

Dieckow’s June 22 show, held during the Duryea Days festival held in Peoria Heights (IL) was a perfect fit for a major project in her 240-hour internship at the Peoria Heights-based boutique called “re-” (pronounced “re-hy-phen”), which sells items made from recycled, repurposed or reclaimed materials, as well as merchandise that is green or eco-friendly. According to the store’s website (www.re-hy-phen.com), many of the products are “one of a kind,” and the selection includes household items, gifts, jewelry, purses, bags and “much more!” Dieckow said she met the shop’s owner, Nancy Martin, through another full-time job she had (while attending school at Western), in which she served as Martin’s sales representative for a marketing and publishing company.

“After closing the sale and leaving the store, I thought to myself, ‘What a fantastic idea for a boutique!’ What if I did my merchandising internship there?,” she explained. “A couple months went by, and it was still on my mind. So I went in to re- and sat down with Nancy. She was absolutely thrilled about my idea—the Recycled Fashion Show Contest. Not only was my internship about building awareness to be more eco-friendly with the store’s everyday products, but I also wanted to help promote re- in the Peoria area. It was a terrific feeling to help out a small local business, earn my bachelor’s degree and promote recycling and reusing materials all at the same time.”

In late May, Dieckow’s Recycled Fashion Show Contest was promoted through a short segment on “Good Company,” an early-evening show that airs on the Peoria-based television station WEEK. On the segment, garments made from recycled materials (including a dress constructed from Starburst wrappers and another from old magazines) and donated by the WIU Department of Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising and Hospitality (DFMH), demonstrated the unique re-use functionality of seemingly throwaway materials. (View the video at http://bit.ly/17Fi87U.)

“The dresses were constructed by students in a visual merchandising class for Western’s Environmental Summit Fashion Show. The Starburst-wraper dress I wore on ‘Good Company’ is hand weaved and in pink, yellow and red. The recycled magazine dress was made by layering the magazines,” Dieckow explained. “I asked my internship supervisor and DFMH professor, Susan Creasey ’91 MBA ’92, if I could borrow the dresses to add fervor for the fashion show.”

Creasey noted Dieckow’s determination and strong interest in fashion helped make both her internship experience and her Recycled Fashion Show Contest successful.

“Chelsea’s eco-friendly attitude and environmental awareness made re- a perfect fit for her. She researched her store’s product and is very knowledgeable about how to reduce, reuse and repurpose items and still maintain a fashionable edge,” Creasey added.

Dieckow said her classes in Western’s fashion merchandising program provided her with important knowledge and skills, which she applied during her internship.

“My visual merchandising, fashion promotion, advertising, customer service and retail-buying courses at WIU helped me out immensely. Learning how to use the sales operations manager software when purchasing orders and counting inventory is vital for any small business, and my class work has definitely helped me understand the software and stay organized. In addition, what I learned in my visual merchandising class was crucial for this internship. By displaying the products in a certain aesthetically pleasing way, this helps the customer move around the entire store and it generates more sales. My enthusiasm and dedication for fashion, along with my outstanding education at WIU, truly prepared me for my internship at re-,” she said.

Now that Dieckow has completed her bachelor’s degree and has racked up several real-world fashion industry professional experiences through her internship and her other full-time employment opportunities in publishing, her career goals involve continuing to work in advertising while mixing in her passion for eco-friendly materials and fashion.

“My plan is to move to Colorado by winter of next year to be closer to my family. And what state is more eco-friendly and sustainable than colorful Colorado?” she noted. “Ultimately, I want to sell advertisements for a major fashion magazine, and whether it means starting my own savvy publication, moving to New York or networking on LinkedIn until I find the right job opportunity, I am determined to be successful in pursuing my dream.”
Horn Field Campus Corn Maze honors alumnus’ service and alma mater

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92 M.S. ’11

Every year in October, hundreds of autumn-activity and Halloween enthusiasts head out to Western’s Horn Field Campus (HFC) to experience its annual Corn Maze. This year, the maze’s design has special significance, not only for Western Illinois University but also for the alumnus who designed it.

John Moninger ’13, a graduate of WIU’s recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA) program, designed and created the Corn Maze based on Western’s Marine-style logo. (WIU is the only public school in the U.S. that has permission through the United States Marine Corps official seal, mascot [the bulldog] and nickname, “The Fighting Leathernecks.”) To finish his bachelor’s degree in RPTA (13 years after he initially started at Western), Moninger served as an intern at Horn Field Campus this past summer. One of his major projects for his internship was to create the Corn Maze. For him, a former Marine, basing the maze’s design on the Marine-style logo was a way for him to show pride in his soon-to-be alma mater, as well as in his service for the U.S. Marine Corps.

In a short bio piece Moninger wrote for HFC’s quarterly newsletter, “Horn Happenings,” Moninger shared how he first chose to come to WIU (back in 2000), as well as how he left Western in 2004 to join the Marines.

“When I was 15 years old, I acquired my first job as a lifeguard at Flick Pool in Glenview, IL. I loved working outdoors so much I stayed on and did it part-time for almost 10 years. I had not thought too much about what my major was going to be at WIU until I was a second-semester sophomore. So, I talked to my aquatics supervisor, who is a WIU alumna, and she told me to get into the RPTA department. I completed four years of college courses, and instead of finishing up my degree, I made a life-changing decision to join the U.S. Marine Corps. I served my country for five years with several overseas deployments, one of them being Iraq in 2009. I was also in Okinawa, Japan, for my last year in the military and had the honor of assisting Japan in the tsunami disaster relief in 2011,” Moninger wrote.

After he left the Marine Corps, Moninger said he decided to come back to Western “to finish what he started,” with the assistance of the G.I. Bill.

Continued on p. 5
By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92 M.S. ’92

If you’ve perused the map of Western Illinois University on Google Earth, you may have noticed a few of the buildings appear to be three dimensional or “in 3-D.” Sherman Hall, the Leslie F. Malpass Library, Waggoner Hall and a few other buildings protrude from a mostly otherwise flat depiction of the campus. So far, 10 buildings on the Macomb campus are available for viewing this way, all thanks to the hands of Dane Severinsen (Germantown Hills, IL), a senior majoring in instructional design and technology, who used Google’s free 3-D modeling software, Google Sketchup, to create the models.

The website for the free Sketchup program encourages individuals to “join the worldwide geo-modeling community and help put every village, town and city on the 3-D map.” According to Google, an individual’s 3-D models can appear in Google Earth and Google Maps. Although Severinsen said he was able to use the 3-D modeling software and the project for an independent study-course in Spring 2013, he started creating three-dimensional renderings of the campus buildings as a personal, independent endeavor in September 2012 because the opportunity presented itself.

“I first became interested when I was using Google Earth, and I realized no one else had done it yet, which was a little surprising to me. There wasn’t a single building on the campus that was modeled, so I saw it as an opportunity to leave my mark on campus,” Severinsen explained. “I think it’s really cool that anyone can access it and see the three-dimensional appearance of the buildings. I think it can be especially good for international students, who can’t necessarily come and visit in person, but they can come and visit virtually.”

He noted that he first became interested in using Google Earth, and the possibilities it offers for three-dimensional projects, a few years ago.

“By this time I was a completely different person, and I was ready to take on any obstacle that stood in my way of getting my degree. I was fortunate enough to have had the course, RPTA 376, ‘Perspectives in Outdoor Recreation,’ with [Horn Field Campus Program Coordinator and RPTA Instructor] Mindy Pfeiffer ’91 M.S. ’92 in Fall 2012. This was my bridge to Horn Field Campus, where I decided, if Mindy would have me, I was going to finally complete my internship… and my degree,” he explained.

Pfeiffer noted she is honored to have crossed paths with Moninger; she is pleased she could assist him in completing his degree and was equally as pleased to have his help at Horn Field over the summer.

“John did his fair share of facilitating and belaying high ropes course activities for many groups. He was my right hand at every turn all summer long,” she added. “So many more doors will be opened to him with his degree. The sky’s the limit for his future.”

As for Moninger, he said he considers his time serving at Horn Field Campus as a privilege and embraced the work, even though, in addition to working the high ropes course, it was comprised of such labor-intensive activities as trail clearing, grounds keeping, cabin cleaning and, of course, designing and creating the Corn Maze.

“I [took] every opportunity to learn more about the outdoors, which I love so much, from all the experienced personnel that came through Horn Field Campus. Whatever my next endeavor in life is, I know the skills and knowledge I will obtain from my internship at Horn Field Campus will ensure I prosper.”
Gregory named chair of WIU Curriculum and Instruction Department

Anne Gregory, formerly a professor in the Boise State University (BSU) Department of Literacy, has been named chair of the Western Illinois University Department of Curriculum and Instruction. She began her post July 22.

Gregory served as a faculty member at BSU (Boise, ID) since 2002.

Gregory earned her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Purdue University in 2002, her master’s degree in adult and higher education from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 1996 and her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Purdue University in 1991.

Gregory’s research and work has been published in such academic journals as The Reading Teacher; the International Journal of Humanities and Social Science; Critical Literacy: Theories and Practices; The New Educator; Literacy Teaching and Learning: An International Journal of Early Reading and Writing and The Journal of Reading, Writing and Literacy. She has also co-authored chapters in such books as “Children’s Literature and Social (In) Justice,” “Blended Curriculum in the Inclusive K-3 Classroom: Teaching All Young Children” and “Contemporary Issues on Educational Administration and Policy.”

She has presented at such education conferences as the International Conference on Language, Education, Diversity: the Literacy Research Association; the National At-Risk Youth Conference; Curriculum and Pedagogy Conference and the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference.

In her role as a literacy department faculty member at BSU, Gregory served as the adviser for six students’ dissertations, as well as served as the primary adviser for master’s degree-seeking students and bachelor’s degree candidates on their theses and senior projects. She served as the BSU Faculty Senate president from 2011-13, as well as a member of BSU’s enrollment management committee from 2011-13.

Most recently, the work she and a colleague collaborated on in a rural elementary school resulted in the school receiving the International Reading Association’s Exemplary Reading Program award for the state of Idaho and a certificate of recognition in closing the achievement gap between student groups from the National Title I Association.

She is a member of the International Reading Association, the Literacy Research Association, American Educational Research Association and the Reading Recovery Council of North America.

Mhango named chair of WIU Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising and Hospitality Department

Mary Mhango, formerly a professor in the College of Education at Marshall University (WV), has been named chair of the Western Illinois University Department of Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising and Hospitality. She began serving in the chair position July 15.

Mhango formerly served as a program coordinator for family and consumer sciences at Marshall University (since 2006).

Mhango earned her Ph.D. in textiles and clothing from Iowa State University in 2006, her master’s degree in home economics education from Mount Saint Vincent University (Nova Scotia, Canada) in 1985 and her bachelor’s degree in clothing and textiles (apparel design) from the University of Missouri Columbia in 1974.

Mhango’s research and work has been published in such academic journals as the Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences Education, the Journal of Business and Entrepreneurship and the Journal of Fashion Marketing and Management. She has authored and co-authored chapters in such books as, “Innovative Teaching: Experiences and Insights from Eastern and Southern Africa Universities” and “Biotechnology: A Hope or a Threat.”

During her academic career, she has received such scholarly honors as the Women of Color Award from Marshall University (2010) and the Mainstream Living Academic Scholarship (Iowa State University, 2005).

From 1994-02, Mhango served as the chair (founding) of the University of Botswana Department of Home Economics Education, and from 1990-94, she served as the chair of the University of Malawi Department of Home Economics.

Currently, Mhango serves as a reviewer for the Journal of Career and Technical Education Research and has served as a reviewer for the Clothing and Textile Research Journal.

COEHS interim department chairs

Gloria Delany-Barmann, interim chair, educational and interdisciplinary studies and educational leadership.

Lorette Oden, interim chair, health sciences and social work.

Dan Yoder, interim chair, recreation, park and tourism administration.
CSD offers Study Abroad Program

By Jodi Pospeschil

Western Illinois University students who have studied communication sciences and disorders (CSD) now have the opportunity to further their academic experience by studying abroad in Wales, United Kingdom.

WIU has an exchange program with Cardiff Metropolitan University in Wales, which trades two students each summer.

In 2012, WIU graduate student Jamie Monier M.A. ‘13, of Sparland (IL), and Cassie Henry ‘11 M.A. ‘13, of Tinley Park (IL), spent time studying in Wales. In 2013, Alexandria Blair ‘13, of Macomb and Rachael Cuculich, a graduate student from Orland Park (IL), were the two students chosen.

In the summer of 2012, Welsh students Linh Lee and Jenna Adams visited the WIU campus, and in the summer of 2013, students Sarah Gibbon and Amanda Evans visited Macomb.

Stacy Betz, chairperson of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, said while the Welsh students were in Macomb their activities included completing clinical practice and assessing and treating children and adults with speech and language impairments on campus and in Quincy.

“Having our WIU students study in Wales is an extraordinary opportunity for them to increase their cultural competencies and learn about clinical practice in another country,” Betz said. “However, students in our graduate program, who are not able to travel to Wales, also benefit greatly from the clinical exchange as they are able to interact with the visiting students from Wales. This summer, Sarah Gibbon and Amanda Evans taught our students the differences in health care and educational systems between the U.S. and U.K. and how those differences lead to different clinical practices.”

Monier graduated with her master’s degree from Western in May and has been hired as a kindergarten through fourth grade speech therapist in the Peoria School District.

“At Western, I have met the most influential people in my life who have shaped who I am today,” she said. “Everyone in the CSD department has helped me immensely in one way or another. During my graduate career, I had the opportunity to fully appreciate what each of them had to offer.”

Henry, who also received her master’s degree in May, is currently working as a speech-language pathologist for Select Rehab at three skilled nursing facility locations in Mt. Sterling (IL), Beardstown (IL) and Jacksonville (IL).

Henry credits the CSD program and her teachers at Western with helping her be well prepared for her career.

“The CSD program at WIU is wonderful. I learned so much and I still feel that I can email my teachers and ask advice for certain clients,” she said. “The majority of my teachers have provided me with advice that I have used, but a few of them have really made an impact.” Kathryn Pohlpetzer M.A. ’09 was the instructor for the majority of the classes that dealt with the geriatric population. She is also the professor that changed my mind from pediatric to geriatric after she was my clinic supervisor one semester.”

Blair is beginning her second semester as a graduate student in the CSD department.

“As a graduate student within the CSD program, I attend classes to further my knowledge within the field and have the opportunity to apply what I have learned within a clinical setting. I see clients with various disorders providing speech and language services,” she said. “Being a student at WIU has helped me grow both educationally and personally through the development of leadership skills, professional skills and knowledge within the speech, language and hearing field.”

Both Henry and Blair note that one of their fondest memories of Western was the opportunity to study in Wales.

