WOU alumna Cindy Etherton combines technology and teaching in Albany.
Season tickets on sale now! wou.edu/sfa

Oregon · Oct. 8, 2011
Toronto Consort · Oct. 14, 2011
Martha Reeves · Dec. 2, 2011
with The Western Hemisphere Orchestra
Do Jump! · Jan. 21, 2012
Leny Andrade · Apr. 14, 2012
with The American Metropole Orchestra
Asleep at the Wheel · June 8, 2012

All shows:
Western Oregon University · Rice Auditorium · 7:30 p.m.
Dear alumni and friends of WOU,

In this issue of the WOU Magazine, you will once again see evidence of Western Oregon University’s remarkable momentum – from the opening of the Health and Wellness Center this spring, to prestigious award recognitions and achievements of our students, faculty, and staff. This momentum has brought significant activity to an already busy spring season.

As I reflect on the past several years at WOU, I am astonished by how much our university has grown, the incredible accomplishments our students have earned, and the important work being done by our faculty and staff. I truly love this institution and am proud of what it has become. And of how it continues to thrive.

If you’ve been to campus recently, you’ve likely noticed that the landscape has changed, especially if it’s been a while. Although Western Oregon University may look different and a bit bigger than it used to, we’re still a university with the same values and traditions that we’ve all embraced.

The 2010-11 academic year has been monumental for our university. We opened Ackerman Hall last fall, the new sustainable residence hall that was designed and constructed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) platinum certification. March also saw the opening of the Health and Wellness Center, a facility that has earned superb feedback from campus and the community. Students, faculty and staff can be seen at all hours of the day using the workout facilities, classrooms, rock climbing wall or the remodeled Wolverton Memorial Pool.

This fall we will welcome former President of Mexico Vicente Fox. His visit takes place during our annual homecoming celebration in October. Specific details on that event will come this summer during our annual Honor Roll of Donors issue. In light of all the changes and successes WOU has enjoyed this past year, we’d like to consider one more change as well – the naming of our university magazine. I’d like to encourage you, as part of our alumni family, to consider sending in a submission to the naming contest for this magazine (see the inside back cover for details). I look forward to learning of the winning submission.

With pride,

John P. Minahan
President, Western Oregon University
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On the cover: WOU Alumna, Cindy Etherton. Photo by Denise Visuño
Former President of Mexico Vicente Fox comes to campus this October

Western Oregon University and the Arne S. Jensen Lectureship Series, will bring former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox to campus on October 20, 2011. Fox was the president of Mexico from 2000 to 2006 and played a vital role in Mexico’s democratization. Originally from Mexico City, Fox was born into a family of nine children. He studied business administration at the Universidad Iberoamericana and served as president of Coca-Cola Mexico from 1975 to 1979.

Dr. Arne S. Jensen established the eponymous lectureship in 1994, while he was in the process of preparing his will. He had been a regular and generous contributor to the university, having graduated from Oregon Normal School in 1937. He died on November 26, 1994 and his bequest of $100,000 to the WOU Foundation arrived in September 1995. Prominent guest lecturers have included activist and author Jonathan Kozol, poet and novelist Andrei Codrescu, and author and advocate Sister Helen Prejean.

WOU’s enrollment growth continues

ENROLLMENT AT Western Oregon University has continued to soar. WOU reached another enrollment record with 6,233 students enrolled fall 2010, an increase of 10 percent over the previous year and 17 percent over the past three years. Growth has grown in both graduate and undergraduate student populations—and the student body is continually increasing in diversity.

“Over 900 graduate students enrolled last fall, an increase of 17 percent compared with fall 2009. With back-to-back years of large growth, graduate enrollment is 37 percent higher than fall 2008. Our students understand that graduate work is a wise investment, and they know their graduate degree will give them a competitive edge in a tight job market,” said Dr. Linda Stonecipher, director of Graduate Programs.

The Western Tuition Promise has been a driving factor in increased undergraduate enrollment, as it guarantees a set tuition rate for incoming undergraduates during their four years. With the bad economy this guarantee provides students and their families meaningful security in planning for college expenses. WOU continues to be the only university on the West Coast to offer this level of financial security and savings to its undergraduate students.

