



WSU NEWS

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Learning Happens Everywhere

International service trip planned for May

As the academic technologies coordinator for Student Affairs Technology, **Carey Anson** oversees 35 to 40 student aides in nine computer labs.

He stays busy.

Added to that, Anson is preparing for his first international service trip. In May, he will join a contingent of WSU faculty, staff and students traveling to Thailand, where they will construct a kitchen and dining hall for an orphanage.

The trip is taking place largely because Anson, despite his hectic schedule, took time to encourage his student lab aides to participate in a service project, making blankets for Primary Children's Hospital.

"I believe learning can happen anywhere on campus. I wanted my students to learn that each one of us can be a change agent, that we can make a difference in someone's life," Anson said.

One student, Ninnat Phurininnat, was particularly motivated. "It showed me that you can do something meaningful, even if it is just a small thing like tying blankets," she said.

Phurininnat graduated in 2012 with a degree in construction management technology and then returned to her native Thailand. One day, a telephone conversation with Anson turned to helping impoverished schoolchildren. She sent him pictures of children at an orphanage playing badminton with racquets held together by tape.

Anson gathered his student team, and in 10 days they raised \$400 for the children.

Phurininnat now works with another orphanage closer to her home. The building lacks the proper space to prepare and serve food. She developed plans to construct

NULC TURNS 30

The National Undergraduate Literature Conference (NULC) just celebrated its 30th successful year, bringing student writers together with literary luminaries.

This year's authors included Michael Ondaatje, author of *The English Patient*; Terry Tempest Williams, conservationist and activist; David Lee, Utah's first poet laureate; Alan Cheuse, acclaimed fiction writer and memoirist, Ana Castillo, Hispanic fiction writer.

English professors **Mikel Vause** and **Michael Meyer** launched the conference because they saw a need for students to gain confidence researching, writing and presenting their work to peers from other institutions. They planned to call it the Utah Undergraduate Literature Conference and took a stack of homemade, mimeographed fliers to a professional language association meeting.

"Immediately someone from Ricks College (now BYU-Idaho) asked to participate, so we crossed off Utah and put Western States Undergraduate Literature Conference," Vause remembered. "Then a professor from Florida asked if her students could submit. We said, 'Sure why not,' so within an hour it became the National Undergraduate Literature Conference.

A number of authors committed to the writing profession after attending the conference as students. Many have returned as speakers.

"Meeting and speaking with internationally acclaimed authors who are masters of their literary craft acts as inspiration and helps generate the motivation to seek a life in the world of letters," said Vause.

NULC remains the only national conference of its kind in the nation, said **Carl Porter**, who began co-advising the conference more than 20 years ago.

"Thousands of undergraduates have responded to NULC for three decades," Porter said. "It is a remarkable tradition and a reminder that literature matters."

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HINCKLEY FELLOW



Described by students as a gifted, fascinating professor, **Marjukka Ollilainen** has been named the 2015 John S. Hinckley Fellow. She joined the faculty in 1999 and serves as Department of Sociology and Anthropology chair.

Ollilainen has taught courses on topics such as class division and gender inequity and written a number of articles on gender and work, examining both for-profit and nonprofit organizations. Her current focus is maternal leave policies in academia and the workplace in both America and Europe. She is published in both English and

Finnish sociology journals and books. Ollilainen took a leading role in crafting the WSU faculty parental-leave policy.

"The cross-cultural study gives me great examples to bring to the classroom about how work and parenthood can be organized in ways that working mothers and fathers can do both," she said.

Ollilainen has held visiting appointments at universities in China and Finland and led a study-abroad trip to Scandinavia.

DIXON AWARDS

Judy Elsley, English professor and Honors Program director, and Michael B. Vaughan, provost and Academic Affairs vice president, were co-recipients of the Alumni Association's 2015 H. Aldous Dixon Award.



For 25 years, British-born English professor **Judy Elsley** has helped students become competent and confident readers, writers and thinkers. "I focus on students as real people whom I honor and respect," Elsley said. "My teaching style is student-based and interactive, rather than lecturing." Unique to some of Elsley's lesson plans is a skillful weaving of her passion for quilting.