“This opportunity that was provided by WIU helped foster my growth within the CSD profession and expand my knowledge of other cultures and customs,” Blair said. “An additional fond memory would be the friendships that I have gained from being a part of the CSD family. We are a small program and a great class. As a result, I have made friends that will last a lifetime, personally and throughout my future career as a speech-language pathologist.”

Cuculich is also a second year graduate student in the CSD program and wants to eventually work as a speech-language pathologist. She credits her fellow classmates and the WIU faculty for helping her become a better clinician and student.

“The faculty has provided me with the knowledge and skills I need in order to be successful when I leave WIU,” Cuculich said. “My classmates have provided me with support throughout my time at Western, whether that be through classwork or clinic work. It is really great to have this support because we are always able to bounce ideas off one another so that we are able to get new perspectives and insights.”

Cuculich said the “open door policy” of WIU professors helped foster her academic path.

“The department really functions as a whole in order to help contribute to everyone’s success,” she said. “In order to become a speech-language pathologist there are certain requirements that have to be met, and everyone at WIU ensures that you are on track and able to achieve your goals.”

For more information about WIU’s CSD program visit wiu.edu/csd.

Rocky on Parade unveiling Oct. 3

The official unveiling of the Rocky on Parade statues, a public art project and art department scholarship fundraiser coordinated by Western Illinois University will be Oct. 3, but two of the artists recently allowed a WIU photographer a sneak peek of their work.

Jan Clough, an art professor at WIU, has designed and is painting the Rocky statue purchased by the WIU Foundation, while WIU art major Linsey Lundeen, a junior from Aledo (IL), has designed and is painting the Sports Corner @ 124’s statue.

The artists were selected earlier this year by the 14 sponsors of Western’s inaugural Rocky on Parade public art project to decorate bigger than life-size fiberglass bulldogs that will be on display throughout the Macomb community and WIU campus.

Inspired by successful projects like Cows on Parade in Chicago, WIU Art Professor Bill Howard conceived the idea for Rocky On Parade. On Oct. 3, at the annual WIU Alumni Association’s Town and Gown Celebration, the 14 Rocky sculptures will be debuted. The bulldogs will be installed at the sponsors’ location of choice following WIU Homecoming Oct. 12.

“This has been a wonderful experience watching Rocky on Parade develop into one of the largest public art projects in Macomb history,” noted Howard. “The sponsors are excited about their Rockys and have been working closely with their artists to develop unique sculptures. All the artists are hard at work developing their designs; it’s exciting to see them come to life. The scholarship money we have raised and the overwhelming response from the community is a great reflection of our town and University.”

Visitors can pick up a map at the Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce and other locations to follow the “dog walk” to view the Rocky sculptures. A commemorative plaque will be placed on each bulldog to acknowledge the sponsor and its artist.

Other artists and their sponsors include: Mason Karr—John and Dana Biembaum ‘99 and Joe Roselieb ’07 M.S. ’09 and Col. Rock III; Kappa Pi—McDonough District Hospital; Todd (TJ) Reedy ’02—Blades; Nicole Rybarczyk—MidAmerica National Bank; Tyler Herald—Macomb Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Corp.; Don Crouch—Cathy Early, State Farm Insurance; Colleen Willey—Citizens Bank; Allison Huulslander—All Pets Veterinary Clinic; Deborah Sparrow—Nelson’s Clothing; Lorraine Epperson—¢845-357-05—Josh and Mischelle Oaks ‘97 and Ryan ’96 and Ann Ford; Charles Wright—Ken ’46 MS-Ed ’52 and Lorraine Epperson ’48 MS-Ed ’52, Century 21 Purdum-Epperson; Amanda Bratz—Purdum Gray Ingledue Beck, Inc.
Alumnus trip enhances WIU Herbarium

By Jodi Pospesich

A love of plant study at Western Illinois University has resulted not only in marriage but also a unique interest in the University’s Herbarium collection.

Dave Jansen ’76 and Dorothy Fisher ’75 M.S. ’79 now of Springfield, met in the 1970s while both were graduate students at Western. They shared an interest in the study of plants.

Dorothy received her bachelor’s degree in German from WIU and her master’s degree in biology. Dave received his bachelor’s degree in biology from WIU and worked on his master’s degree in botany. He was also a teaching assistant in general biology.

Dav is the manager of the Bureau of Land, Central Region, Field Operations, for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. He has worked for the agency for 34 years, starting as a field inspector.

After the couple’s three children were raised, Dorothy worked in a variety of science-related positions. She worked in the laboratories of the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, tutored microbiology students and was a tutor with the Americorps Project.

But it was her 2009 enrollment in a Lincoln Land Community College class in tropical studies that brought her back to nature. The field class was designed for students to see the spectrum of tropical terrestrial and coastal habitats of Belize in a week’s time, she said. “We visited the jungle, a baboon sanctuary, a butterfly sanctuary, snorkeled off the coast, visited Myan ruins and lived in huts.”

Dorothy said there is a possibility that she will join other research trips as a co-instructor or that she could lead her own group.

“The community college’s Belize program was established in 2007, and since then, 35 educators, 20 colleges and hundreds of students have participated,” she said. “The program has included six years of continuous research about stream ecology, five years of orchid conservation and related programs being established at three other schools.”

R. Maurice Myers, the retired chair of the botany department, started the R.M. Myers Herbarium at WIU in 1945. Specimens in the collection date back to the 1860s and work is underway to place the WIU collection online in a “virtual herbarium.”

For more information on the Herbarium, visit wiu.edu/users/mfer1/MWI.html. For more information on future plant collection trips to Belize, Dorothy can be reached at djansen0071@gmail.com.

WIU’s science station

A group of veterans and their guests were treated to a weekend of getting back to nature in late July thanks to the faculty and staff at the Alice L. Kibbe Life Science Station on the Mississippi River in Hancock County.

On July 27-28, the group of 25 veterans and guests visited WIU’s science station as part of a program designed in partnership with the Wounded Warrior Project and the Warsaw Lion’s Club.

The warriors and their guests were taken out on the Mississippi River to see the wide variety of fish species that live there. They were also given opportunities to net fish and pull in turtle traps used by Kibbe faculty and staff.

Those who attended then spent the night in the Kibbe dormitories after an evening campfire. On July 28, the guests took part in a nature hike, with a chance to learn more about identification of different species of plants and trees. The Warsaw Lion’s Club provided meals for the group throughout the weekend.

Kibbe Station Manager James Lamer ’01 M.S. ’06 said the event was enhanced by great weather.

“We discussed river ecology, fish identification and aquatic turtle identification in detail, letting the warriors handle the fish and turtles before returning them to the water unharmed,” Lamer said. “On Saturday, Sean Jenkins, Kibbe station director, took the warriors on a nature hike, discussing native prairie plants and trees, ending the hike by showing them how to core a tree and to determine its age and growth history. We were honored to host these fine men and women and proud to have the opportunity to show our appreciation for their service and sacrifice.”

Kibbe is located on 222 acres of land owned by Western Illinois University. It is joined by 1,260 acres owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. For more information on the site, visit wiu.edu/kibbe.
Susan Romano named Society of American Foresters Fellow

Susan Romano M.S. ’90, an associate professor of biology at Western Illinois University, was recently named a Society of American Foresters (SAF) Fellow. The recognition comes from Romano’s peers “for outstanding service to the society and to the profession.”

The SAF is an organization which helps provide information and opportunities for networking for natural resources professionals.

“It is an honor that few receive and one that you deserve entirely,” according to society President Joann Meyer Cox.

Romano said she has transitioned the work and research she has completed into her classroom lessons. “My sustained, lifelong participation in the forestry profession and in the advancement of forestry, has provided many valuable experiences with those who have a deep appreciation of the forest at many levels,” she said. “It has been my pleasure to work with forest landowners, loggers, agencies, students and academics as part of a community of caretakers of our forests, continuing and promoting a legacy of sound stewardship for this valuable resource. Teaching has given me the honor and opportunity to mentor students and help them to also find satisfying careers in conservation.”

Romano received her bachelor’s degree and Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and her master’s degree from Western. Her research interests include forest ecology and management. For more information about the Society of American Foresters, visit eforester.org.

WIU alumnus becomes president and CEO of Ohio zoo and aquarium

Western Illinois University alumnus Tom Stalf ’92 is using his biology degree in a unique way after being promoted to the president and CEO of the Columbus (Oh) Zoo and Aquarium in February.

Stalf, who also minored in geology at Western, was previously the director of the Niabi Zoo in Coal Valley (IL). His wife, Colleen Stalf M.S. ’11, completed her master’s thesis on elephants with Biology Professor Jeannette Thomas ’79 at the Niabi Zoo. Colleen was previously the head trainer at the Niabi Zoo.

Tom began at Niabi in 1995, and in 2010, became the senior vice president of operations at the Columbus Zoo. He was promoted to chief operations officer in 2011 before being named interim CEO in 2012.

Stalf is also president and CEO of the zoo and aquarium’s other properties, Zoombezi Bay, Safari Golf Club and the Wilds conservation center.

“During his time as interim CEO, Tom demonstrated strong leadership and advanced the organizational goals and mission,” said Columbus Zoo Board Chair Phil Pikeln. “He is directing the progress of Safari Africa, the largest project in the Zoo’s history, which opens in 2014, and is coordinating this summer’s arrival of 25 animatronic dinosaurs to engage people of all ages in the prehistoric past and lessons for our planet’s future. Tom has the experience and credentials as a successful zoo director, he embodies passion and vision.”

Stalf began his zoo-related career as a zookeeper, where he worked on animal care and exhibit design, and then advanced into zoo management.

“My life has been dedicated to inspiring people to care about wildlife and wild places, but I know I can’t do it by myself,” Stalf said. “I walk through the zoo and talk with our animal care experts, educators, conservationists, guest services representatives and others who I encounter.”

Zoo officials said Stalf uses his “gift of storytelling and his love of education to help inspire people to join the zoo’s mission to protect animals globally and locally.”

In addition to his zoo work, Stalf spent more than 15 years traveling with Jack Hanna for educational programs, zoo promotions and national television appearances. He also speaks on behalf of state and federal legislation that impacts wildlife.

Throughout his career, Stalf has placed a high priority on the welfare and conservation of animals, traveling to countries where the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium supports programming to help with wildlife protection. Those programs include one to save mountain gorillas in Rwanda, Africa.

“Since coming to the Columbus Zoo, and while I served as interim CEO, I utilized the time to engage staff members and members of the community, and I heard how passionate they are about our zoo,” Stalf said. “I share that passion and am enthused to have this tremendous responsibility and feel privileged to do what I love each and every day.”

Stalf is a professional member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), has served as an AZA accreditation mentor and is currently a member of the Government Affairs Committee.

When Stalf began his time at the Niabi Zoo, he was the youngest zoo director in America.

The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium is home to more than 10,000 animals, which represent more than 575 species from around the world. The zoo’s complex includes a 22-acre water park, an 18-hole golf club and a 10,000-acre conservation center and safari park.

For more information about the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, visit columbuszoo.org.

“I received a great education at WIU and it truly prepared me for the work I do every day educating people on the conservation of animals,” said Stalf. “It’s been such a pleasure to host WIU alumni and friends at both the Niabi Zoo and now, most recently, at the Columbus Zoo. I’m happy to have had the chance to meet them and learn of their passion for the zoos in their area, and of course about WIU!”

Save the Date

The seventh annual Western Illinois University College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship Fundraising Dinner will be held Saturday, Nov. 16.

The dinner event, which recognizes college scholarship recipients and the 2013 distinguished alumni award recipient, runs from 6–9 p.m. in the University Union Grand Ballroom. The evening will include a social hour and dinner, followed by a program.

Event tickets are $70, with $30 of the cost donated to the WIU scholarship of your choice. RSVP by Nov. 1 to Bryce Dexter, director of development for the College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Office, (309) 298-1828 or e-mail bm-dexter2@wiu.edu.
Marshall repeats as NCAA Division I leader in stolen bases

Western Illinois softball standout Sammy Marshall was named the NCAA Division I leader in stolen bases for the second straight year.

“We are very excited for Sammy to earn the NCAA Stolen Base Champion title for the second year in a row,” said head coach Holly Van Vlymen ’00 MS-Ed ’08. “She worked very hard to come back this season after breaking her ankle last April. This award would not be possible if weren’t for her teammates, Coach Drew Kramer (our strength and conditioning coach) and Erica Post (our athletic trainer) pushing her to be the best she could be. Sammy is a competitive, passionate and determined athlete, and we are proud to have her as a part of this Leatherneck softball family.”

Marshall averaged 0.94 stolen bases per game (31-of-33) in 33 games played. She was caught stealing for the first time in two years. The Naperville (IL) native also ranked among the nation’s Top 20 in five statistical categories. Marshall ranked third in triples per game (.015), fourth in batting average (.465), 14th in on-base percentage (.534) and 18th in triples (5).

Besides being named to the Midwest’s 2013 NFCA (National Fastpitch Coaches Association) Division I All-Region Second Team, the Summit League’s head coaches voted Marshall Player of the Year after she led the conference in batting average and on-base percentage. She was named Player of the Week on two occasions and earned First Team All-League recognition for the second consecutive year.

“It’s great to know my hard work is being noticed and going toward something.”

- Sammy Marshall

WIU announces Tommy Bell as new athletics director

By WIU Athletics

Tommy Bell has been hired as Western Illinois University Director of Athletics. Gary Biller, vice president of Student Services, made the announcement July 15.

Bell officially began his new duties with the Leathernecks Aug. 12. He is the sixth Athletics Director for the Leathernecks since 1926.

“[My wife] Laurie and I look so forward to being a part of this great institution; we are very excited and are deeply honored to be chosen to have this opportunity,” Bell said at his introductory press conference. “Most importantly, my administration is going to focus on Western Illinois’ four values that they stress here at the institution: academic excellence, educational opportunity, social responsibility and personal growth.”

Bell served as director of athletics at Fort Wayne (IPFW) the past six years, and the Mastodons are coming off the most successful year in department history. Bell saw three of his programs advance to the NCAA postseason in 2012-13: volleyball, softball and women’s tennis.

“I’m not going to come in here and reinvent the wheel; we’re just going to get the wheel rolling and look for creative ways for people to be involved, excited and everyone pulling in the same direction,” Bell added. “We will develop signature sports programs that will mirror the signature University programs on the academic side that are already in place.”

Three players were named Summit League Player of the Year, and the Mastodons received the women’s soccer Coach of the Year award. Fifteen of the 16 programs participated in the Summit League Tournaments. The Mastodons continued their impressive academic success; for the 10th straight year, the departmental grade point average finished at 3.0 or better.

Overall during his six years in Fort Wayne, Bell led a department that witnessed six NCAA Tournament berths, five regular-season Summit League Championships, 186 Summit League Players of the Week, 152 All-Summit League Selections, 13 Players of the Year, six Coaches of the Year and three Academic All-Americans.