“Western Oregon University has created a strong presence in Oregon and the region with its strong focus on student learning and an absolute commitment on affordability. Our continued growth is a reflection of the confidence that students and their families have in the overall high quality experience that students receive in our small classes, beautiful campus and, incredible facilities,” said Associate Provost David McDonald.

Two WOU faculty and staff members were finalists for 2011 Oregon Book Awards

SCOTT CARTER, an instructional technologist with the Center for Teaching and Learning, won an 2011 Oregon Book Award, and Dr. Henry Hughes, an associate professor of English, was selected as a finalist. More than 200 titles were submitted for the awards, but only 35 were selected for the seven categories.

Carter’s book, The Last Great Getaway of the Water Balloon Boys of Simon and Schuster, was a finalist in the Leslie Bradshaw Award for Young Adult Literature. Publisher's Weekly wrote that Carter's book is a “touching and impressive debut.” Carter was born in Minnesota and was raised in the Willamette Valley. His short stories have appeared in dozens of popular magazines and anthologies. Carter’s second book with Simon and Schuster, Wooden Bones, will be released in summer 2012.

“Even being a finalist was a great privilege—winning was an even bigger honor,” said Carter. “Especially for someone like me, whose day job is not related to my writing, getting that kind of recognition from people who really appreciate literature was a great confidence booster. And without exception the WOU community has been tremendously supportive.”

Hughes' book of poetry, Moist Meridian of Mammoth Books, was a finalist for the Stafford/Hall award for Poetry. Hughes won a 2004 Oregon Book award for his other book of poetry, Men Holding Eggs. Hughes grew up on Long Island, New York and has lived in Oregon since 2002. Several of his poems have been published in prestigious publications and anthologies, and his commentary on new poetry appears regularly in the Harvard Review. He is also the editor of the anthology The Art of Angling: Poems about Fishing.

WOU Magazine • SPRING 2010
Campus textbook rental program expands for 2011-12 academic year

IF THERE'S one thing about college that all students know—it's that textbooks are expensive. The average full-time student at Western Oregon University spends about $1,200 per year for textbooks and course materials. WOU has worked hard to keep the cost of textbooks as low as possible, and that effort has been supported through a recent grant to establish a textbook rental program. The university was one of only two four-year public institutions in the United States to be selected to receive a grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education to establish such a program. WOU received a $999,973 grant for this pilot program, and the university will provide an additional $102,500.

As populations of first-generation and underrepresented minority students continue to flourish on campus, the university has established a number of initiatives and programs like these to keep costs manageable and transparent for students. A committee has been formed to determine which classes should be included in the program. It will likely be classes that serve the broadest population of students, such as those falling under the university’s general education requirements. The program began in winter term 2011 with materials for one course. Several courses were added to the list for spring, and that number will continue to grow as the sustainable rental program is defined.

“I am delighted that WOU has been successful in its grant application,” said Mark Lane, bookstore manager. “The WOU Bookstore is run for our students, and looks forward to helping the institution roll out a sustainable rental program. The grant award is the result of positive work between the bookstore, faculty, staff and students, and is the next step in the bookstore’s long term development.”

The WOU Bookstore is the students’ revenue-neutral, institutionally-owned campus store. Over the past three years, the bookstore has increased the amount of money paid to students during buyback by over 30 percent and increased its inventory of used texts by almost 35 percent. Last year, the bookstore formed a new committee with the student government, and rolled out its e-book program this fall as a greener, lower-cost alternative.

According to Dave McDonald, associate provost, “The textbook rental program will enable students to save a significant amount of money by being able to rent textbooks for their courses at less than half the price of purchasing those same books. This opportunity is a wonderful complement to the many efforts of the bookstore and the faculty to keep the costs of text books as low as possible.”

Monmouth-Independence Community Awards

Congratulations to the winners of the 2011 Monmouth-Independence Community Awards. Darin Silbernagel, director of business services at Western Oregon University, and his wife, Lisa, were selected as recipients of the First Citizen award. Three WOU alumni were chosen as educators of the year: Emily Breeden ’84 (elementary), Cheri Higgins (secondary), and Shea Seabourn (classified). Additionally, Trenton A. Nettles was chosen as WOU’s Student Citizen of the Year.

