

Dear Colleagues,

Spring semester is underway and for some of us, spring break is already looming. I hope you'll enjoy this semester's edition of the Arts and Sciences Newsletter as much as I have. It's always exciting to hear about what our colleagues are doing. This April, we expect to have our largest and most successful Undergraduate Research Fair, as well as the first edition of an Arts and Sciences Student Achievement newsletter to complement this faculty newsletter.

Thanks for everything you do to make Westminster the great place that it is!

Sincerely,

PROGRAMS

ART

David Baddley's films, "Relay" and "Grass Bolex Plus-X Guitar" were shown this month at the J. Willard Marriott Library's Utah Independent Film Archive as part of its first public show of films from its collections titled *Timecode*. Films shown included documentaries, experimental films, narrative films, and animations.

Allen Bishop will exhibit his paintings at Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center from April through June, 2005. The opening reception will be on Friday, May 20, 6:00-9:00p.m. (gallery stroll night) and the public is invited.

BIOLOGY

Bonnie Baxter's fall Merit Leave opened the door to a number of research opportunities and activities. Some of the time was spent writing two grants to the National Science Foundation, and serving as a consultant on grants to the Department of Education and the Air Force. In addition, Bonnie recently gave some invited lectures. The first at "Halophiles 2004," the biennial international conference on Halophiles (salt-tolerant organisms). The lecture was entitled "Great Salt Lake: Halophiles in Education," which highlighted both her research in the field as well as the educational programs associated with Great Salt Lake at Westminster. The second talk was entitled "Great Salt Lake Microbial Diversity: Microbiology, Biochemistry, and Education," which was given at Washington State University. In May Bonnie will give a lecture at the Wood's Hole Institute at Cape Cod. Bonnie and collaborators recently published a book chapter called "Microbial Diversity of Great Salt Lake," which will appear in the upcoming text, *Adaptation to Life at High Salt Concentrations in Archaea, Bacteria and Eukarya* (Kluwer). Of course the highlight of her merit leave was working

with her research students, who will be presenting their data this spring at the National Conference in Undergraduate Research and the American Association for the Advancement of Science national conference.

Ty Harrison and Sam Miller, a biology student, conducted an interesting community partnership project this semester that is generating significant interest in the Granite School District, and will involve more Westminster students in the coming years. The project included helping to create and manage the Gayen Wharton Environmental Center at Oakridge Elementary School in the Granite School District. The school has a large, existing area of native oak habitat at the foot of Mt. Olympus which has potential for field trips by school and community groups interested in local ecology and restoration landscaping using native plants. The major objectives of the fall semester directed studies project included: interpretive trail maintenance and restoration, native plant garden restoration, an outdoor learning center management plan, interpretive trail marking and signage, and ecological restoration. On January 14 Ty conducted an “in-service” for all the teachers at Oakridge Elementary School dealing with this new environmental center.

The Jane Goodall’s Roots and Shoots program as well as Project Learning Tree associated with the Utah Society for Environmental Education will be partners for this important environmental learning center focusing on learning about the human/foothills wildland interface here on the Wasatch Front. Ty will make available to anyone who is interested digital copies of the report which has lists of native plant species for the Wharton Regional

Environmental Center.

CHEMISTRY

Peter Conwell reports two of his students, Cory Kearns and Mayo Miller, had papers accepted to NCUR (National Conference of Undergraduate Research) in Virginia in April. Cory’s paper is “Data Mining the National Kidney Database with self-organizing feature maps.” Mayo’s paper is “Predicting the outcome of kidney transplants with radial basis functions.” Both of these papers examine automated means of predicting the success of kidney transplants. Peter is hoping to travel to the conference with his students to meet with researchers there and exchange ideas about undergraduate research.

Paul Hooker will be going to San Diego with an undergraduate student, Juliette Lanvers, to present a poster entitled, “Fluoride Analysis of Green Tea,” at the National American Chemical Society Conference in March. The work is the result of undergraduate research carried out last summer.