Known for his marketing and fund raising abilities, Bell and the IPFW athletics department expanded their brand by entering into a marketing agreement with Nelligan Sports Marketing. Bell secured funding to endow scholarships for the men’s volleyball program, which finished as the NCAA Division I national runner-up in 2007. He also established the Mastodon Athletic Scholarship Fund, which raises money for scholarship dollars for student-athletes.

The 2012-13 academic year also marked the best fundraising year in department history. A new academic center for Mastodon student-athletes is in the process of being completed. Other recent and future facility enhancements include: a new video scoreboard in the Gates Sports Center, a new playing surface on the tennis complex, locker room renovations for the basketball and volleyball programs and a new scoreboard at the soccer stadium.

“Tommy brings many years of experience to Western,” said President Jack Thomas. “His success in fundraising and leadership will further enhance Western Illinois University’s athletics programs. Tommy will put administrative measures in place to help Western win championships in multiple sports. He will also continue to make certain that intercollegiate athletics upholds the academic standards and integrity of our student-athletes.”

Bell previously served as the chair of the Summit League Tennis committee and currently as the chair of the League’s Baseball committee. He is also currently serving a four-year term on the NCAA Amateurism Committee.

“We wanted someone with Division I experience, someone who knew our conferences and the nuances within those conferences; we wanted someone who was a good budget manager, someone who could work with coaches from 20 different sports; and we wanted someone who could help us raise money,” Biller said regarding Bell at the introductory press conference.

Prior to his arrival in Fort Wayne, Bell spent six years as the constituent development office for the Southern Illinois Athletics Department. He oversaw all fundraising efforts for the Salukis, including the creation of the Saluki Athletic Scholarship Fund in Fall 2002 and increased that fund by 500 percent during his tenure. Bell led the capital campaign efforts for the Saluki Way master facility plan.

He worked from 1990-99 in the Athletic Development office at Northern Illinois. He also served as head athletic trainer at Radford University in Virginia from 1980-1984 and then served full-time as athletic trainer for the Philadelphia Phillies AAA affiliate Portland Beavers from 1984-87.

A 1979 graduate of Virginia Tech, Bell earned his master’s degree from Radford in 1987. He and his wife Laurie have two children, Joey and Courtney, and one granddaughter.
Western Illinois University Leatherneck

Hall of Fame

Four individuals and the back-to-back National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national championship gymnastics teams from 1964 and 1965 will represent the 2013 Western Illinois University Athletics Hall of Fame class. The induction ceremony will take place Oct. 11, as part of the Homecoming/Hall of Fame weekend.

Those receiving the highest honor by Leatherneck Athletics are: Fred Adair (contributor), Russ Michna ’02 MBA ’04 (football), Kathy Orban ’77 (administrator) and Becky Tyo ’03 M.S. ’08 (women’s basketball). The back-to-back NAIA national championship gymnastics teams from 1964 and 1965 will be inducted as well.

“It is my honor to announce the Hall of Fame Class of 2013. These individuals and teams each played a distinct part in our athletics history, and it is only fitting to pay tribute to those who have shown exceptional athletic ability and who have made positive contributions to the athletic programs at Western Illinois University,” said Lisa Melz-Jennings M.S ’94, assistant director of athletics and senior woman administrator.

Adair began work at the Western Illinois University Physical Plant (now Facilities Management) in 1979 and worked as a landscape maintenance grounds foreman until his retirement in 2011. During his 30-plus years, he worked on the fields at Hanson Field (football/track and field), Mary Ellen McKee Stadium (softball), John MacKenzie Alumni Field (soccer), Boyer Stadium (baseball), three football practice fields and one soccer practice field.

Thousands of Leatherneck student-athletes benefitted from Adair’s dedication and attention to detail. His reputation extended to St. Louis, as he supervised taking care of three NFL-quality football practice fields during the time that the St. Louis Rams traveled to Macomb for training camp.

Michna ended his career as a two-time Gateway Conference (now named the Missouri Valley) Offensive Player of the Year, one of the few players to win the award multiple times, let alone in consecutive years. During his four-year career, the Leathernecks made three NCAA Division I playoff appearances. In 2002 and 2003, Western won its opening playoff round game but eventually fell in the quarterfinals. Michna twice earned First Team Academic All-Gateway Conference honors and was named Academic All-Conference three years (one of nine Leathernecks to ever receive the academic distinction three times). A First Team All-American in 2003, Michna still ranks in 13 season and career Top 10 listings.

Orban worked for 28 years in the WIU athletics department, ending her career as the associate athletics director for compliance and senior woman administrator. She joined the athletics department in August 1980 as the assistant field hockey coach, then was promoted in 1985 to assistant athletics director. Her responsibilities included public relations, promotions, the Westervinds Athletic Club and home event management. When she was promoted to associate athletics director, she oversaw financial aid, student-athlete eligibility, academic services, compliance, athletic training and strength and conditioning.

Tyo ended her standout basketball career as the sixth-leading all-time scorer in Western women’s history, netting 1,367 points in her four years. No one in Western’s history has made more free throws in a season (127) and career (380) or had a better free throw percentage in a game (1.00, 10-for-10) than Tyo. She was named to the 2000 Mid-Continent Conference (now named the Summit League) All-Newcomer team, and then the following year, she was voted to the Mid-Con Second Team. Following her senior year, she earned First Team honors. Tyo was also a three-time Academic All-Mid-Con selection.

Western won back-to-back NAIA national titles in gymnastics in 1964 and 1965, the first two national titles sponsored by the organization. Coached by Robert Clow (Hall of Fame Class of 1982), fifteen members representing the two teams will be inducted. They include: Gerry Aldrich ’67, Dave Donaldson ’65, Bill Downing ’67, Dennis Hallett (deceased), Ray Ingersoll ’66, Ray LaFrancis ’67, Loren Michaels, Tom Muraoka ’67, Gerald (Gerry) Peterson ’68, Jack Peterson, Jerry Polacek ’67, Mike Rogers ’68, Howie Sokol ’68 MS-Ed ’71, Gene Swanson ’66 MS-Ed ’73 (deceased), and Mac Weeks (deceased).

Second annual Ladies Leatherneck event

The Second Annual Ladies’ Leatherneck Football Academy raised more than $1,500 for McDonough District Hospital and diabetes research. The July 25 event drew nearly 100 participants.

The evening kicked off with tailgating in Western Hall’s East Arena, followed by a film session led by new Head Coach Bob Nielson and instruction on proper equipment fitting by Leatherneck coaches and staff. From there, the women went onto Hanson Field where they performed offensive and defensive position drills with help from Leatherneck student-athletes.

The night capped off with a live play scrimmage between the participants.

McCleany and Beale: women’s basketball assistant coaches

Western Illinois head women’s basketball coach JD Gravina announced the additions of Kierra McCleary and Bailey Beale as assistant coaches on July 2.

McCleary comes to Western Illinois after a one-year stint as an assistant coach at Lewis University in 2012-13, where she helped the Flyers to a 24-6 record and berth into the NCAA Tournament.

She assisted the Flyers to the best turnaround in Division II, after the Flyers went 8-20 in 2011-12 before McCleary’s arrival.

A three-time team captain at North Alabama (UNA), McCleary capped off her four-year playing career with a 2010-11 Gulf South Conference Tournament Championship and the program’s first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1994, as the team finished 21-7 and a perfect 12-0 conference mark.

Off the court, McCleary was the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee President at UNA, served as a “Spread Your Wings” participant and coordinated PinkZone efforts from 2007-11 to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research.

She graduated with a degree in Business Administration from North Alabama in 2011.

“Kierra has won conference championships as a player and a coach. Her team at Lewis was successful on the court and in the classroom,” Gravina said. “Her personality will be an asset in recruiting, and her basketball knowledge will allow her to understand and implement our basketball systems.”

After serving as a graduate manager in 2012-13, Beale will serve as an assistant coach in 2013-14.

Her responsibilities last year included organizing team travel, video coordination, film exchange, recruiting visits and facility usage.

“Bailey really proved herself last year. She stepped up and took on more responsibility than most graduate managers,” Gravina added. “From our conversations, it became apparent that she really understands the game of basketball. I’m excited to bring her on board full time.”

Beale joined the Leatherneck women’s basketball staff following a playing career at University of Illinois-Springfield (UIS). She captured the Prairie Stars as a junior and senior and holds the school record for three-pointers made in a season. The Independence (MO) native also earned Second Team All-Conference honors.

In 2012, Beale was one of 50 women’s college basketball student-athletes selected to the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association’s “So You Want To Be A Coach” program, which provides professional development and career advancement through education, skills enhancement and networking.

Prior to attending UIS, Beale spent two years playing basketball at Cotey College where she was named First Team All-Region and was an Academic All-American.

Beale majored in mathematics at UIS and graduated in August 2012. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in sport management at Western.
Dear Alumni & Friends,

I continue to be impressed by, and grateful for, the commitment you, our donors, demonstrate to Western Illinois University. Despite the state’s difficult financial environment and ongoing economic challenges, many of you have come forward in support of Western students and programs.

Fiscal Year 2013 brought many fine accomplishments that would not have happened without your support—we broke ground for Phase II of the Quad Cities Riverfront Campus; saw our first-ever student to be named a Truman Scholar finalist; had three faculty members named Fulbright Scholars and cheered the men’s basketball Leathernecks to become first-ever true Summit League regular season champions. We even hosted an alumni event in Korea!

As we conclude our $60 million campaign for Western Illinois University: Higher Values in Higher Education, I thank each and every one of you for every gift that has us presently at 95 percent of our goal. I am confident we will have exceeded our goal by the time the campaign ends Dec. 31, 2013.

Despite the achievements and good news, higher education in Illinois and across the country is in a precarious position. No longer does money freely flow to the public colleges and universities, and no longer is it a given that students can apply for, and receive, financial aid. Western Illinois University is facing a critical time in its future, and there is no doubt that additional private support will be needed to continue to offer access and opportunity to higher education. The Foundation’s fundraising efforts are focused on keeping a Western education accessible to as many students as possible, regardless of means.

I am confident that the steadfast support of our many alumni, faculty, staff, friends, businesses and foundations will allow Western to continue on its path of success. I am grateful for your contributions, but it is not enough to just thank you. I invite you to visit the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses to see for yourself how your generosity influences our students, faculty, programs and facilities. Again, thank you!

Sincerely,

Brad Bainter ’79 M.S. ’83
Vice President, Advancement and Public Services Executive Officer, WIU Foundation

Foundation

Major gift highlights
2013 Foundation year in review:

- Seven-figure planned gift and $100,000 charitable gift annuity from Mona Sawyer ’55 of Stamford (CT) to benefit students in the College of Business & Technology
- $400,000 commitment from Sodexo to fund scholarships as a stakeholder in the Western community and to assist students entering their industry
- $219,000 from the Moline Foundation for scholarships at WIU-QC
- $149,000 from the estate of Ralph & Gladys Anderson ’34 to support teacher education in the College of Education & Human Services
- $115,000 from Archer Daniels Midland for the Supply Chain Management program in the College of Business & Technology
- $76,250 in scholarship support from the Caterpillar Foundation for the College of Business & Technology
- $75,000 commitment from John ’80 & Kim Distefano ’81 for the Flip, Learn and Master iPad Project
- $58,400 from the estate of Burdette Knappenberg for scholarship support
- $50,000 commitment from longtime WIU Foundation Board member Donald Dexter to establish the Ruth Dexter Scholarship in Nursing
- $50,000 gift from Olga “Kay” Kennedy ’46 for

Scholarships—Helping students succeed

The following new scholarships were established through the WIU Foundation in Fiscal Year 2013. We thank the individuals, corporations and foundations whose generosity made these scholarships possible.

- Phillip Benne Scholarship
- BGS Alumni Scholarship
- Rachel Carter Scholarship
- Center for International Studies Scholarship
- Chicago Mercantile Exchange Transfer Scholarship
- College of Education & Human Services Transfer Scholarship
- Computer Science International Graduate Student Scholarship
- Ruth Dexter Nursing Scholarship
- Robert & Betty Druien Scholarship in Foreign Languages
- Noah Eckman Memorial Scholarship in honor of Denita Rouse
- Fallen Soldiers Scholarship
- Foreign Languages & Literatures Study Abroad Scholarship
- Rhonda Haffner Scholarship
- Kay Kennedy Kinesiology Scholarship
- Gordon Kirk Honors History Scholarship
- Sarah Knight Memorial Scholarship for Bilingual Education
- Carl B. Larson Scholarship in Archaeology
- Laura Lee McLaren Scholarship
- Ed Ohlin Scholarship
- Sodexo Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising & Hospitality Scholarship
- WQPT Broadcasting Scholarships
Higher Values in Higher Education: The Campaign for Western Illinois University

As of Sept. 15, 2013, the WIU Foundation is 97 percent of the way to its $60 million goal, having raised more than $58 million. The Campaign, which began in 2006, will conclude Dec. 31, 2013. We are confident that, with your help, we will meet and surpass this goal.

Private contributions are a necessary part of WIU operations. Currently, the State of Illinois supplies slightly more than half of Western Illinois University’s appropriated/general revenue budget. In addition, 85 percent of new freshmen on campus receive financial aid.

The campaign’s fundraising efforts have been (and will continue to be) focused on keeping a Western education accessible to as many students as possible, regardless of their means, and of continual improvement of that educational experience. This simply cannot be done without the assistance of WIU’s many alumni, employees, friends and corporate partners. Your investment is a meaningful way to share in Western’s values.

WIU-Quad Cities Foundation Year in Review

Western Illinois University-Quad Cities experienced another strong and successful year. WIU-QC fundraising was enhanced by many significant institutional accomplishments.

WIU-Quad Cities experienced increased enrollment in 2012-13, highlighted by a record-high undergraduate enrollment of 799 students. New student enrollment increased by 12.9 percent, and online enrollment increased by 246 students, or 41.4 percent, over the previous academic year.

The Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus completed its first full year of operations. The new campus—on the banks of the Mississippi River—was made possible by a gift of land and property from John Deere and Company. Phase I supports the College of Business and Technology, all other undergraduate programs, student services and administration.

An August 2012 Phase II groundbreaking (five interconnected buildings) lends to the 2014-15 opening of our newest facilities that will house Quad Cities programs in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Human Services, Fine Arts and Communication and other staff areas.