(l-r) Darin and Lisa Silbernagel, Trenton Nettles

WOU recognized for outstanding academic advising for fourth consecutive year

WESTERN OREGON University’s staff and faculty have been recognized for their outstanding academic advising by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) for the fourth consecutive year. Associate Provost David McDonald was named the 2011 Pacesetter Award Recipient and biology professor Dr. Bryan Dutton received a Certificate of Merit for the faculty academic advising category. The Pacesetter Award hasn’t been given to someone west of Texas since its inception in 1992. Dutton and McDonald will be presented with their awards at the NACADA Annual Conference this fall in Denver, Colo.

Since McDonald joined WOU in 2005, he has led successful initiatives to increase enrollment and retention. He instituted the Western Tuition Promise, which guarantees the same tuition rate for incoming students throughout their four years. WOU’s enrollment was 4,956 in 2005, and has grown to 6,233 in 2010. In his position, McDonald manages the Academic Advising and Learning Center, Admissions, Center for Teaching and Learning, Financial Aid, the Honors Program, International Students and Scholars Affairs, the Registrar’s Office, Study Abroad, University Marketing, and the Writing Center. McDonald worked in the Oregon University System’s Chancellor’s Office from 1999 to 2005, where he served as the director of enrollment and student services and director of Oregon GEAR UP.

The Pacesetter Award recognizes executive officers, provosts and academic or student affairs officers (i.e. vice provosts, vice presidents, deans, etc.) who exemplify a commitment to academic advising and are true advocates for advising, students, and advisors across the institution.

Dutton, a graduate of WOU when it was the Oregon College of Education, came to WOU in 1998 after holding previous positions at the Brooklyn
Ramsey Tracy receives research grant for Mayan oral history project

DR. RAMSEY TRACY, assistant professor of Spanish at Western Oregon University, was awarded a prestigious Research Grant from the United States Department of State to support her work in Mexico; an oral history project of the Caste War, for the 2011-12 academic year.

Tracy started speaking Mayan in 2004 and began this oral history project in the Yucatan Peninsula in 2007. She goes to villages with a colleague who has ties to the communities with the goal of locating the oldest villagers, a hard-earned privilege facilitated by the duo’s persistent presence and activity in the region. The oral histories commemorate the Caste War, which ended more than 100 years ago, and was the longest, sustained indigenous rebellion in all of Post-Colonial Latin America (1847-1901).

Tracy and her colleague have interviewed narrators between the ages of 65 and 107, primarily monolingual Mayan speakers who prefer their Mayan language over Spanish. The urgency of this project is palpable to Tracy, who hopes to double her goal of locating the oldest villagers, a hard-earned privilege facilitated by the duo’s persistent presence and activity in the region. The oral histories commemorate the Caste War, which ended more than 100 years ago, and was the longest, sustained indigenous rebellion in all of Post-Colonial Latin America (1847-1901).

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WOU Honors Program continues to adapt and grow

THE STRENGTHENING of Western Oregon University’s rigorous academic requirements is evidenced across campus from admissions to campus to acceptance into specific academic programs; this is especially seen in the Honors Program. In the last four years, the program has nearly doubled to 110 students at present. Students involved in the program are from all majors and minors throughout the university.

Rachel Hermanson, a senior biology major with psychology minor, has seen the growth in the program first-hand. From Kalispell, Mont., Hermanson wanted to move to Oregon or Washington because of the climate and had planned to attend a private school. “I wanted to be thoroughly challenged in college, while simultaneously making myself more competitive for graduate school.” She toured many schools and chose WOU because it “felt like a private school with a public school price tag—a perfect fit!” WOU’s Honors Program was an important part of that decision as well.

For students in the program, they are getting a thorough liberal arts education as the Honors Program has classes in twelve academic units within six divisions on campus. According to Dr. Gavin Keulks, English professor and director of the Honors Program, department participation has increased by 30 percent in the same four years. The added flexibility of double sections, revised curriculum and an added electives category helps keep the program rigorous but adaptive. Keulks has also noted that the program has seen its retention rates improve. “The growth is reflected in the number of graduates, which has roughly tripled since 2004,” he said. Fourteen students graduated from the program in 2010.