"My two great loves are fabric and language," Elsley said. "My doctoral dissertation explored the semiotics of quilting, and many of my publications focus on quilts in

literature and the relationship between text and textile."

Elsley is a tireless student advocate. From 1995 to 2000, she co-coordinated WSU's First Year Experience, a program that helps new students successfully navigate the university. She is a past director of WSU's Writing Across the Curriculum program, and in 1999 started the Rising Star Scholarship for nontraditional students. She guided the Bachelor of Integrated Studies program from 2000 to 2007 and is the current director of the Honors Program.



Provost and Academic Affairs vice president since 2004, **Mike Vaughan** uses his administrative expertise, analytical mind and ethical practices to expand and promote the intellectual climate of Weber State.

Under Vaughan's direction, WSU initiated 25 new degree programs, including six at the master's level. WSU's enrollment has grown from 18,000 to more than 25,000 students during his tenure as provost.

In his previous role as dean of the John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics, Vaughan guided the establishment of an MBA program.

With support from his office, WSU was able to purchase enough Steinway pianos to earn a coveted All-Steinway School designation. He helped establish the Center for Community Engaged Learning and WSU's Sustainability Practices and Research Center. He also helped establish Dream Weber, which covers tuition and fees for students whose household income is less than \$40,000.

Vaughan will step down as provost in June of 2015 and return to the faculty, "I look forward to returning to the thing that originally drew me to higher education — teaching."

COLLABORATION AWARD



Two programs that empower families to prepare children as successful students and citizens were honored with the Exemplary Collaboration Award.

Department of Child and Family Studies chair **Paul Schvaneveldt** leads both the Family Literacy Program and Healthy Relationship Project. The programs have extensive collaborations with 16 agencies and groups that serve lower-income and ethnically diverse individuals and families in Weber and Davis counties. Both are intended to help break the cycle of poverty that traps families for generations.

The specific goals of the WSU Family Literacy Program are to mentor and train Ogden-Weber Head Start parents to be more engaged in their children's literacy activities and to teach discipline and child-guidance skills. The Healthy Relationship Project fosters communication and relationship skills for individuals and couples to prevent unhealthy or abusive relationships.

Together the programs serve more than 500 families annually.

LINDQUIST AWARD

For passionate commitment to community engagement locally and globally, two recipients were selected to receive the John A. Lindquist Award: Mike Moon, assistant director for WSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) and Leah Murray, associate political science professor and CCEL faculty in residence.



Mike Moon has dedicated his career to improving communities — locally, nationally and internationally.

"I work hard to help students understand that successful community engagement is more than just a project or event," Moon said. "Meaningful community impact is a way of life."

Moon advises WSU's Community Engaged Leaders program. This year, a service team of 28 students organized more than 100 volunteer events for 18 local nonprofit organizations such as Youth Impact, Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity.

In 2014, Moon coordinated and co-advised a trip to Chiclayo, Peru, with 28 students and alumni. Group members improved parks as safe spaces — free from gangs, drugs and violence. This year, as part of a cross-campus collaboration, Moon will take 35 students and alumni to Chiang Mai, Thailand, to serve orphans, young and elderly through a variety of projects. "International work can be the catalyst for lifelong local engagement," Moon said.



As a teacher, scholar and citizen, associate political science professor **Leah Murray** is passionate about teaching the next generation the habits of citizenship.

Murray, who earned a doctoral degree in political science at the University at Albany-SUNY, came to Weber State in 2002. In 2004, she helped launch and co-coordinate the American Democracy Project (ADP). Under her direction, student volunteers bring a full slate of national, state and local experts to discuss controversial community issues, including gun control, economic inequality and health care.

As part of ADP, Murray also helps coordinate Constitution Week events. She is part of a collaboration that conducts Election Day polling and voter registration outreach both on and off campus.