The addition of WQPT-Quad Cities Public Television to the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities has enhanced our public service. As a public broadcasting service of WIU, WQPT serves a viewing audience of 600,000 residents of Western Illinois and Eastern Iowa. Some of the new local programs include:

• WIU Presents: A monthly program showcasing fine and performing arts presentations at Western.
• The Cities: A local public affairs program moderated by a local anchorperson. Notable guests during the past year included Vice President Joe Biden, Arun Ghandi, national bullying expert Jennifer Caudle and elected officials from both Illinois and Iowa.
• Out & About: A one- to two-minute production throughout the broadcast day highlighting station programs and events sponsored by non-profit groups in the area.
• Re-broadcasts of home Leatherneck basketball games. Cumulative Comprehensive Campaign and annual WQPT contributions total $8.225 million in gifts, pledges and grants for WIU-QC. There are 38 donors in major gift categories and 101 in recognition categories for annual gifts, up from a total of two just four years ago.

FY13 donors include:

• 3M Foundation
• Derek Bloomfield ’11
• Thomas & Elaine Bridge
• Butler Insurance Services, Inc.
• CD Wiman Memorial Trust
• Roger Clawson ’77
• Doris and Victor Day Foundation
• Dispatch Publishing Company
• Holabird & Root, LLC
• Ilowa Construction, Labor & Management Council
• John Deere Classic
• Lowell N. Johnson Charitable Foundation
• Lugossystems
• McCarthy-Bush Foundation
• Mel Foster Co.
• Melvin McKay Trust
• Mid American Energy Foundation
• Midland Information Resources
• Modern Woodmen of America
• The Moline Foundation
• Robert & Blenda Ontiveros
• Paragon Commercial Interiors
• Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 25
• Quad Cities Chapter NECA
• Quad City Bank & Trust
• Raufeisen Development
• Royal Neighbors of America
• Sedona Technologies
• Scott County Regional Authority
• The Genesco Foundation
• Whitey’s Ice Cream Manufacturers
• Robert D. Wismer

WIU-Quad Cities has 21 scholarship awards and $625,000 to 70 individuals during the past year. Generous community donors have contributed more than $500,000 for scholarships since 2008.

WIU-Quad Cities hosted their first minority student scholarship fundraiser in April in partnership with 100 Black Men of the Quad Cities, Davenport League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Greater Quad Cities Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Rock Island (IL) and Davenport (IA) chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and VIVA Quad Cities. The Moline Foundation provided a generous matching gift for funds raised. All funds raised match scholarships awarded by these organizations to students at WIU-Quad Cities.

“The number and diversity of all the private and public investors for WIU-Quad Cities and those who have helped with the progress of the Riverfront Campus reinforces the entire community’s commitment to the betterment of both the regional economy and educational landscape of the entire Quad Cities region,” said WIU President Jack Thomas. “With their generosity, our dreams have become reality. We have advanced student scholarships, information and technologies, facilities and the public service mission of WQPT.”

“The number and diversity of all the private and public investors for WIU-Quad Cities and those who have helped with the progress of the Riverfront Campus reinforces the entire community’s commitment to the betterment of both the regional economy and educational landscape of the entire Quad Cities region,” said WIU President Jack Thomas. “With their generosity, our dreams have become reality. We have advanced student scholarships, information and technologies, facilities and the public service mission of WQPT.”

“Every gift strengthens our community and makes an immediate impact on our campus and the students that we serve,” said Joe Rives, vice president of Quad Cities and Planning. We have set a strong foundation, a culture of giving and support, that benefits current and future generations of students. We will continue to build on our fundraising successes in the years ahead so we can remain the public choice for higher education in the Quad Cities.”

Dear Alumni & Friends of Western,

In starting my second year as president of the WIU Foundation Board of Directors, I am excited to continue to strive to meet the goal of the Foundation, to enhance the lives of our students at Western Illinois University. To do this, we need the continued support and generosity of our many alumni and special donors. Your donations will help us reach our campaign goal of $60 million, which supports student scholarships, faculty development and capital improvements.

Because I am from the Quad Cities, I hope you have a chance to see the new WIU Riverfront Campus in Moline, IL. It is a great addition to our programming in the Quad Cities.

On behalf of the Western Illinois University Foundation Board of Directors, we thank all the individuals and businesses for their vision and continued support and commitment to Western Illinois University.

Think Purple…Think Success…Think Western Illinois University!

Sincerely,

Jim Lodico ’62 MS-Ed ’75
President, WIU Foundation Board
Foundation Year in Review

On behalf of the entire Western Illinois University community, the WIU Foundation thanks all of the generous individuals who made contributions to the University this past year. The following report highlights financial information, programs and services, and contributions to the Western Illinois University Foundation covering the period of July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

- Private support received through the WIU Foundation, including cash gifts, gifts-in-kind, pledges and testamentary/deferred gift commitments totaled $7,951,673.
- The WIU Foundation processed 27,051 gifts from 13,517 alumni, friends, parents, faculty and staff members, corporations and business, foundations and other organizations.
- The average alumni contribution for all purposes was $243.66.
- WIU Foundation expenditures in support of the University for all purposes totaled $6,162,604.
- Contributions to the endowment added $1,257,329 to the WIU Foundation’s permanent asset base.

### TOTAL DOLLARS CONTRIBUTED BY CATEGORY–FY13*

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<td>Friends/Parents</td>
<td>$827,420</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

** Does not include $1,080,559 in outside scholarship donations for student support.

### NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS BY CATEGORY–FY13*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty/Staff &amp; Emeriti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations/organizations/other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends/Parents</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Does not include 533 employees who are included in the alumni count.

* Does not include 411 parents included in alumni count.
CONTRIBUTIONS BY PURPOSE–FY13*

- Scholarships and Other Endowments: $1,156,707–20.3%
- Foundations/Alumni-sponsored Programs: $511,487–9.0%
- Public Service, Cultural Activities and Other Regional Outreach Efforts: $853,744–14.9%
- Student Scholarships and Aid: $1,646,186–28.8%
- Athletics: $394,102–6.9%
- Academic Enhancements Instructional Initiatives: $1,542,838–25%
- Student Aid: $2,215,815–36%
- Capital Projects Equipment/Property: $162,490–2.6%
- Equipment/Property: $80,192–1.4%
- Unrestricted Contributions and Gifts to the Fund for a Greater Western: $12,235–.2%

* Income only; outstanding pledges and testamentary gifts not included.
Includes all gift-in-kind and contribution income, including outside scholarship donations.
Career Development Center serves alumni and students

As WIU students are planning for graduation and job searching, many WIU alumni are also seeking further job opportunities and career changes. The WIU Career Development Center serves alumni and students with career planning and preparation. Services include resume and cover letter building/ critiques, job searching strategies, mock interviewing, utilizing social media for professional networking, and transitioning to the workforce.

To spread the word on campus about the benefits of using the center, “Captain Career Services” was created by Assistant Director Renee Sprock. According to Sprock, Captain Career Services’ ‘mission’ is to empower students and alumni to take charge of their careers and utilize the career services office in order to reach their career goals.

The captain has attended the Student Activities Fair, has ridden Go West public transit system and walked around campus to pass out information about career fairs and career-related information. Captain Career Services is also available for classroom/student organizations presentations by request (career-related topics).

The center also hosts three career fairs every year, which brings in more than 60 companies that are hiring for jobs and internships. All alumni and students are welcome to attend (the Fall Career Fair is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct 1).

“We would appreciate working with any alumni member who would like to further develop their company’s recruiting efforts on campus,” Sprock added. For more information about the Career Development Center, call (309) 298-1838 or email careers@wiu.edu.

Van Vleet joins Alumni Programs

Carrie Van Vleet ’03 has joined the staff of Western Illinois University’s Alumni Programs as the new assistant director, effective Aug. 26, according to Alumni Programs Director Amy Spelman M.S. ’98.

Van Vleet most recently worked as an office support specialist in the WIU Department of Management and Marketing. She also previously had been a legal assistant with the law office of March, McMillan, Deloode & Duvall, P.C. in Macomb and served as recreation supervisor at Godfrey Parks and Recreation in Godfrey (IL).

“We’re pleased that Carrie has joined our staff,” said Spelman. “She is well-known throughout the Macomb community, has a great deal of experience and has been involved in the Alumni Association, as well as her alma mater, for many years.”

As assistant director of alumni programs at Western, Van Vleet will coordinate, develop and plan various alumni-related events and activities, including reunions and other special programs throughout the year. In addition, she will assist in advising the Student Alumni Leadership Council and the coordination of social media efforts, along with assisting with marketing efforts for the nearly 120,000-member Alumni Association.

“I am extremely excited about joining the Alumni Programs staff here at my alma mater,” said Van Vleet. “I’ve been involved with WIU for most of my life and look forward to helping foster lifelong relationships between the University, alumni and students.”

– Carrie Van Vleet ’03

WIU announces seven new members to Alumni Council

Seven new members will serve the Western Illinois University Alumni Council for the 2013-14 year.

Comprised of 25 alumni appointed to three-year terms and the president of the Student Alumni Association, the Alumni Council represents the interests of Western’s nearly 120,000 alumni.

Eldon Brown ’96, the west and southwest regional delivery manager at Fruition Partners in San Jose (CA), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in law enforcement and justice administration.

Amber Duncan ’00, a compensation consulting manager at CBIZ, Inc. in St. Louis (MO), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in communication. She received her Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Missouri in 2002.

Kort McCulley ’04 ’06, the president of McCulley Financial Group in Westchester (IL), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree (double major) in finance and economics and a Master of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in finance and international business.

Joe Roselieb ’07 ’09, the director of Residential Facilities at Western Illinois University, graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies and a master’s degree in recreation, park and tourism administration.

Tye Taylor ’79, a marketing manager at Charter Communications in St. Louis (MO), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in mass communication. He has a Graduate Certificate in telecommunications management and completed hours in the Master of Business Administration degree program at the University of Dallas.

Tom Tomaszewski ’70 ’72, a senior account manager at Homewood Disposal in Homewood (IL), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in political science and a Master of Business Administration degree.

Shane Van Vleet ’02, owner of Advanced Dentistry of Western Illinois, P.C. in Macomb (IL), graduated from WIU with a bachelor’s degree in biology. He received his DMD from the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine in 2007.

Members serve as liaisons to various University areas and on advisory boards. The council assists in the recruitment of students, selects Alumni Award recipients and was instrumental in establishing the Student Alumni Association and the new stone wall in front of the Alumni House. The council meets on a quarterly basis.

Jeff McElroy ’97, an attorney in Yorkville (IL), serves as president.
New dean of libraries

By Teresa Koltzenburg ’92 M.S. ’11

For Michael Lorenzen, moving back to the Midwest brought a welcome change to his family of four. The new Western Illinois University Libraries’ dean, who is originally from Ohio, left his post as associate dean for public services at Western Washington University and took the helm of Western’s libraries, effective July 15.

“The west coast is beautiful, but it’s expensive, and it’s not home. I very much prefer being here, closer to family. I like the cornfields and the flat earth. I guess it makes me feel reassured,” he noted with a smile.

As head of University Libraries, Lorenzen will spend the next few months getting to know the faculty and staff of WIU’s library system, which includes the main building—the Leslie F. Malpass Library, as well as the curriculum, music, physical sciences and WIU-Quad Cities branches.

“Over the next couple of months, I plan to talk to everyone who works in the libraries, and I’m also talking a lot with campus constituents—faculty, department chairs, and deans—to hear what people want from the libraries. I don’t foresee any radical changes. We’re going to keep our basic core mission, and we’re going to look for new ways to cooperate with other libraries, within our consortia and around the country, so we can share resources. I would like to do more with the local public library, too.”

For Lorenzen, there’s no better place to work than in an academic library, which is where he was inspired to become a librarian.

“I’m first-generation college in my family, and as an undergraduate student, I worked at the library of Bowling Green State University. I really gained an appreciation for libraries there,” he explained. “My parents were supportive of me going to college, but they had no idea what it was like. Back then, having librarians on a daily basis to advise me, I think that got me through college. At that point, even though my undergraduate major was in philosophy, I decided I was going to go to library school and get a graduate degree in library science.”

In addition to working in libraries his entire career, Lorenzen has spent a good deal of his professional life working on his scholarship. He has authored approximately 30 publications, much of it covering information literacy and topics pertinent to library administration. In 2008, he was honored with the Michigan Library Association’s Information Literacy Award.

Lorenzen earned an Ed.D. from Central Michigan University and an educational specialist degree from Michigan State University. He obtained a master’s of education (higher education) from Ohio University; a master’s of library science from Kent State University and a bachelor’s degree from Bowling Green State University. He resides in Macomb with his wife and two sons.

Malpass Mini-Golf set for Nov. 2

University Libraries will host the Second Annual Malpass Mini-Golf on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Leslie F. Malpass Library.

“We received so many positive comments after last year’s event,” said Michael Jones M.S. ’12, director of development for University Libraries. “We are excited about this year’s event and have modified the course, along with adding a few fun wrinkles. This is a fun group activity for people of all ages. We are thrilled to host an event that students, alumni and families from the community can attend, while raising funds for the University Libraries.”

Proceeds will benefit the Library Atrium Society, which aids in the expansion of educational resources for students, faculty, staff and the general public. Last year’s event raised nearly $2,500, which was used to purchase 10 iPads for the Curriculum Library.

“My daughter and I had a great time playing last year. We cannot wait for this year’s event,” said Jason Kubis ’08.

Angeline Sullivan, a music performance major at WIU, who is employed as a student worker in the Music Library, worked the Tune Town hole last year.

“It was great to see other students have so much fun while sharing information about the Music Library.” “I had a blast and cannot wait until Nov. 2,” she said.

“The mixture of students, adults and parents with children who came really made it a fun community event. It was also a great opportunity for the library to highlight many of the collections and services it has to offer,” said Chuck Malone, government and information services librarian.

The Leslie F. Malpass Library will be transformed into a giant miniature golf course, featuring themed-holes throughout the building’s six floors.

“Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, we are able to give out more prizes, supply snacks and provide entertainment to those waiting their turn,” Jones added.

A complete list of sponsors, ticket information and photos from last year’s event can be found at wiu.edu/libraries/events/mini-golf/2013.php.

Those interested in sponsoring a hole can contact Jones at (309) 298-2356 or via e-mail at M-Jones2@wiu.edu.

Atrium Society donors recognized

The Library Atrium Society recognized members who donated at the “Gardener Level” during the 2012-13 academic year at a ceremony held July 25 in the Leslie F. Malpass Library.

According to University Libraries Development Director Michael Jones, the Library Atrium Society supports the acquisition of educational resources for use by Western students in every academic discipline.

“Gardener” is the highest level of Atrium Society membership.

“Membership dollars help fund scholarships, sustain special collections, acquire new materials and equipment and underwrite special events,” Jones explained. “These dollars are vital to create active spaces for learning, collaborating and researching. The generosity of these donors is humbling and it was an honor to recognize their support.”

The honorees were Tony Freeman and family, Ernie ’73 and Pam Codilis ’77 and Ruth Richert ’73 MS-Ed ’81 and her husband Al, who passed away last year. The event included the dedication of the plants, comments from Dean of University Libraries Michael Lorenzen and a brief presentation by Malpass Library Nursery Supervisor Rebecca Fross ’60.