Hermanson agrees that the program is adaptive and she has observed growth in the program. She’s noticed an increase in the scholarship amounts, and that overall cohesion of the program has improved. “I think the Honors Program is an incredible program that enables students to form friendships and gain knowledge in a way not found in non-honors classes,” she said. One feature of the Honors Program is an enhanced curriculum, which provides excursions on topics relevant to classes. For example, an honors theatre class takes an annual trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and an honors music class saw BB King perform live in Eugene.

English professor Galvin Keulks and Honors Program student, Rachel Hermanson

The Honors Program also encourages students to be involved in other areas of campus. Keulks said Honors Program students have been resident assistants, members of the Plus Team, tutors in the Writing Center, student workers on campus, athletes and have participated in study abroad. Beginning in fall 2012, there will be a wing for Honors Program students in Ackerman Hall, WOU’s newest residence hall. This will aid students in the program in getting to know each other and building a solid community, which is invaluable in a college setting.

Hermanson said the program has helped her generate valuable networking connections on campus. “The Honors Program has helped me feel more comfortable with learning and confident in my ability to achieve. [The Honors Program] provides an amazing learning environment that encourages students to take charge of their education and push beyond their comfort zone.”

Ella Taylor continued from page 5

to WOU she worked at the University of South Florida (USF), where she earned her doctorate, and taught special education, particularly focusing on gifted education. She put together USF’s first online master’s program in gifted education and was involved writing grants for a summer program at the university that brought gifted middle school and high school kids to campus to learn leadership skills.

Her ideas and enthusiasm will make a major impact on TRI. She has already identified several plans of action, including the creation of combined centers within the organization. She wants to blend areas together to promote ideas and collaboration within TRI and on campus. In addition to the existing Center on Brain Injury Research and Training, she wants to expand the Child Development Center/Center on Inclusion and to create a Center on Deaf-Blindness, and a Center on Teacher Effectiveness. Taylor plans to develop a visiting scholars program to complement each of these centers. She hopes to secure funding to bring faculty to TRI during their sabbaticals to conduct research. The program would benefit both TRI and the visiting scholars through an exchange of ideas, new research avenues, and bringing research to practice.

She wants to work with students as well. One of her goals is to develop a scholarship program to fund a student during their senior year who wants to do research around education. This student would work with TRI’s staff and faculty to create new knowledge for a senior thesis or research project. Taylor also wants to create an advisory council for TRI, which will include representatives from on- and off-campus.

“It’s an exciting time,” said Taylor. “Anytime that you get to move in to a leadership role with an agency that has such a strong history, it is really exciting. It’s an opportunity to highlight all TRI has accomplished in our first 50 years and to launch into the next 50 years with high expectations for accomplishing even greater goals.”
On May 5, 6 and 7, Rice Auditorium was filled for three consecutive nights. This year’s guest artist was Maurice Watson, a contemporary dancer, choreographer and teacher from Los Angeles. His piece, Epiphany, was designed to depict “a revelation about this journey called life – seeing life through a crystal ball and watching as we live it.”

Watson has choreographed and performed with some of the finest African American dance companies in the country, including the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble and Dayton Contemporary Dance Company. Watson has also appeared in television programs and feature films. Presently, his dance focus lies in teaching modern, hip-hop and contemporary master classes at local studios and universities.

Dance faculty Deborah Jones, Darryl Thomas and Sharon Oberst choreographed pieces for the event. WOU dance students, Sara McIntyre, Kelsey Bartlett, Barbie McGehee, Kaitlin Bauld, and Jessie Hargrove each choreographed numbers for the show. Music student, Ryan Eiler, also composed original music for Bartlett’s piece, which combined modern, hip hop and African dance styles and rhythms.
U.S. Congressman Kurt Schrader gives keynote address at 2011 Commencement ceremony

WESTERN OREGON University's 154th Commencement was held on Saturday, June 11. Of the new 1,138 graduates, more than 700 attended the ceremony. This year's Commencement keynote speaker was Congressman Kurt Schrader from Oregon's 5th District, who has been a public servant for more than three decades.

The program of events included remarks from this year's student award winners: Justin Karr (Delmer Dewey Award for outstanding senior male), Marcella Flores (Julia McCulloch Smith Award for outstanding senior female) and Emily Trigg (Outstanding Graduate Student Award). The Honorable Marco Hernandez '83, a United States District Court Judge, received the Alumni Award for Excellence.