"I have crafted a career that allows me to teach the habits of citizenship to my students, both in my classroom and in co-curricular experiences," Murray said. "I enjoy working with the next generation of citizens and feel I am encouraging the education necessary for good government."

a kitchen and dining hall and sent them to Anson. He approached WSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning (CEEL) to see what more could be done. That launched the Thailand trip.



Joining Anson will be CCEL assistant director **Mike Moon**, associate geography professor **Julie Rich**, assistant design engineering technology professor **Jeremy Farner** and 36 students. In addition to the construction, plans include:

- Building a reservoir for garden and bathroom water,
- Incorporating environmentally friendly elements into the building,
- Providing English language instruction, and
- Contributing new beds, mattresses and computers.

"To help an alum in Thailand who was involved in service while she was at Weber State — it's just a great way to close the circle," he said.

Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

Psychology chair **Eric Amsel** has been appointed to the editorial board of *Cognitive Development*, the field's leading journal.

Assistant history professor **Brady Brower** presented "From Corporate Order to Organic Solidarity: Biology and Social Thought in France" in a School of Social Science seminar at the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, in February.

History professor **Sara Dant** moderated a panel and presented a paper titled "Making Wilderness Work: Frank Church and the American Wilderness Movement" at the 50th Anniversary National Wilderness Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Assistant criminal justice professor **Mark Denniston** wrote the book *Dialogue Among State Supreme Courts: Advancing State Constitutionalism*, which analyzes state supreme courts and their interpretation of constitutional rights for state citizens.

J. Roberto Garcia, assistant professor of teacher education, published the article "Using a Critical Race Praxis to Examine and Resist the Discursive Practices That Reproduce Racism, Misogyny, and Homophobia" in *Qualitative Inquiry*.

Communication instructor **Hailey Gillen** co-authored the paper "Differences in Information Seeking among Organizational Peers: Perceptions of Appropriateness, Importance, and Frequency" at the Central States Communication Association Conference in Wisconsin.

Assistant professor of communication **Eric Harvey** published "Who got the camera:

NWA's embrace of 'reality', 1988-1992" in the March issue of *Pitchfork Review*, a quarterly music publication. His article "Siding with Vinyl: Record Store Day and the Branding of Independent Music" will be published in the refereed *International Journal of Cultural Studies*.

Zoology professor **Ron Meyers** published the paper "Anatomy and histochemistry of spread-wing posture in birds. 4. Eagles soar with fast, not slow muscle fibers," in the international journal *Acta Zoologica*. Zoology graduate **Joshua McFarland** was a co-author on the study.

Professor **Sam Zeveloff** and associate professor **Michele Skopec** of zoology and professor **Barbara Wachocki** of botany have published the paper "Habitat Selection by the Pygmy Rabbit (*Brachylagus idahoensis*) in Northern Utah" in the journal *Western North American Naturalist*. The article's lead author, **Jennifer Schmalz**, received both zoology and botany degrees from Weber State. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources supported the research.

Assistant communication professor **Sarah Steimel**'s paper "Socializing a Global Labor Force: Problematizing Organizational Socialization in Light of Global Migration" will be presented during the panel "Top Papers in Organizational and Professional Communication" at the Central States Communication Association Conference. Steimel also will contribute to a conference panel titled "Converging on Career: Career Development Activities and Strategies for the Communication Classroom."