Robyn Hyde was invited to review a paper, “Oligo- and Polyribonucleotides: A review of anti-viral activity which will appear in *Antiviral Chemistry and Chemotherapy*, Spring 2005 (in press).

COMMUNICATION

Kim Zarkin will be presenting twice at the Broadcast Education Association conference in April, 2005. The first presentation is called “Current First Amendment Issues” as part of the “Annual Telecommunication Act Update” panel. She will also act as a “Respondent on

the Policy Implications” of the research presented on the panel, “New Research on Media, Fear, Trust, & Mistrust Has Policy Implications.” Kim has been elected the 2007 Convention Chair.

Craig Wirth is teaching Professional and Technical Writing this spring. Craig has a B.S. in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Utah and an M.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of Wisconsin. He has over thirty years experience hosting and reporting TV news programs and is the recipient of numerous Emmy Awards and nominations. His research interests include broadcast/film documentary history, integrated marketing communication, and electronic journalism.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Greg Gagne reports the seventh edition of his book, “Operating Systems Concepts” was published in December 2004. He co-authored the book with Avi Silberschatz of Yale University and Peter Galvin of Corporate Technologies. This is a textbook for operating systems classes used at both the undergraduate and graduate level. The sixth edition has been used worldwide and has been translated into several languages.

ENGLISH

Georgiana Donavin is presenting a paper about the Virgin Mary in Middle English lyrics in March at the Medieval Association of the Pacific. The paper is entitled “Spek vor me thou one: Mary and Perfected Language in the Middle English Lyrics.” The anthology of scholarly essays on the medieval sermon that

she worked on for three years, *Speculum Sermonis: Interdisciplinary Reflections on the Medieval Sermon*, should arrive in the mail anytime. Other pursuits during the semester include helping her teenager become a better driver, identifying the perfect pie crust and defying the odds of becoming a faster long distance runner.

Peter Goldman had a popular culture article entitled “Consumer Society and Its Discontents: *The Truman Show* and *The Day of the Locust* published in the Fall, 2004 issue of *Anthropoetics*.

Fatima Mujcinovic’s translation of a Bosnian short story, *The Dagger Store* by Irfan Horozovic, came out in December in a U.S. journal of contemporary European writing (*Absinthe: New European Writing*, Fall 2004, 81-87). She has also commenced an e-mail interview with Aleksandar Hemon, a young Bosnian fiction writer who now lives and writes in Chicago and is a recipient of the 2004 MacArthur Fellowship. Fatima hopes to publish the interview in a national journal of literary studies.

David Stanley’s edited book, *Folklore in Utah: A History and Guide to Resources*, was published by Utah State University Press in September, in time for the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society (AFS) in Salt Lake City. He also arranged for the noted cultural geographer, Yi-Fu Tuan, to give a lecture at Westminster as well as at AFS, where Dave introduced him.

With help from a lot of other faculty, Dave has been working this year on the college’s strategic initiative related to the environment, and several things are under way, including a campus landscape plan, an environmental

center with library and resource files, and a new major. In March, he will be giving a paper on the ritual year of the American cowboy at the annual meeting of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore on the island of Malta. On February 12 Dave is hosting the annual meeting of the Folklore Society of Utah on campus, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at in Foster Hall 101 and the public is invited. Four Westminster students will present their papers at the conference-Alana Dela Cruz, Rebecca Howe, Michael Nielsen, and Emily Williams.

Chuck Malenfant is teaching Introduction to Creative Writing this spring in addition to his other duties as Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Giovale Library. Chuck has a B.A. in English and an M.F.A. from Arizona State University, Tempe, and a Master of Library Information Science from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