WOU’s Chamber Singers performed the National Anthem, conducted by Dustin Willetts and interpreted by Janelle Reeves, the processional was performed by the Western Oregon Symphony and Western Oregon Wind Ensemble, directed by Dr. Ike Nail. The recessional was performed by GatorQuest, and directed by Dr. Keller Coker. The program also included Rosemary Powers of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, who brought greetings from the Oregon University System.

Honored separately from the Commencement ceremony were this year’s Mario and Alma Pastega award recipients. Dr. Chloë Hughes, associate professor of teacher education, was named this year’s recipient of the Excellence in Teaching award. Dr. Kimberly Jensen, professor of history, was named the Excellence in Scholarship recipient. And Nathan Sauer, equipment systems specialist, was named the Staff Excellence recipient.

Pictured above: U.S. Congressman Kurt Schrader gave the keynote address. At right: U.S. District Court Judge Marco Hernandez ’83 received the 2011 Alumni Award of Excellence from Alumni Association President Ron Clark ’83.
Fun facts about the 2011 graduating class

- 78 percent earned their bachelor’s, 22 percent earned their master’s
- 37 percent were men, 63 percent were women
- The youngest bachelor’s degree recipient was 20-years-old, the oldest was 64-years-old
- The youngest master’s recipient was 22-years-old, the oldest master’s recipient was 61
- The average age for bachelor’s student was 25-years-old, the average age for the master’s student was 30-years-old
- There were eight husband and wife teams graduating
- 23 percent of the graduates were married
- 50 students were second-generation WOU graduates and three were third-generation WOU grads
- 35 of 36 Oregon counties were represented
- 10 states were represented: Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Texas, Utah, and Washington
- Seven countries were represented: Brazil, China, Ghana, Japan, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam
- Four students graduated with a 4.00 WOU GPA
- Nine students completed two bachelor’s at the same time
- 16 graduating students were twins (both twins attended WOU in six sets of twins)
- One graduating student was a triplet

The program of events also included remarks from this year’s student award winners: Emily Trigg (outstanding graduate student), Justin Karr (Delmer Dewey Award for outstanding senior male), and Marcella Flores (Julia McCulloch Smith Award for outstanding senior female).
Western Oregon University focused on teacher education and preparation for decades and has been known as a teacher’s school. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has grown into the equal of the College of Education in academic caliber and prestige. While the arts and sciences have continued to grow, education remains a critical component of campus. This is demonstrated through awards and recognitions, such as the Christa McAuliffe Award for Excellence in Teacher Education. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) bestowed this upon WOU’s College of Education for exemplary performance in teacher education.

The purpose of the award is two-fold: to recognize excellence in teacher education programs and to advance the field of teacher education by identifying promising practices and critical issues related to measuring the impact of programs on teacher candidate knowledge and the impact of these teachers on pupil learning.

Receiving this prestigious award is a tremendous honor for our students, faculty, staff and the schools that partner with Western Oregon University to prepare and support highly effective educators. This recognition strengthens our desire to continue refining our programs and services to better support teachers who can help students succeed.

Hilda Rosselli, Dean, College of Education
The national award, created in 1987, was named in honor of the first teacher in space, Christa McAuliffe, who died in the 1986 Challenger disaster. McAuliffe received her bachelor’s degree from Framingham State College (Mass.) and her master’s degree from Bowie State University (Md.), both AASCU members. “AASCU institutions prepare more than half of all teachers licensed to teach each year in the United States, and teacher education continues to be a critical concern for member institutions and the association,” said Jolanda M. Westerhof, who oversees the award process and is the director of teacher education for the AASCU.

For the last 56 years, WOU’s teacher preparation programs have maintained national accreditation through the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. Between 1999 and 2009, over 3,000 WOU graduates were hired as educators in Oregon among 168 school districts. In 2005, the College of Education was one of 30 institutions selected to be part of the Carnegie Corporation’s Teachers for a New Era Learning Network around best practices in teacher education. Also, WOU’s undergraduate program was one of only 10 to receive national recognition through the National Council on Teacher Quality’s report on teacher preparation programs that prepare elementary school teachers to teach math.