“I received a large collection of books on a variety of interesting and unique topics,” said Freeman. “I wanted to see them put to good use, where others would have the opportunity to read and learn from them. I was happy to donate them to University Libraries where a majority of the books were placed in the collection.”

Anyone interested in making a donation to University Libraries may contact Jones at (309) 298-2356 or via e-mail at M-Jones2@wiu.edu.

Last year’s participants lining up a shot.

Tony and Kelly Freeman

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New department chairs and directors in the College of Business and Technology

The Western Illinois University College of Business and Technology (CBT) announced three new department chairs/directors in July.

WIU marketing Professor Craig Conrad ‘89 MBA ‘91 was named the permanent chair of the management and marketing department, while Dennis DeVolder ‘83 M.S. ‘89 has been named director of the School of Computer Science and Professor Andy Baker has been named interim director of the WIU School of Agriculture. The former School of Agriculture Director William Bailey will join the school’s faculty full-time.

“Craig, Dennis and Andy have many years of experience in their respective fields,” said CBT Dean Tom Erekson. “Their background and knowledge will allow them to continue, and further enhance, the outstanding reputation of their department and schools.”

Conrad, who has served as the interim chair since last summer, joined the WIU marketing faculty in 2001 as an assistant professor. Before coming to Western, Conrad worked at the University of Tennessee-Martin and at Wingate University. He received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 1989 and his MBA in 1991, with both degrees coming from Western.

DeVolder joined the faculty in the School of Computer Science in 1996 as an assistant professor. He has served as the school’s interim director since July 2011. DeVolder received his bachelor’s degree in health sciences in 1983 from Western, followed by a master’s degree in computer science from Western in 1989 and a doctorate degree from Florida State University.

Before coming to Western, Baker was an assistant professor at Murray State University and an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He came to Western in August 1999 as an assistant professor. Baker received his bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

For more information on the WIU CBT, visit wiu.edu/cbt.

Flip, learn and master iPad project

By Julie Murphy ’94 M.S. ’95

The flipped classroom is a relatively new teaching model, where lectures become homework and traditional homework becomes classwork. Students access content, lectures and class readings, on a device such as an iPad as assigned material outside of class. The classroom is where the instructor spends his/her time on the most complex ideas and is there to help students understand the materials as they work on assignments and projects.

Mandeep Singh ‘86 MBA ‘87, professor of management and marketing, tried a flipped classroom during the Spring 2013 semester.

“The notion appealed to me as I realized that it would free up a substantial part of my class time to engage students in experiential learning based assignments,” he said.

What started with 14 students will expand this fall to accommodate 100 students; one flipped classroom has evolved into a learning lab within the College of Business and Technology (CBT) for faculty/student collaboration with this new teaching innovation. A demonstration by Singh to the CBT Advisory Board in April resulted in incremental funding for a “project that provides the unique opportunity to impact both course content, as well as the approach to teaching which I believe can make a differential impact for hundreds (if not thousands) of students.”

These are the words of CBT alumnus John Distefano ‘80, principal at Ernst & Young, LLP and one of Consulting Magazine’s top 25 consultants for 2012. “I was very fortunate that most WIU professors recognized and were very patient with my nontraditional way of learning,” he continued. “This project has the opportunity to help deliver standardized content and structured learnings through a digital channel that can be customized and individualized by each student.”

“This method of teaching has a singular underlying imperative: Students cannot passively receive material in class,” Singh explained. “Instead, they gather information largely outside of class, by reading, watching recorded lectures or listening to podcasts. And when they are in class, students do what is typically thought to be homework, solving problems with their professors or peers and applying what they learn to new contexts. It transforms the classroom into a collaborative learning space. Learning is not limited to the lecture from the instructor.”

“It’s great for Kim and me to see that supporting this project gives us the chance to impact young adults in a way that hopefully contributes to future success,” said Distefano.

“In addition to the personal support we are providing,” he continued, “I’m very grateful that Ernst & Young is also providing a strong financial contribution through our firm’s matching gifts program.”

Singh credits the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Research for the Summer iPad project and for furnishing the requisite background to propose this project, and CBT Development Director Becky Paulsen for facilitating the process.
Sundberg elected to prestigious board

Western Illinois University alumna Lori Sundberg ’98, president and CEO of Carl Sandburg College (CSC), has been elected to the board of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

Sundberg will serve a three-year term on the board, which governs AACC policies and helps guide direction for national advocacy for nearly 1,200 two-year colleges. Her election to the 32-member board was certified at a recent meeting in California.

“This will allow me and (CSC) to have a voice in the many policy issues that will be facing community colleges in the near future,” she said.

Sundberg also serves as a member of AACC’s 21st Century Initiative Implementation Team. The group expands the work of the 21st Century Commission of the Future of Community Colleges by focusing on aspects of the “Reclaiming the American Dream” report, which look at challenges and opportunities facing higher education.

Sundberg is CSC’s sixth president and said her fondest memories of her time at Western were the relationships she developed with key faculty members as well as with other MBA students.

“My WIU education was wonderful,” she said. “My master’s degree is in business administration and the core components of that program I use almost every day. The program, at the time I completed it, consisted of marketing courses, accounting and finance, supply chain management and, of course, strategic management. Without question, I use elements of all of those disciplines in my job.”

At WIU, Sundberg said her education was enhanced by studying with faculty members John Drea, James Patterson and Paul Thistlewaite.

“These faculty were some of the best professors I had in my entire academic career,” she said.

Through her responsibilities at CSC, Sundberg said she does still return to the Western campus with regularity. She said CSC is “always looking for ways to extend the great partnership we already have in order to better serve our students.”

“WIU is the preferred choice for many of our students who choose a public university,” she said.

In her free time, Sundberg said she is an amateur equestrian in the discipline of dressage. She is also a certified yoga instructor and an avid reader.

WIU MBA students excel in national exam results

Students in Western Illinois University’s master of business administration (MBA) degree program have shown strong scores and preparation levels on the field’s national exam, particularly when compared to their peers.

For the 2012-13 testing period, WIU’s MBA students collectively ranked in the top 20 percent of all MBA students taking the national exam. In 2012, the students ranked in the 67th percentile, and in 2013, they ranked in the 89th percentile.

“We were very pleased with the results from the national exam that our MBA students took,” said MBA Committee Chair and WIU Finance Professor Peppi Kenny. “The MBA Committee feels that our college’s ability to keep class sizes small allows the faculty to get to know the students better, offer more individual instruction and interaction and provide assistance in securing internships and permanent employment. It is rewarding to see the positive impact from the hard work that the MBA faculty have put in to improving the degree program over the last few years.”

In Fall 2011, the WIU MBA program instituted a new requirement that all students must complete a course called BAT 611 – MBA Outcomes. MBA Director and Associate Dean of the College of Business and Technology John Drea said the course helps faculty assess what the students know as they get closer to completing the MBA program.

Through the course, students complete the MBA Major Field Test, which measures students’ knowledge of business concepts including accounting, finance, management, marketing and strategic planning. The 125-question exam takes about three hours and is completed by students on both the Macomb and Quad Cities campuses.

“The MBA Major Field Test is an objective measure that allows us to see how our students compare to other MBA students across the United States,” Drea said. “The results indicate that our students are among the best in the country regarding their understanding of the concepts every MBA student is expected to know.”

Drea said more than 24,000 MBA students nationwide have taken the MBA Major Field Test from 2009-12; 22 of those are from Western. He added that 18 of the 22 students scored at or above the 50th percentile, which indicates a strong level of preparation.

“We have made some significant strides toward improving the MBA program over the past five years, and the results from the MBA Major Field Test are one important outcome of those changes,” he said.

For more information about WIU’s MBA program, visit wiu.edu/mba or wiu.edu/cbt.

Allison Farm Field Day offers lessons on nutrient management

The annual Allison Farm Field Day, hosted by the Western Illinois University Organic Research Program, was held Aug. 8 at the Dakin Farm and at the Allison Organic Farm, both near Roseville (IL).

Joel Gruver, director of the Organic Research Program and WIU School of Agriculture assistant professor, said the program offered farmers opportunities for improved nutrient management on both organic and conventional farms.

“This year’s program offered a balance of technical information and on-farm observations relevant to anyone interested in the advantages of feeding both the soil and the crop,” he said.

Speakers at the research day included:

• Tom Ferguson, a manure specialist whose company specializes in pelletized chicken litter products, which were evaluated on the Allison Farm this year. For more information on Ferguson’s company, visit manureinc.com.

• Bill “The Crop Doctor” Becker was the event’s keynote speaker. He is a consultant based in central Illinois who spoke about how to optimize crop health and soil biological activity through finely tuned nutrient management.

The afternoon included a discussion panel with farmers, which featured successful large-scale organic grain farmers in Illinois.

Gruver spoke during lunch about recent Allison Farm research. He later hosted a walking tour of the farm’s research and demonstration plots.

For more about Western’s organic research program, visit wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/farms/organic.
Four CBT majors designated as “Signature Programs”

Four majors within the Western Illinois University College of Business and Technology (CBT) are among the 12 majors designated as “signature academic programs” by the University.

The CBT signature academic programs are the B.B. in accountancy, the B.S. in agriculture, the B.S. in engineering, and the B.B. in supply chain management (SCM). Signature academic programs were selected by the University based on “size, unique area of concentration for undergraduate students, Centennial Honors Program opportunities for graduates and accessibility. Western’s signature programs have garnered recognition for the graduates they produce,” noted Admissions Director Andy Bost. Signature programs are highlighted in recruitment efforts with potential WIU students.

The B.B. in accountancy was cited for its specialized accreditation through the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and its nationally recognized student organizations. The accountancy major has grown to nearly 300 students and has attracted national companies to campus to recruit accountancy majors. It also offers five-year integrated degree options for students interested in a master’s in accounting or an MBA degree.

The B.S. in agriculture was one of the newest majors at WIU, but has rapidly distinguished itself as a quality academic program. The final two years of the engineering major are delivered at the new Riverfront Campus in Moline. The program is fully accredited by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) and is the only accredited engineering program in the western region of Illinois. Engineering graduates have a 100 percent pass rate on the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. The number of engineering majors has grown rapidly, with 123 students declared for fall (up from 72 in the spring).

The B.B. in SCM has grown steadily over the past decade, from eight majors in 2004 to 129 majors in 2013. One of only three undergraduate SCM degree programs in Illinois and one of only 39 nationally, the supply chain management program was cited for its strong connections to several Fortune 500 companies and nearly 100 percent placement rate.

“We are proud of all of our academic programs within the college,” said CBT Dean Tom Erekson. “The signature programs are receiving well-deserved recognition, and this reflects well on all of our majors.”

For more information on the CBT, visit wiu.edu/cbt.

Sisters, mom joined by common WIU educational interests

By Jodi Pospeschil

Although supply chain management (SCM) has only been offered as a major at Western Illinois University since 2005, in that time three sisters from Atkinson (IL) have found a common academic home in the College of Business and Technology.

Abby ’09, Megan ’13 and Kelly Wyffels, a WIU senior, have each majored in supply chain management and been active in a variety of Western’s extracurricular and sports programs. The trio’s mom, alumnus Janice Wyffels ’78, received her degree in information science and is a parts marketing team leader for John Deere.

Abby, who now lives in Chicago, graduated with a double major of SCM and marketing, with a minor in international business. She was a member of the Delta Zeta sorority and active in numerous business fraternities and clubs on campus.

After graduation, Abby began working for Target, but for the last two and a half years she has been employed as a senior inventory analyst for Sears. She works in the Power Lawn and Garden division and helps optimize each store’s product offerings in addition to meeting with vendors and other responsibilities.

Abby said she chose WIU because of its small class sizes and its proximity to her home. “It was close enough, but still far enough away,” she said. “Also, I really wanted to study abroad, and Western had that opportunity.”

When Abby came to Western, she said she knew she wanted to major in business, but she wasn’t aware of the SCM major. “I took Dr. (Bart) Jennings’ introduction to supply chain management class one of my first semesters on campus (and I knew that was what I wanted to do),” she said.

Megan, who minored in Spanish, is currently working in a three-year rotation program with Caterpillar in Atlanta (GA). She is a supervisor for the inbound logistics team at a company distribution center. Megan said she was attracted to Western because of its business program. She was also a member of the University’s track team during her four years on campus.

“Western exposed me to a lot of different events and definitely helped me put down a career path,” she said.

Kelly will graduate in the upcoming academic year. This summer, she interned for Caterpillar in Morton (IL), and in Summer 2012, she was an intern for the Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM).

At Western, Kelly is a member of the WIU Marching Band, and she hopes to study abroad in Rome in the upcoming academic year.

Kelly said she chose Western because she felt its SCM program set it apart from other schools.

“At Western you get a lot of one-on-one experience with professors,” she said. “I also knew my sisters had been successful at Western.”

Kelly also offered praise for WIU Assistant Professor Michael Tracey, who teaches management and marketing.

With a common interest in business, the sisters said their mom also offered good advice for their career paths.

“For many years our mom has drilled numbers and finance to us,” Abby said. “Supply chain management is a good combination of business and numbers, so it was a good fit for all of us.”

While at Western, Megan was president of the Supply Chain Management Student Association (SCMSA), and Kelly served as vice president. All three sisters also had high praise for Jennings and his academic involvement with students.

“I think his willingness to help every single student find an internship or a job is just amazing,” Abby said. “He involves himself with his students, and it shows in the success of the program.”

“Dr. Jennings really cares about his students and is more than a professor at WIU,” Kelly added. “He is willing to help you with multiple career decisions not just in supply chain. I firmly believe that he goes the extra mile for his students.”

For more information about Western’s SCM program, visit wiu.edu/scm.

Support the WIU School of Agriculture and advertise your company on a personalized banner displayed in the WIU Livestock Center.

wiu.edu/ag/banner
A Western Illinois University agronomy team placed first in the North Central Weed Science Society’s Summer Weed Contest in Monmouth (IL) this summer.

The first place Western team included agriculture students Sarah Ziegler Le’Jeune (senior, La Harpe, IL); Avery Le’Jeune ‘13 (Ferris, IL); Chris Corzatt (senior, Macomb, IL) and Deanne Donley Corzatt ‘13 (graduate student, Mendon, IL). Ziegler Le’Jeune also took first place overall in the undergraduate student category.

Agronomy Assistant Professor Mark Bernards said more than 120 students, graduate and undergraduate, took part in the contest. “The contest includes events that test the students’ abilities to perform calculations related to weed management and general agronomy (calculations); to correctly identify weeds (weed ID); to correctly identify herbicides used based on crop and weed response (herbicide ID); to calibrate a sprayer in a timed event (sprayer calibration) and to role-play (farmer problem) visiting a farmer who has a problem in one of his fields, then trouble-shoot the issue and recommend appropriate practices, if possible, to fix the problem,” Bernards said.