Welcome To WSU

Adam Bachison, Upward Bound

Tyler Bingham, Facilities Management

Nicolle Brown, Accounting Services

Morgan Bruderer, Development

John Bullough, Information Technology

Natasha Call, John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics

Sara Christensen, Health Promotion and Human Performance

Rochelle Creager, Student Health Center

Rodnica Eason, Education Access and Outreach

Katharine French-Fuller, Office of Sponsored Projects

David Gannon, Athletics Admin and Support

Cory Hall, Athletics Admin and Support

Julie Hamilton, Human Resources

Bronson Janes, Academic Tech Training and Planning

Nancy Jeffery, Facilities Management

Monica Linford, Zoology

Kimberly Love, Continuing Education

Sarah MacKay, Student Affairs

Cristine McCleve, Continuing Education

Pablo Morales, Continuing Education

Thomas Mortensen, Continuing Education

Kristopher Parham, Education Access and Outreach

Laurie Rader, Education Access and Outreach

Stephen Salmon, Registrar's Office

Sam Sessions, Upward Bound

Christina Stice, Foreign Language

Catherine Volt, Health Admin Service

Kayla Walker, Athletics Admin and Support

Kevin Wallace, Bookstore

Jonathan Wheeler, Continuing Education

Promoted/Transferred

Spencer Coleman, Academic Support Centers

Debra Hansen, Payroll

Raeanna Johnson, Human Resources

Bicknell Robbins, Bookstore

Distinguished Professors

Two Weber State University professors acclaimed for contributions to their disciplines have been named the 2015 Brady Presidential Distinguished Professors.

The honor was established in 2006 as a way to recognize outstanding WSU faculty members who demonstrate the highest quality of teaching, scholarship, research and community service.

Funding for the recognition was made possible by a generous gift from Rodney and Carolyn Brady. Rodney Brady served as president of WSU from 1978-85. The recipients will be honored during the university's spring commencement ceremony.

WSU's
145TH COMMENCEMENT
SPRING 2015

2015

Friday,
May 1, 2015
Dee Event Center
8 a.m.



Pedagogical pioneer and English professor **Sally Bishop Shigley** has more than 20 years' experience at Weber State.

Shigley was the first WSU English professor to teach a writing class exclusively online. She is developing a general education class in medicine and literature directed at pre-health professionals and has developed a master's-level poetry course and a hybrid course designed to enable master's-level nursing students to become better writers.

Shigley also has worked with WSU psychology and neuroscience professor Lauren Fowler in exploring the effects of reading literature on empathy and has examined topics such as infertility and disability through her scholarly writing.

In addition to making an impact on campus, Shigley has reached out to the community. She has used two grants from the Alan E. and Jeanne N. Hall Endowment to form Wildcats Learning Together, a program in which WSU students volunteer to help at-risk students at Wasatch Elementary perform at grade level. She has also started Wildcats Learning Together Español, in which Spanish-speaking WSU students and Spanish-speaking at-risk students tutor English-only elementary students in learning Spanish.



John Sohl, physics professor and commander of Weber County Search and Rescue's Mountain Rescue Team, recently celebrated 25 years of service to Weber State.

An experimental physicist with a deep curiosity about the world and its machinations, Sohl has instilled that same passion in students. He mentors undergraduate researchers from the College of Science and the College of Applied Science & Technology in the High Altitude Reconnaissance Balloon for Outreach and Research (HARBOR) program. The award-winning program, partially funded by the Browning Foundation and the Utah Division of Air Quality, uses a high-altitude weather balloon to record scientific measurements and provide learning experiences for future scientists, physicists and engineers.

In addition, Sohl serves as commander of the Weber County Search and Rescue's Mountain Rescue Team and as a scientific adviser to the Weber County Sheriff's Office and Mountain Rescue Association. Sohl was awarded the Distinguished Individual Service Award from the Mountain Rescue Association for leading the rescue of two men in a downed aircraft in Utah's Monte Cristo Mountains in 1999.

Miller Administration Building Closing for Summer Renovations



If you're looking for Payroll, Human Resources or the President's Office this summer, you won't find them in the Miller Administration Building.

The building will close May 4 for a 92-day major renovation of the plumbing, electrical, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems. The project is scheduled for completion Sept. 1.

During the reconstruction, all offices and their occupants will be relocated to other campus facilities. The President's Office will move to Suite

101 in the Hurst Center for Lifelong Learning.

Payroll, Human Resources and Purchasing will set up temporarily in Residence Hall 2 in Wildcat Village. Accounting Services will move to Residence Hall 3. All phone numbers and mailing addresses associated with these offices will remain unchanged.

For a complete list of temporary locations, visit weber.edu/MArenovation.