A number of years ago, Western Oregon University created the Teacher Work Sample, a performance assessment used in WOU programs to document candidates’ ability to assess, plan and instruct in a standards-based educational system and impact P-12 student learning in a positive manner. Western Oregon University’s latest teacher education innovation is the development of the Learning Gains Aggregator. This instrument promises to enrich the Teacher Work Sample process by documenting and aggregating P-12 student learning gains in ways that allow institutions to study the effectiveness of various approaches to teacher education.

This publication has distinct relevance in teacher preparation today. As accountability in education has become an increasingly prominent topic, teacher preparation programs are being asked to provide credible evidence that their teacher candidates can impact student learning. Teacher Work Samples, first developed 30 years ago, have emerged as an effective method of quantifying the complex set of tasks that comprise effective teaching and documenting the effectiveness of preservice teachers’ impact on student learning.

Rosselli, Girod, and Brodsky have assembled case studies from 10 universities and insights from key policy leaders. Now implemented in more than 200 colleges and universities across the country, as well as in Scotland and Chile, a preponderance of new evidence is evolving from the use of Teacher Work Samples in various venues that is expanding the field’s knowledge in areas of practice, research, and policy.
Making integrated technology accessible to middle schoolers

CINDY ETHERTON is a cool teacher. This was clear during the interview for this article. Calapooia Middle School was on a two hour late start so Etherton had some time to talk before her technology classes. A few minutes in to the interview, two giggling girls came in to her classroom asking to borrow tape. Etherton grinned as she handed them her tape dispenser; she learned the girls were decorating the locker of a boy for his birthday. It was clear that Etherton had a reputation of an approachable and friendly teacher. Her wit and humor are evident with everyday conversation. And it’s obvious to anyone who talks to her about her teaching – she loves what she does. Her classes are more than a basic introduction to computers; she wants students to take away practical skills in technology that will serve them for the rest of their lives.
Etherton, a graduate of WOU’s information technology master’s program, teaches two regular classes. One is a basic computer course that is required of all sixth and seventh graders, which focuses on Web 2.0 and Microsoft applications. The other is an advanced course that focuses on Web 3.0. Students who have completed the basic class may take her advanced one, and often take it several times as the course content is never the same twice.

“The thought is that I’m teaching them technology, but every one of my classes has a real world connection,” she said. Currently, the real world connection for students in her advanced class is getting a taste of e-commerce. Etherton made a professional connection with Dave Wood, president and CEO of Willamette Community Bank, and Joan Reukauf, vice president and senior operations officer of the bank. The bank’s staff works with Etherton’s students to review loan documents that they have filled out for their imagined business. The students work collaboratively on five separate businesses. They are actual working businesses that will run through the remainder of the school year and range from Web design to a t-shirt design company. The students used Google Documents to create their own business plans.

“Those students need the opportunity to learn the effectiveness of good communication. Technology brings that in different ways.” She said that the class has often collaborated on documents using Google Documents and other online mechanisms as opposed to talking in person.

Wood enjoyed his involvement in the class project. After creating their business plans, financial plans and filling out their loan applications, the five teams of students took a field trip to Willamette Community Bank to meet with Wood. He interviewed each group about their plan and found the students to be respectful and well-prepared, which showed him that the students respect Etherton and that she fostered a positive and professional classroom environment.

“The students really saw the value of what Cindy was coaching them on and what future opportunities there were from putting together this business plan. They took the classroom theory then applied it for business application,” said Wood. “I enjoyed the experience and I think the students enjoyed the experience.”

When asked if he would participate in a project like this again, he said, “I would do it again in a New York minute and you can take that to the bank.”

Wood added that any student who gets Etherton as a teacher is very fortunate, “they don’t come much better.”

Other real world projects in Etherton’s classes have included working with the city of Albany and an Albany police detective to develop an internet safety website and multimedia production. Etherton has also taught a photography class, which developed far beyond her initial expectations. The class learned about photo editing, techniques, and even took field trips to take pictures. The class culminated in an art show at a local coffee shop. The students mounted their work, named each piece, wrote a description for each photo and crafted bios about themselves. A professional photographer even took a picture of each student to accompany their bio and work.

Sharon Konopa, mayor of Albany, attended the event and asked Etherton if the photos could be shown in City Hall. The exhibit will next be displayed in the Albany Public Library in June. “This ended up being wildly beyond the expectations I had,” said Etherton.