The WIU agriculture/agronomy team has been preparing for the contest since the spring semester. “Dr. Bernards held a class once a week as preparation for this contest, and every week we would meet and go over the different components of the contest: weed identification, herbicide identification, farmer problems, sprayer calibration and math problems. We also held a few summer practices prior to the contest,” said Donley Corzatt. “Dr. Bernards put so much into this team. He spent numerous hours helping us by preparing lessons, slideshows, as well as much more. He truly cares about each student’s success, professionally and personally.”

Chris Corzatt said events such as this weed science contest will help him with his career planning. “I plan on working in the agronomy field after I finish my degree,” he noted. “Agronomy is such an important part of agriculture. Working in agronomy isn’t just a job, it’s an opportunity to provide for our world.”

Three additional Western students, Joshua Burke (senior, Sublette, IL), Grant Dempsey (junior, Loraine, IL) and Joseph Struett (senior, Naperville, IL) also competed in the contest.

Bernards said in the individual events, WIU Team One also took first place in the sprayer calibration category and Ziegler Le’Jeune won first place in the event categories of weed ID, farmer problem and calculations.

For more information, contact Bernards at (309) 298-1569 or via email at ML-Bernards@wiu.edu. Visit the WIU School of Agriculture online at wiu.edu/ag.

### Find WIU CBT on LinkedIn!

Interested in reconnecting with former classmates or professors in the College of Business and Technology? Visit the WIU CBT LinkedIn page to find people and share your stories about your favorite course, favorite professor, lessons learned, a great internship experience or any other CBT memory!

### Calendar of Events

**Sept. 30: 10th annual Supply Chain Management Day**

Event fosters interaction between employers, current and prospective supply chain management majors and WIU faculty and staff—featuring keynote speaker Thomas E. Knoll, vice president of Worldwide Supply Management and Logistics for John Deere

11 a.m.–6:30 p.m., University Union Grand Ballroom and the WIU Multicultural Center

(wiu.edu/cbt/management_and_marketing/scm-day.php)

**Oct. 9: School of Agriculture’s annual Career Day**

A career and internship fair for students majoring in agriculture

9 a.m.–1 p.m., University Union Grand Ballroom

(wiu.edu/cbt/agriculture/career-fair.php)

**Oct. 30 - 31: Executive in Residence**

Featuring alumna Nancy Cardea, senior vice president at Leo Burnett Worldwide – successful alumni share how they reached the peak of their careers

(wiu.edu/cbt/executive_in_residence)

**Oct. 14: Annual Ferguson Lecture**

Featuring Patrick Magoon, president and CEO of Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago

2 p.m., University Union Grand Ballroom

**2013 CBT Advisory Board meetings:**

- Accountancy: Oct. 18
- Agriculture: Oct. 18
- College of Business and Technology: Nov. 1
- Engineering; TBA
- Engineering Technology: Oct. 4
- Supply Chain Management: Sept. 30

Learn about the new graduate certification in Business Administration and Supply Chain Management at:

wiu.edu/buscertificate

wiu.edu/scmcertificate
**Western News**

**Alumni Benefits & Services**

Western Illinois University students become MEMBERS of the Alumni Association the day they graduate! As non-dues paying members, ALL WIU ALUMNI are entitled to the following benefits and services provided by the Alumni Association:

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**WIU License Plates**

Illinois residents can purchase a Western Illinois University license plate from the Secretary of State’s website, www.cyberdriveillinois.com. Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is proud that a portion of the sale of each license plate benefits a student scholarship fund at Western Illinois University. And now, you can order vanity and personalized Western Illinois University specialty license plates. Those license plates were previously only available with numeric characters, but now they are available in letter or letter and number combinations. By purchasing a set of the WIU plates, you will be helping support scholarships for students at the university while displaying your pride for your alma mater. For more information, visit wiu.edu/alumni/license.php.

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**Travel with WIU alumni**

**AHI Travel**

From Buenos Aires to Bangkok, Cape Town to Copenhagen and Havana to Hong Kong, educated travelers rely on AHI Travel to deliver unforgettable journeys filled with authentic cultural encounters. Feel thrill of riding in a tuk tuk through a bustling, fragrant spice market in Jaipur. Visit an artisanal pasta factory in Tuscany. Delight in the compelling tales of a traditional Irish storyteller. When you travel with AHI, you’ll not only visit iconic sites, but you will revel in immersive experiences that encourage you to meet local people, participate in local events and discover the local way of life.

For more than 50 years, alumni associations and other discriminating institutions have enjoyed AHI Travel’s deluxe travel programs, which allow travelers to explore the globe with the confidence that no detail has been left to chance. AHI, a family-owned company, and its worldwide network of travel experts create experiences with an insider’s resources, a native’s knowledge and a friend’s care, making you feel at home no matter where you are in the world. Call 800-523-7373 for more information or to make a reservation.

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**Go Next Travel**

For more than 40 years Go Next has worked with university alumni associations providing travel programs appealing to the wide interests of their loyal members. Their flagship provider, Oceania Cruises has set the standard for value, quality, participation and member satisfaction on an international basis, while domestically their recent introduction of the American Queen Steamboat Company has allowed them to provide the same standard of service plying the rivers of America. Recently, Go Next announced its entry into Cuba where they hold their own “People to People” license, thus enabling them to provide complete turnkey travel services to alumni associations.

For information on Go Next trips or to make your reservation today, call 800-842-9023.

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**Become a cardholder at the QC International Airport**

Your WIU Alumni Association has partnered with the Quad City International Airport and we are pleased 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, located on Concourse B. Once inside, enjoy cozy seating, a TV, fireplace, and a complimentary bottle of water or cappuccino. The card never expires, but we do request that you be a patron of the Quad City International Airport at least twice a year, and, live within a reasonable geographic area to the Quad City International Airport in order to be a cardholder. The Quad City International Airport makes travel “easier” with this business center access for alumni from Western Illinois University!

For more information, visit qcairport.com/wiu alumni.html.

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**RockeNetwork, WIU’s online social network**

RockeNetwork is a private, online community exclusively available to Western graduates. It allows you to securely connect with friends and friends-of-friends. Use your extended connections to help you find jobs and fellow alumni in your area, and even assist you in relocation.

If you are interested in advancing your career, connecting or reconnecting with fellow alumni, or mentoring recent graduates, there is no better place than your RockeNetwork. Additionally, if your company is looking for great candidates to fill their open positions, posting your jobs is simple and free! You can log in by visiting, rockenetwork.wiu.edu.

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**Keep your WIU memories close at hand with a college ring from Jostens**

Proudly display your alma mater in timeless fashion with a WIU college ring. Show your pride and commemorate your achievement while keeping your memories close at hand. There is no better way to stay connected to WIU than by wearing your college ring.

Don’t miss this opportunity—rings starting at $179! Visit wiu.edu/alumni/rings.php for more information.

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**“Honoring Your Achievement, Framing Your Future”®**

Church Hill Classics offers an exclusive selection of custom, USA-made diploma frames for Western Illinois University which feature the WIU name and seal. The diploma frames feature archival-quality matting with backing and mounting materials that meet stringent Library of Congress standards for document preservation. The frames can be customized easily online with your choice of your favorite moulding, matting, and upgrade glass options. By displaying your diploma in one of these great frames, you will protect your well-earned diploma as well as help support your WIU Alumni Association. View the full selection of diploma frames and desk accessories online at diplomaframe.com/WIUalumni.

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**Leatherneck Platinum Visa**

Like most people, you’re probably bombarded with credit card offers. As an alumnus or friend of WIU, from time to time you might receive a promotional card offer for the Leatherneck Platinum Visa. Don’t throw it away!

A better card is here. If you don’t carry the Leatherneck Visa, you should. Just take a look at the value offered: FREE rewards, low APR, zero-liability fraud protection, ID theft coverage and responsive customer service. More importantly, the Leatherneck Visa provides significant funding for the Alumni Association’s student and alumni events, special programs and much more – at no cost to you!

Did we mention Cash Rewards – and more?

Your Leatherneck Visa comes with our free rewards program that pays you back with a wide variety of reward choices including: cash back, travel awards, merchandise, gift cards and event tickets. Don’t wait! If you don’t carry the Leatherneck Visa, you should. Just take a look at the value offered: FREE rewards, low APR, zero-liability fraud protection, ID theft coverage and responsive customer service. More importantly, the Leatherneck Visa provides significant funding for the Alumni Association’s student and alumni events, special programs and much more – at no cost to you!

Don’t wait!

You don’t have to wait to receive an offer by mail, apply anytime at intrustbank.com/wiu or call 800-222-7458. Join your fellow alumni and friends who show their Leatherneck pride by carrying the Leatherneck Platinum Visa.
Alumni Insurance

Whether you’ve just graduated, are established with a family and career, or are getting ready to enjoy a well-earned retirement, The Alumni Insurance Program, sponsored by the Western Illinois University Alumni Association, can help you at every stage of your life.

Offering a wide variety of insurance plans and financial services, our goal is to bring you peace of mind by providing quality products and excellent customer service.

Find the BEST plans and services for you

Need help? We’re here to answer your questions. Many common requests can be handled online at wiu.edu/alumni/insurance.php.

Insurance Plans:

Health Insurance
Help keep your health care affordable with plans like short-term major medical, renewable major medical, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement, dental, travel health insurance, and even pet health insurance.

Life Insurance
Whether you’ve just started a family or need to supplement or replace your current coverage, there is a plan that can meet your life insurance needs.

Long Term Disability
Protect your income and your lifestyle with economical long-term disability income insurance.

Long Term Care
Help insure your costs for long term care services such as skilled care at home, assisted care facilities or nursing homes.

Emergency Assistance Plus
Our 24-Hour Medical Evacuation and Travel Assistance Program can help when accidents and medical emergencies happen. Protect yourself and your family with the Alumni Association Emergency Assistance Plus Program for just pennies a day. You’ll get medical assistance that’s invaluable: Emergency Medical Evacuation, Transportation Home, Travel Assistance, Personal Security Services and many other benefits! Best of all, as a Western Illinois alumni, you are GUARANTEED low group rates and cannot be turned down.

Auto, Home and Renter’s Insurance
As an alumnus of Western Illinois you may qualify for a special group discount on your auto, home and renters insurance through Group Savings Plus® from Liberty Mutual. To learn more, call 800-531-6081.

Travel Insurance
There are four plans to cover a variety of travel needs. Insure against medical expenses, trip cancellation and/or baggage loss while traveling inside or outside the United States.

Financial Services and More:

Alumni Annuity®
Fixed Annuity Savings Plan
Alumni Annuity offers you two types of retirement savings accounts: an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and Non-Qualified Deferred Annuity.

Alumni ID Recovery®
Identity Theft Recovery Plan
Alumni ID Recovery saves you valuable time by acting as your advocate and recovery specialist if your identity is stolen.

Other Alumni Benefits Include

- Access to the Leslie F. Malpass Library
- Ability to purchase memberships at the Donald S. Spencer Student Recreation Center
- Quarterly issues of the Western News and monthly issues of RockeNews
- Continued access to the Career Development Center

Construction to begin on WIU entrance sign

Construction began Monday, Aug. 19 on a new grand entrance sign on the Western Illinois University campus.

The Student Government Association approved the expenditure for the $420,900 project funded through student enhancement fees at its April 16 meeting.

Leander Construction of Canton (IL) will build the new Western Illinois University sign at the U.S. Route 67 and University Drive intersection. The Campus Master Planning Committee worked with Farnsworth Group to complete a design for a landmark sign that designates a prime entrance to the Macomb campus.

According to Jerry Scott, Facilities Management construction project coordinator, the new sign ties in architectural features from Sherman Hall, including the “Western brick blend,” stone quoins (masonry angles) and a sphere to provide a sense of consistency and cohesiveness between the main landmark and the entrance.

“This sign and other projects included in the campus master plan are about making an impact and establishing a strong first impression. The new grand entrance sign lets visitors know they have arrived at Western Illinois University and draws them into our campus,” noted WIU President Jack Thomas. “We are pleased that construction will soon be underway, and we look forward to the finished project.”

For the complete campus master plan, visit wiu.edu/university_planning/masterplan.php.

Ashmore is newest member of WIU BOT

Junior Andre Ashmore, of Matteson (IL), is the newest student member of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees.

Ashmore, a law enforcement and justice administration major, said he is looking forward to looking out for the needs of students.

“As a newly-elected member to the board, my rule will be to listen and advocate any need that students might face here on campus, to the best of my ability,” he said.

Ashmore said he enjoys having the opportunity to represent the student body, and he also looks forward to learning how the University is governed.

“The most important responsibility that we as a Board must take into consideration is the common need to make sure that all students are put first to help put forth excellence within the University,” he said.

A letter from the Alumni Council

President Jeff McElroy

Dear Alumni and Friends:

For more than half of my life, WIU has been a part of who I am. For me personally, I will be forever indebted to Western Illinois University for providing me the opportunity to establish lifelong friendships and access to professors and advisors who served as mentors that facilitated my growth as a student, a leader and a person. It is with great humility and honor that I take the reins as the President of the Western Illinois University Alumni Association.

Rarely a day goes by that I do not encounter something WIU. Whether it is passing a giant purple billboard along a highway, a proudly displayed window decal or license plate, seeing someone wearing Leatherneck gear or discovering a business contact that also has a WIU connection—I seem to notice WIU students and alumni almost everywhere. The tradition is for the new Alumni Council president to offer a challenge to our nearly 120,000 alumni across the world. Mine is very simple. Share your Western story.

The Western Illinois University experience is a unique one for each of us. Next time you come across a WIU connection in your life, make a point of acknowledging it. Come out to one of the many WIU Alumni events held around the country each year (wiu.edu/alumni/events). Take time to reconnect with an old roommate, fraternity/sorority member or former professor. Perhaps it is time to reflect on those at WIU that have made a difference in your life or career and thank them for their influence. However you decide to share your Western story, do it proudly. Once a Leatherneck, always a Leatherneck.