HONORS

Richard Badenhausen delivered a paper in November entitled “Tradition and the Individual’s Trauma: Influence as Recovery in T.S. Eliot,” at the Midwest Modern Language Association in St. Louis. Also that month, he attended the 2004 annual convention of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) with four Westminster Honors students in New Orleans. He sat on a panel on “AP/CLEP Equivalencies,” delivered a talk on “Holding an Honors Faculty Retreat,” and moderated a panel on “Global Visions.” In December, Richard was elected by the NCHC membership to a three-year term on the Executive Committee, the board that oversees administration of the NCHC. The NCHC represents the interests of

approximately 800 Honors programs at colleges and universities around the country. His book *T.S. Eliot and the Art of Collaboration* was released in January by Cambridge University Press. The study examines the theory and practice in Eliot’s work. He gave another talk in February entitled “Totalizing the City: Eliot, de Certeau, and the Evolution of *The Waste Land*” at the Twentieth Century Literature Conference at the University of Louisville. In April, he will travel to Toronto as one of fifteen invited participants in a Liberty Fund colloquium on “Liberty, Evolutionary Theory, and the Novel” (Emile Zola’s *La Bête Humaine* and Samuel Butler’s *The Way of All Flesh*) chaired by Professor David Womersley, the Thomas Warton Professor of English Literature at Oxford University. The seminar includes five faculty members from Oxford, and others from Cambridge, Chicago, Penn, Duke, and Yale.

JUSTICE STUDIES

Al Patenaude reports a new Justice Studies Advisory Board has just been created to provide leadership and guidance to the program. Some familiar names on the board include Judge Judith Billings, Utah Court of Appeals, Sheriff Aaron Kennard, Salt Lake County, and David Litvak, Westminster Alum and Utah State Legislature Representative. The next board meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2005.

Joseph Anderson is teaching Criminal Law this spring. He has a B.A. and an M.A. in French and a J.D. from the University of Utah. Judge Anderson presided over the Third District Juvenile Court for nine years and founded and conducted the first juvenile

tobacco course in the United States. He has more than fifteen years legal teaching experience and worked in the United States Attorney's Office for sixteen years.

MATHEMATICS

Carolyn Connell attended the joint meeting of two math associations in Atlanta in early January. Carolyn says the interchange of ideas, especially the discussions with mathematicians at other schools about her sabbatical project dealing with math education issues on the Indian reservations in Utah, and sessions about how other schools are handling assessment/accreditation issues were extremely helpful. One poster session provided some useful information about various projects similar to a summer camp that is in the planning stages for this summer at Westminster ("Summer Science at Westminster"); this event will be a three-day workshop in June for 32 junior-high school-aged girls. Carolyn says several colleagues have expressed concern that she is on campus, seemingly doing work-as-usual during her sabbatical. She wishes all to know that she has arranged with Mary Jane how the sabbatical time away will be scheduled. Carolyn is on an eleven-month contract as associate dean, so her sabbatical time away will be adjusted to fit the schedule this spring. Primary tasks include helping Paul Presson get assessment reports in order for the accreditation visit in March or April, and helping with arrangements for the Undergraduate Research Fair (April 15). Sabbatical projects will include working with Forest Cuch, Director of Utah's Division of Indian Affairs, and with Jim Barta, a math

education professor at Utah State University who has been involved in Native American curricular issues for years.

Tyler Evans gave a talk titled "On Khovanov's (co)-homology for links" at the University of Utah Mathematics Department's Commutative Algebra Seminar on November 19. He will be hiring a student assistant with his National Science Foundation sub-contract to look at combinatorial identities modulo prime numbers, trying to explain them with some software images created by the grants primary investigators. Tyler plans to present the outcome of this terms work, as well as some results from last year at the MAA's Mathfest 2005 in Albuquerque, NM. He is continuing to revise his paper, "A complex for the cohomology of restricted Lie algebras which is work from his Ph.D. dissertation and jointly with Professor Dimitry B. Fuchs at the University of California, Davis. Tyler is planning to offer two new May term courses – "Mathematical Theory of Knots" and "Symmetry of Plane Figures."