Jeffery L. McElroy ’97
President, WIU Alumni Council

Alumnus in Afghanistan

Kelly Ward flies his wife Cheryl's '09 WIU flag from the side of his UH60 Blackhawk.
### CLASS NOTES

**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 Programs

### Class Notes

- **1963**
  - *Jerry Forbes*, Port Tobacco, MD, is a senior physicist at Energetics Technology Center, is an adjunct professor of engineering at the University of Maryland and has written a book entitled "Shock Wave Compression of Condensed Matter-A Primer," which was published in March 2013. ([jorby@comcast.net](mailto:jorby@comcast.net))
- **1967**
  - *Joanne Jones Curtis*, Macomb, has finished her last semester after 10 years of teaching at the American School in Recife, Brazil.
- **1969**
  - *Richard Mader*, Alton, retired May 29, 2013, from the special education department at Alton High School. ([rickm4@sbeglobal.net](mailto:rickm4@sbeglobal.net))
  - *Stephen Maggi*, Apex, NC, retired March 2013 after 20 years with Glaxo Smith Kline. ([smagji@gmail.com](mailto:smagji@gmail.com))
- **1972**
  - *Jeff Meek*, Hot Springs Village, AR, has written a book, "They Answered the Call: World War II Veterans Tell Their Stories."
- **1974**
  - *John Hartnett*, Springfield, was appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate as Chairman of the Illinois Labor Relations Board. ([john.hartnett@illinois.gov](mailto:john.hartnett@illinois.gov))
  - *John Lindhorst*, La Mesa, CA, is the choral director at Helix Charter High School. ([johnlindhorst@gmail.com](mailto:johnlindhorst@gmail.com))
- **1975**
  - *Michael Steelman*, Busnell, is the Chairman and CEO of Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Busnell and has been named the 2013 Illinois Banker of the Year during the IBAs’ Annual Conference and Trade Show held June 25, 2013.
  - *Rob Widmer MA ’76*, Bloomington, has been named interim president of Heartland Community College.
- **1976**
  - *Umberto Davi*, Willowbrook, is a principal in the Western Springs Law Firm of Umberto S. Davi, P.C., and has been installed as second vice president of the Illinois State Bar Association.
- **1978**
  - *John Garvey*, Chicago, is the senior vice president of NERA Economic Consulting firm.
  - *Debra Graves*, Cape Coral, FL, is an elementary teacher for the Lee County School District. ([dpjade77@gmail.com](mailto:dpjade77@gmail.com))
  - *Diane Romza-Kutz*, Palos Park, IL, is a partner with Husch Blackwell in Chicago.
- **1980**
  - *Robert Alty*, Tolula, retired after 24 years with the Belvidere Police Department and is now working part-time for the Wenona Police Department. ([wildcop59@aol.com](mailto:wildcop59@aol.com))
  - *Hindly Krawetz Ganeles*, San Jose, CA, is an employee benefits coordinator for Integre Insurance Services, Inc. ([ganeleo@comcast.net](mailto:ganeleo@comcast.net))
- **1981**
  - *David Steadman*, Costa Mesa, CA, is the owner and manager of American Seal & Packing in Santa Ana. ([dave@asapseal.com](mailto:dave@asapseal.com))
- **1982**
  - *Sheri Anderson Burgoyne*, Gulf Breeze, FL, is an internal funds bookkeeper I for the Santa Rosa County School Board and was selected the Gulf Breeze Elementary School employee of the Week for 2012-13. ([shersports@medicalombb.net](mailto:shersports@medicalombb.net))
  - *LaVerne Council*, Mendham, NJ, is Chair of the March of Dimes Board of Trustees, a long-time member of Delta Sigma Theta and recently received the 2013 Image Award from Phi Beta Sigma for being an outstanding corporate and community leader, role model and mom.
  - *Dorothy Wiebler Daniele*, Darien, is a substitute teacher for the DuPage County School District. ([dalani323@sbeglobal.net](mailto:dalani323@sbeglobal.net))
- **1985**
  - *Larry Horvath*, Bloomington, was promoted to executive vice president in Commercial Lending for Heartland Bank and Trust Company.
  - *Heather Novak Kohout*, Bourbonnais, is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Watseka Community High School.
  - *James Gaeck*, Chicago, is vice president of sales for Maroon, Inc. ([jim.gaeck@comcast.net](mailto:jim.gaeck@comcast.net))
  - *Amy Funk MA ’91*, Eureka, is an RN and BSN for OSF Saint Francis Medical Group. ([amy.funk1012@gmail.com](mailto:amy.funk1012@gmail.com))
- **1991**
  - *Joseph Taylor*, Gulf Breeze, FL, works for the U.S. Navy at the Naval Hospital Pensacola. ([castle122@hotmail.com](mailto:castle122@hotmail.com))
  - *Joseph Snowdon*, Mobile, AL, is a captain with U.S. Coast Guard. ([josephsnowdon2@yahoo.com](mailto:josephsnowdon2@yahoo.com))
  - *Michael Borgel*, Roebuck, SC, is a professor of military science in the U.S. Army at Wofford College in Spartanburg. ([michael.borgel@gmail.com](mailto:michael.borgel@gmail.com))
  - *Mark Kerr MA ’96*, Miami Beach, FL, is a senior development advisor to the U.S. Southern Command and a foreign service officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Washington, DC. ([m_a_kerr@yahoo.com](mailto:m_a_kerr@yahoo.com))
- **1996**
  - *Eldon Brown*, San Jose, CA, is a regional delivery manager for Fruition Partners in Chicago. ([eldonbrown@gmail.com](mailto:eldonbrown@gmail.com))
  - *John Comerford*, Carlinville, has been named the 16th President of Blackburn College. ([comerfordfive@gmail.com](mailto:comerfordfive@gmail.com))
  - *Kimberly Meier McCormick MS-ED ’02*, Peoria, is a Uniserve Director for the Illinois Education Association. ([kimgolfs@comcast.net](mailto:kimgolfs@comcast.net))
  - *Paige Durkee*, Covington, KY, is a human resource generalist for Walgreens. ([paigehorz@gmail.com](mailto:paigehorz@gmail.com))
  - *Roberto Miller MS ’99*, Englewood, OH, is the senior manager of plant operations for Whirlpool Corporation in Greenville. ([ricketr@hotmail.com](mailto:ricketr@hotmail.com))
  - *Shana Brown Wade*, Macomb, is a project manager/estimator for Trotter Construction.
- **1998**
  - *Scott Iverson MS, Munster, IN*, is the director of housing and residential education at Purdue University-Calumet in Hammond. ([iverson.scott@yahoo.com](mailto:iverson.scott@yahoo.com))
  - *Josh Rickert*, Villa Park, is the human resource manager for Jeron Electronic Systems, Inc. in Chicago. ([jrickert@jeron.com](mailto:jrickert@jeron.com))
  - *Shana Brown Wade*, Macomb, is a project manager/estimator for Trotter Construction.
  - *Kerry Doan*, Colorado Springs, CO, is a senior software engineer for LinQuest. ([kerry.doan@gmail.com](mailto:kerry.doan@gmail.com))
  - *Jerry Myers MA*, Fenton, MO, is the associate director of choral activities for St. Louis Community College at Meramec. ([mgyns34@stlc.edu](mailto:mgyns34@stlc.edu))
  - *Feryl Redecker York*, Cedar Rapids, IA, was crowned Mrs. Iowa America 2013 on June 15, 2013, and will travel to Tucson, AZ at the end of August to compete in the Mrs. America Pageant. ([kgmng39@gmail.com](mailto:kgmng39@gmail.com))
  - *Sarah Cunningham MS*, Loma Linda, CA, is a assistant professor of medicine at Loma Linda University Medical Center. ([prashga@yahoo.com](mailto:prashga@yahoo.com))
  - *Kate Schander McCoy*, Highland Homes, Ltd. in Plano.
  - *Prashanth Gowda*, Surprise, AZ, is the owner and manager of JMC Strategies, Inc. ([mgowda@swm.com](mailto:mgowda@swm.com))
  - *Andrew Nemeth MS ’03*, Jersey City, NJ, is the director of operations for the University of Phoenix. ([andyndnell@hotmail.com](mailto:andyndnell@hotmail.com))
  - *Miranda Sloan MS*, Lakeland, FL, is a principal of graduate studies for the University of South Florida College of Education. ([msloans@usf.edu](mailto:msloans@usf.edu))
  - *Denise Foy Bausch*, Creston, WA, is a resource education program manager for the National Park Service at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in Davenport. ([denise.bausch@nps.gov](mailto:denise.bausch@nps.gov))
  - *Sarah Cunningham MS*, Canton, MI, is a customer success manager for Compuware in Detroit. ([krodeen@gmail.com](mailto:krodeen@gmail.com))
  - *Amy Biaggi*, Deer Park, IL, is a medical technologist at the UW Hospital and Clinics. ([amy@biaggi.com](mailto:amy@biaggi.com))
  - *Muhammad Aziz MS*, Islamabad, Pakistan, is an assistant professor at Bahria University. ([aziz.u.aziz@gmail.com](mailto:aziz.u.aziz@gmail.com))
  - *Kimberly Roezon Daunovarvicius*, Canton, MI, is a customer success manager for Compuware in Detroit. ([krodeen@gmail.com](mailto:krodeen@gmail.com))
  - *Tiffany Windish Grimm*, McLouth, KS, is employed with the F.W. Huston Memorial Hospital/Pharmacy. ([tmsrobin@gmail.com](mailto:tmsrobin@gmail.com))
  - *Shane Hill MA ’07*, Macomb, is a high school English teacher for the Astoria Community School District. ([sg_hill@hotmail.com](mailto:sg_hill@hotmail.com))
  - *William Lemmer*, Tampico, is an administrator at St. Andrew Catholic School in Rock Falls. ([millerw@yahoo.com](mailto:millerw@yahoo.com))
  - *Sarah Cunningham MS*, Chicago, is an assistant dean of students and senior director of student life at the University of Chicago.
  - *Aaron Egan MBA ’06*, Las Vegas, NV, is a sales representative for
Western Pacific Pulp & Paper.
Sarah Janieck '04, Chicago, is a research assistant at the University of Illinois at Chicago. (sarahjanieck@ad.com)
Aisha Payne, Aurora, is a mental health practitioner for Adapt Illinois. (aisha.payne@yahoo.com)

2006
Jaclyn Koch Hood, Wheaton, is an intake coordinator for Camelot School. (jkhood0217@gmail.com)
Brandon Moore MS ’09, Princeville, is an exercise specialist for UnityPoint Health – Methodist. (bmoore@mmci.org)
David Nedved, Willowbrook, is a detective for the Blue Island Police Department. (dinedved@bpspolice.org)

2008
Matthew Bonomo, Chesterfield, MI, is a software developer for General Motors.
Jennifer Dudycha, Las Vegas, NV, is a 5th grade teacher at Doral Academy.

2009
Patrick Hampton MA, Springfield, is a director of constituent affairs for the State of Illinois, Office of the Governor. (patrickhampton@illinois.gov)
Krisilee Murphy, Yorkville, has been named the director of marketing at the Elgin Area Convention & Visitors Bureau by Destination Marketing Association International.

2010
Kimberly Akers Kepple, Quincy, is an assistant manager for Cell Tech Electronics. (kim.keespkepke@gmail.com)
Anthony Sabos, Bolingbrook, is an AV specialist and store designer for Boombah, Inc.
Whitney Delestowicz Sabos, Bolingbrook, is an adapted physical education teacher for the Indian Prairie School District 204.
(whitney_sabos@ipsd.org)

2011
Amber Post McCormick, Peoria, is an activity director at Lutheran Hills Village. (ampostmc@gmail.com)
Matthew McCormick, Peoria, is a special education teacher for Dunlap Middle School.

2012
Bryan Schreder, Paxton, is an alley buyer for Rantoul Foods. (bschreder90@gmail.com)
Jeff Breuer, Burlington, IA, is a graphic designer for TurnKey Creations. (jeffbreuer@drakehs.com)
John McCue, Batavia, is a teacher’s assistant at K.D. Waldo Middle School. (mccuebatavia@comcast.net)

Marriages
Stacie Lindeen ’00 MS-ED ’06 and Matt May, Mar. 30, 2013.
Leigh Terstriep ’10 and Scott Bickerman ’09, June 15, 2013.
Emily Thornsley ’12 and Michael Leonhard, Mar. 23, 2013.

Births and Adoptions
Megan Butler Bainter ’06 MBA ’09 and Brock Bainter ’04, a son, Bryden, July 9, 2013.
Stephanie Redfield Bravieri ’05 and Steven Bravieri ’13, a daughter, Elizabeth Lynn, June 17, 2013.
Rebecca Virag Cannon ’00 MS ’09 and Thomas, a son, Oliver Thomas, Aug, 16, 2012.
Denise Devine Carriel ’81 and Edward, a daughter, Emily Ann, Apr. 12, 2012.
Kimberly Rodeen Daumovricius ’03 and Jonas, a daughter, Gabrielle Reese, Aug. 5, 2012.
Susanne-Ann Wilson Egan ’06 and Aaron Egan ’04 MBA ’06, a daughter, Riley Lois, Apr. 24, 2013.
Ted Gayford ’01 and Katy Taake Gayford ’01, a son, Samuel Finn, Apr. 20, 2013.
Kim Field Jacobs MS ’01 and Andrew, a daughter, Mara Margaret, June 15, 2013.
Mark Kerr ’94 MA ’96 and Hyun-Jyong, a daughter, Mairi-Lee, Apr., 17, 2013.
Lisa Carpenter Maisto ’06 and Dax, a son, Preston Douglas, May 19, 2013.
Alison Thompson McGrew ’05 and Justin, a son, Nolan Miles, Jan. 30, 2013.

Deaths
Donald Bath, Macomb, May 27, 2013.
James Blackwelde, Kannapolis, NC, Jan. 6, 2013.

Chicago Alumni & Friends
Deuce’s & The Diamond Club, July 13, 2013
L-r: Marjorie Manchen ’82, Dave Plackett ’79, Dave Kopchar, George Holman ’98, Chris Wheeler ’97 ’00, Emily Thoma ’97, Jennifer Watson, Kate Bradley and Keith Jones ’98.

San Francisco Alumni & Friends
Nectar Wine Lounge, July 17, 2013
Seated l-r: Nathan Rockhold ’03, Roy Albaini ’84 and Chad Twaddle ’09. Standing l-r: Pamela Barton Graham ’76, Katherine Krebs ’73, Adi Albaini, Art Cepeda ’81, Robert Hubbs ’58 and Beth Nauser.

Ron Brady, Petersburg, June 7, 2012.
Faye Clow, Bettendorf, IA, Feb. 18, 2011.
L. Elaine Derry, Macomb, July 30, 2013.
Patricia Connelly Eberley, Sterling, June 24, 2011.
Orlo Felgar, Spokane Valley, WA, June 14, 2013.
Lyle Fick, Silvis, May 9, 2011.
Patricia “Patty” Hall, Tampico, Mar. 15, 2012.
Rick Heisler, Warsaw, Jan. 4, 2011.
Doris Hovey, Davenport, IA, Dec. 31, 2012.
Won Moo Huh, Macomb, Apr. 12, 2013.
Louise Jones, Hollandale, MS, Jan. 6, 2010.
David Linnenburger, Macomb, June 21, 2013.
Philip McCleary, Blandinsville, May 6, 2013.
Helen McKay, Hampton, Mar. 11, 2011.
Eugenia Merry, San Antonio, TX, Apr. 12, 2013.
Evelyn Pearson, Moline, June 24, 2011.
Theresa Peterson, Waterford, MI, Apr. 12, 2013.
Phyllis Farley Rippey, Macomb, Apr. 17, 2013.
Nancy Shaheen, Stratford, CT, Apr. 6, 2013.
Ruth Alderidge Smithers, Moline, Jan. 21, 2011.
Carolyn Strong, Rushville, May 27, 2013.
Marian Utechtt, Normal, Jan. 6, 2011.
1938 Leota Eyman King, Macomb, Apr. 12, 2013.
“Rocky” out in color

two and a half years that I have been a student here at WIU, I have wondered who paints the statue or more importantly why.