Janine Wittwer is working with a former summer research student on getting their research published at the Pi Mu Epsilon journal. She is also working on "A user's guide to Bellman functions" during the summer, supported by her National Science Foundation grant.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Tom Kimbrough was hired this spring to teach Level 1 Avalanche Awareness. He has a B.S. in Math and over forty years working as a ski and avalanche patrol and avalanche forecaster.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Chuck Tripp had an article posted entitled “Salt Lake City rally condemns Bush” on the Belgium, San Francisco, U.S. National and Utah Independent Media Center (*indymedia*-an online newspaper) sites dated November 1, 2004 (Utah and San Francisco) and November 2, 2004 (Belgium and U.S. National). The *Deseret Morning News* published two of his letters-to-the-editor in the Viewpoint Section/Readers’ Forum, one on December 14, 2004 entitled “Afghanistan no ‘miracle,’” and the other on January 22, 2005, “Congrats to News’ reporter.” An op-ed piece, co-authored with Jonathan G. Jemming, “Are we citizens or customers?” appeared in the Opinion Section of *The Salt Lake Tribune* on January 16, 2005. He was also quoted in two Utah Section articles in the *Deseret Morning News* (January 21, 2005-“Salt Lake protesters speak out,” written by Stephen Speckman; and January 23, 2005 - “Anti-Bush protesters take to the streets again,” written by Lindsey Iorg).

Manuel Romero is a new adjunct instructor teaching Introduction to Political Science. He has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Utah, an M.A. in Political Science from the University of New Mexico-Albuquerque and a Master Equivalent in Political Science from Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. Manuel has over twenty years experience in a variety of areas including organizational management, community relations, discrimination investigation, cultural diversity program development, and program and policy development. He currently recruits resource families for Utah Foster Care Foundation.

PSYCHOLOGY

Jorie Hitch Edwards is teaching Lifespan Developmental Psychology. She has a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She is currently the assistant to the coordinator for Testing Services at the University of Utah. Testing includes both psychological and academic testing.

Erin Witter is a new adjunct instructor this spring teaching Interpersonal Communication Skills. She has a B.S. and an M.S. in Physical Education, Health and Recreation and a Ph.D. from the University of Utah, College of Health. Erin is currently working on a research project teaching interpersonal communication in the neuropsychiatric setting.

SOCIOLOGY

Mark Rubinfeld will be chairing a panel, “Popular Culture as Pedagogy: From Star Trek to Woodstock,” at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Meeting in San Diego in March, which will include his paper presentation, “The Tenuous Road to Tenure: Teaching Popular Culture in the Social Sciences.” Two of Mark’s students, Alison Marrelli and Nette Averill, will also be presenting their papers as part of the panel.

Shaheen Hossain is teaching Sociology of Health this spring. She has a B.A. and an M.S. in Sociology from the University of Dhaka, India and a Ph.D. in Sociology from

the University of Utah. For the last five years Shaheen has been working with the Utah Department of Health as the Data Resources Program Manager and Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist, and she teaches part time at the University of Utah, Department of Sociology.

SPEECH/THEATRE

Michael Vought is pleased to report through an association with Diane Forster Burke, School of Nursing, Bhaskara College of Fine Arts affiliated with Kannur University in the state of Kerala, India two of our students have an opportunity to receive a free scholarship (training, food and accommodations) for one year to learn Indian classical dance Bharathanatyam. Michael says the association between Westminster College and Bhaskara would be on the basis of cultural exchange and mutual association for the promotion of traditional classical music and classical dance. He is working out the details for this opportunity with Mark Ferne and already has several interested students who are anxious to participate in this experience. Michael will be traveling soon to Pago Pago, American Samoa where he has been selected to be on the board of Intersections, Inc., an organization that utilizes drama in the battle against child abuse in the South Pacific.

Colleen Lewis is teaching Creative Dramatics for our Theatre program this spring. She has a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Utah and has a background in Theatre for Youth at BYU. She is currently the Artistic Director for the Utah Conservatory of Performing Arts in Salt Lake City. Colleen's previous affiliations include working with youth at the Egyptian Theatre Company in Park City, instructing teachers through an education outreach program at Sundance Theatre, and as a Theatre Specialist in the Salt Lake City School District.

David Pace, an adjunct instructor, won first place in the 2004 Original Writing Contest, novel category, for his manuscript, "Where Empty Armor Comes to Rest," a coming-of-age story about a young Mormon boy growing up in Utah County during the 70s/80s.