My curiosity landed me in the Archives section of Leslie F. Malpass Library. I was greeted by Senior Library Specialist Kathy Nichols when I entered. She carefully explained to me the system of which WIU information/history is organized, and helped me throughout my quest for the story behind this small but intricate staple on campus. She was very supportive and knowledgeable.

My hunt for information took me back more than seventy years! I looked through a Western Courier from 1971 that briefly mentioned the Rocky statue. As I looked through a Western Courier from 1971, I struck gold. The 900 lb. statue which was named Colonel Rock II, was given to the WIU Foundation from The Country School Restaurants, Inc. The statue was originally painted to resemble the living Colonel Rock Bulldog, and was painted by then WIU Student Alumni Foundation. The sculpture was sculpted by Herman Carper, of Macomb, Illinois. As I looked through a Western Courier from 1971, I struck gold. The 900 lb. statue which was named Colonel Rock II, was given to the WIU Foundation from The Country School Restaurants, Inc. The statue was originally painted to resemble the living Colonel Rock Bulldog, and was painted by then WIU Student Alumni Foundation. The sculpture was sculpted by Herman Carper, of Macomb, Illinois.

I was shocked to see the original paint that covered the statue was a tan color. Fast forward more than a decade and the fun began. WIU students began painting Rocky as a practical joke. And the tradition carries on to this day. As I always do, the statue of the university mascot Rocky. It seems as every time I walk past the statue, which sits in front of the main entrance to Hanson Field, he has been painted in a new eye-catching color. Over the past two and a half years that I have been a student here at WIU, I have wondered who paints the statue or more importantly why.

My curiosity landed me in the Archives section of Leslie F. Malpass Library. I was greeted by Senior Library Specialist Kathy Nichols when I entered. She carefully explained to me the system of which WIU information/history is organized, and helped me throughout my quest for the story behind this small but intricate staple on campus. She was very supportive and knowledgeable.

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"Best in the Midwest" nine years running

For nine years, The Princeton Review has named Western Illinois University a “Best Midwestern College.” Western was one of 155 regional universities, and one of three Illinois public institutions, named to the “Best in the Midwest” list by The Princeton Review.

The 155 colleges included in the “Best in the Midwest” list are located in 12 states: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Collectively, the 643 colleges named “regional best(s)” comprise 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges, according to The Princeton Review.

“We are pleased to be acknowledged for the ninth consecutive year by The Princeton Review,” said President Jack Thomas. “We strive to provide our students with a quality, well-rounded education, and the continued recognition from The Princeton Review and others, indicates we are meeting this goal. We will continue to provide outstanding programs and services to our students.”

The Princeton Review asks students to rate their own schools on several issues, from the accessibility of their professors to the quality of the campus food, and to answer questions about themselves, their fellow students and their campus life.

For more information about Western Illinois University, visit wiu.edu and wiu.edu/qc on the web or facebook.com/wiu.edu. The 2014 Princeton Review regional bests lists can be found at princetonreview.com/best-regional-colleges.aspx.

Rocky the Mascot gets a makeover

Rocky, Western’s costumed mascot, recently received an update to his look.

Col. Rock was first introduced on Oct. 10, 1959, when a live four-legged English Bulldog, purchased by Student Government, was marched through the football stadium during home games. He was named Col. Rock in honor of Western’s legendary Athletics Director and Coach Ray “Rock” Hanson, a Marine colonel.

In the late 1960s, Capt. Dale A. Luster (a recruiter from the Marine Corps League of Chicago) was instrumental in assisting the Corps with the purchase of the second live mascot, Colonel Rock II, a.k.a. “Rocky.” Two years later, on Sept. 26, Luster was killed in action over North Vietnam. Rocky retired in 1973, and he was replaced with a costumed version.

Future Leatherneck contest winners

We received several great entries for our Future Leatherneck Photo Contest announced in the summer issue of the Western News and on our Alumni Association Facebook page. We asked alumni and friends to submit a photo of a future Leatherneck supporting WIU by wearing their Leatherneck gear.

The winner of our Future Leatherneck Photo Contest is Parker Ingledue! Parker was 6 months old in this photo. His parents are Beau ’99 and Christa Allaman Ingledue ’03. Christa wrote: “Parker’s family currently consists of 22 proud WIU alumni members and he will be a fifth generation college graduate when he finishes school.”

Congratulations, Parker, and we look forward to you becoming a member of Leatherneck Nation!

We are also excited to share those that were selected as our runner-ups. Congratulations on being chosen as our Future Leatherneck runner-ups and thank you for supporting WIU!

Western Wednesdays
Flossmoor Station Restaurant in Flossmoor, IL, August 7, 2013


Western Wednesdays
Hubbard Inn in Chicago, IL, September 4, 2013

L-r: Board of Trustee member Bill Epperly ’68, Diane Meister ’69, Sonny Liston ’78, Ron Daniels ’07, David Plackett ’79, Margie Manchen ’82, Jim Riley, Chantel Blackmore, Anna Krowczyk and Dustin Bainter.

Continued from Think Purple p. 2

Future Leatherneck first place: Parker Ingledue.
“The Western Open” Chicago Alumni & Friends Golf Outing • Seven Bridges in Woodridge, IL • June 10, 2013
Quad Cities Alumni & Friends Golf Outing • TPC Deere Run in Silvis, IL • June 17, 2013
### Mediterranean Inspiration: Rome to Venice
**October 18-29, 2013**
Discover the Mediterranean aboard Oceania Cruises’ Marina, as you sail to ports in Italy, Greece, Montenegro and Croatia. Depart from Rome to Italy’s west coast, then visit Florence, Sorrento, or Capri, the harbors and hillside towns of Amalfi and Positano, Sicily’s Taormina, the Greek island of Corfu, Kotor, and Dubrovnik. Cap off your journey with a full day in Venice.

### Caribbean Discovery
**February 12-22, 2014**
Cruise the balmy Caribbean seas aboard the elegant Oceania Cruises Riviera to Tortola, Antigua, Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Barts—beautiful islands rich with verdant rainforests, spectacular beaches, colorful towns and enchanting wildlife.

### Normandy, 70th Anniversary of D-Day
**April 1-9, 2014**
On June 6, 1944, a heroic formation of Allied troops achieved the largest coordinated military invasion in history on the beaches of Normandy, triggering the beginning of the end of World War II. Walk through history on this exclusive journey through Normandy, featuring two full days of exploration that highlight this important victory during the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Visit the American Military Cemetery, the Peace Memorial at Caen and the commune of Sainte Mère Eglise, one of the first towns liberated on D-Day. You will also indulge in a special tasting of Normandy’s famous Calvados brandy and visit the majestic Mont-Saint-Michel.

### Cradle of History
**May 4-15, 2014**
Follow the echoes of ancient civilizations as you cruise the Mediterranean. Immerse yourself in the ancient legends, traditions and cultures of Turkey, Greece, Cyprus and Israel. Begin in Istanbul and take in its legendary sites before departing for Kusadasi. Cruise to the Greek island of Rhodes and then on to Limassol and Cyprus. More wonders await in Jerusalem before concluding in Patmos and Athens.

### Italian Inspiration
**May 14-22, 2014**
Let Italian-influenced towns and islands inspire you as you cruise to captivating ports in Italy, Croatia and Greece. Set out from Civitavecchia and journey south along Italy’s shores. Explore Sorrento or travel to Capri. Cruise further down the scenic Amalfi Coast and visit Amalfi or Positano before heading to Sicily’s northeastern tip. Discover the island of Corfu and then step back in time in Dubrovnik. Your voyage concludes in Venice.

### Apulia—Undiscovered Italy
**July 1-9, 2014**
From Polignano a Mare, travel along the Apulian coast and see why this sun-bleached land has been settled since time immemorial. Discover views from the Via Venezia in the ancient Greek port of Bari. See unusual dwellings at the Sassi cave houses and the conical, limestone Trulli, and visit the Castel del Monte. Savor the region’s vintages on a winery tour, and visit a family-run olive mill to meet the owners and sample the finished product.

### Mediterranean Inspiration: Rome to Venice
**October 18-29, 2013**
Discover the Mediterranean aboard Oceania Cruises’ Marina, as you sail to ports in Italy, Greece, Montenegro and Croatia. Depart from Rome to Italy’s west coast, then visit Florence, Sorrento, or Capri, the harbors and hillside towns of Amalfi and Positano, Sicily’s Taormina, the Greek island of Corfu, Kotor, and Dubrovnik. Cap off your journey with a full day in Venice.

### Treasures of Southern Africa
**October 15-29, 2014**
Embark on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to southern Africa, a region known both for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty. Begin your journey in Cape Town, South Africa. Walk in Nelson Mandela’s footsteps on Robben Island. Ascend Cape Point and marvel at the panoramic view of the ocean. See African penguins at Boulders Beach. The luxurious Rovos Rail will take you on a two-night deluxe train journey across the country to Pretoria. Bring to a close this exceptional program by experiencing the power and majesty of thundering Victoria Falls.

### China and the Yangtze River
**October 20-November 3, 2014**
Discover one of the most fascinating and dynamic nations in the world. Travel to famous landmarks, including the sprawling Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall. Walk through sprawling Tian’anmen Square, and step inside the massive walls of the Forbidden City. Marvel at the Terra Cotta Warriors in Xi’an. Volunteer for a day at the Chengdu Panda Base and take advantage of this unique opportunity to learn about China’s giant pandas and cruise the Yangtze River to marvel at the spectacular Three Gorges.

### Pearls of the Mediterranean
**November 7-15, 2014**
Discover some culturally-rich pearls of the Mediterranean, as you cruise from Monaco to Spain. Depart Monte Carlo for Portoformo. Journey to Rome before heading inland from the port of Livorno and experience the Tuscan countryside and the legendary cities of Florence and Pisa. Savor the port city of Marseille before heading to Port Vendres. Continue to Palma de Mallorca, Spain and stroll the cobbled streets of Old Palma before your voyage concludes in Barcelona.

### Cruise the Panama Canal
**November 19-30, 2014**
Set sail on Crystal Serenity and escape the chill of November for the sandy beaches, sunny skies and easygoing spirit of the Caribbean. Embark the ship in Miami and cruise to Key West. Continue to Cozumel, Mexico’s island paradise, and Costa Maya, famous for its ancient Mayan ruins. Celebrate the centennial of the Panama Canal as you traverse this famous man-made marvel, a masterpiece of 51 miles of locks that allow ships to effortlessly pass between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Conclude your adventure in Caldera, Costa Rica.

For additional trip information, visit wiu.edu/alumni/travel.php.
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: ____________
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: ____________
State: ____________ Zip: ____________

*Why would this student be a good candidate for WIU?

☐ Yes, I would like to pay the application fee (electronic/$25; paper/$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
Home 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: __________________
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.

Celebrating Town & Gown featuring the unveiling of Rocky on Parade

Help Western Illinois University and the city of Macomb start WIU Homecoming 2013 in style. Join us to celebrate all President Jack Thomas and Mayor Mike Inman have accomplished this past year for the WIU and Macomb communities. Call (309) 298-1914 or visit wiu.edu/alumni for more information or to register.

Oct. 3 • 5:30-7:30 p.m. • Brief program at 6:15 p.m. • Price: $20/person
**October 3 Celebrating Town & Gown 2013 featuring the unveiling of Rocky on Parade**

- The Forum
- 124 N. Lafayette St., Macomb, IL
- 5:30-7:30 p.m. with a brief program at 6:15 p.m.
- Tantalizing hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar - $20

**October 5 WIU at Illinois State Social & Football Game**

- Hancock Stadium – Redbird Tent Zone
  - (Field 2 behind the U-High parking lot), Normal, IL
  - Social 11:30 a.m.; Game 2:00 p.m.
  - Game ticket, social, food & drinks - $36
  - Social, food & drinks only - $10

**October 10 Quad Cities Alumni and Friends event: “A New Deal for Illinois - The Federal Art Project of Western Illinois University” Exhibition and Social**

- The Figge Art Museum
  - 225 W. 2nd St., Davenport, IA
  - 6-8 p.m.
  - Exhibition tour, social, food & cash bar - $15

**October 11-12 WIU Homecoming & Reunion 2013**

- Western Illinois University
- Macomb, IL
- Visit wiu.edu/alumni for all the weekend event details!

**October 23 Los Angeles Area Alumni & Friends Event**

- Trastevere Ristorante
  - 6801 Hollywood Blvd, Suite #423
  - Hollywood, CA
  - 6-8 p.m.
  - Social, hors d’oeuvres & cash bar - $20

**October 24 Portland Alumni & Friends Event**

- Widmer Brothers Brewing
  - 947 N. Russell St.
  - Portland, OR
  - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
  - Social, hors d’oeuvres & cash bar - $20

**October 25 Seattle Alumni & Friends Event**

- Daniel’s Broiler
  - 809 Fairview Place N.
  - Seattle, WA
  - 5:30-7:30 p.m.
  - Social, scrumptious hors d’oeuvres & complimentary drinks - $25
  - Social, scrumptious hors d’oeuvres only - $15

**November 7 Boston Area Alumni & Friends Event**

- Capt’s Waterfront Premium Steak & Seafood Grill
  - 94 Wharf St.
  - Salem, MA
  - 6-8 p.m.
  - Social, hors d’oeuvres & cash bar - $20

**November 24 St. Louis Rams vs. Chicago Bears Social & Football Game**

- Edwards Jones Dome – Social location outside of dome
  - 901 N. Broadway, St. Louis, MO
  - 10 a.m. – noon (Game time noon)
  - Game ticket, social & drinks - $100
  - Social & drinks only - $10
  - Game ticket & social package also includes Jaquars (Oct. 6), Titans (Nov. 3) or Buccaneers (Dec. 22) game ticket of your choice

**December 22 WIU at Mizzou Social & Women’s Basketball Game**

- Mizzou Arena
  - 600 East Stadium Blvd., Columbia, MO
  - Social one hour prior to game; Game TBA
  - Pizza, beer and wine, game ticket & social - $15/person
  - Pizza, beer and wine, social only - $10/person
  - You are required to have a game ticket to attend the social.

---

**Registration Form for WIU Alumni & Friends Events**

**Payment options:**
- Check
- Phone
- Fax

**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