At the heart of all of these classes is Etherton’s passion for technology. Throughout teaching kindergarten through eighth grade, she’s found that the common thread has been technology and wanting to do a better

“The thought is that I’m teaching them technology, but every one of my classes has a real world connection.”

Cindy Etherton ’10

Story continues on page 28
On May 3 at 1 p.m. at the Werner University Center Plaza, Western Oregon University released new academic and athletic logo marks for the university, designed by Rickabaugh Graphics. The event was emceed by dance professor Darryl Thomas and included remarks from Associate Provost David McDonald.

It has been twelve years since WOU updated its logo, last modernized when the university changed its name from Western Oregon State College to Western Oregon University. As WOU has evolved rapidly over the past several years, so have the demographics. This has introduced a need to update the look of the university to the public and the campus community.

Associate Provost David McDonald said, “The university’s new mark and logo represent the new energy and strength of WOU. They also represent our historic focus on each student and the importance of education serving to illuminate a path of opportunity for our graduates.”

“We are so excited to unveil our new athletic logos and marks. Developing an identity and brand is crucial because it tells the world how you see yourself now and in the future. The new marks will be a source of pride for our entire department as well as all Western Oregon students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends,” said Athletic Director Daniel Hare.
About Rickabaugh Graphics
Rickabaugh creations have been featured in virtually every major design publication, highlighted in numerous articles and appeared in over 100 design annuals. Located in Columbus, Ohio and founded in 1986, Rickabaugh has had a number of large clients including Ohio State University, Vanderbilt University, Texas A&M University, the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League, and Major League Soccer.

From the 80s - to the 90s - to today:
WOU’s new Health and Wellness Center brings in 5,000 users (per week!) for fun, fitness and more
In March, an impressive new facility opened on the Western Oregon University campus – the Health and Wellness Center. The photos above are from the dedication ceremony held in front of the rock wall. Gary Dukes (left) emceed the event. Rick Bartow (middle) performed a blessing ceremony and was also hired to create art for the building. Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney, Associated Students of WOU President Yasmine Ibarra, Oregon Senator Jackie Winters, and WOU President John P. Minahan (right) cut the ribbon at the end of the ceremony.

The center is a 45,000 square foot addition to the Old P.E. gymnasium and Wolverton Memorial Swimming Pool. The facility features a two-court gymnasium with an elevated track, two racquetball courts, three multipurpose rooms, a 2,400 square foot strength and weight training area, a 3,600 square foot cardiovascular training area, a 40-foot-high by 40-foot-wide rock climbing wall, locker rooms, lounge areas with wireless internet, and the remodeled pool with additional therapy pool.

The facility has been a booming success since its opening. On average, 5,000 people have used the Health and Wellness Center per week. Sixty-three percent of students have already used the facility and the next goal for Rip Horsey, the director of the Health and Wellness Center, is to capture the other 37 percent in the upcoming terms.
MOST first time college students face the dilemma of moving away from home and starting somewhere new when they choose where to continue their education. Amanda Wright, however, ended up moving back to where she was born, following in her parents’ footsteps—not only to Western Oregon but also to the track, helping the Wolves’ men and women’s cross country teams return together to Nationals for the first time in 22 years.
Beginning a journey
The story begins as any good story does: with a campfire. It was 1989, and the Western Oregon University’s (WOSC at the time) men and women's cross country teams were one year removed from an appearance in the NAIA National Championships. Both teams had reported back to school early to begin their training for the upcoming season, but coach Debbie Eide also wanted to bring the athletes closer together as a unit, so she organized a camping trip for both the men’s and women's team at the Metolius campgrounds. This became the setting of the start of a relationship between Kevin and Danelle Wright that would lead not only to a loving marriage but also to the building block for a future Western Oregon appearance in the National Championships.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18, 1989, in the middle of cross country season, Amanda Renee Wright was born in Corvallis to her pair of proud parents. Four days later, Amanda was taken to watch her father run for the Wolves—her introduction to a sport she would later learn to love. Over the next two years, Amanda was raised in the campus apartments while her parents balanced family life, school and sports. Kevin had recently been promoted from resident advisor to manager, so the family continued to live on campus. This caused some interesting planning and juggling of schedules, Danelle recalls. She remembers arranging meeting points with Kevin and handing off the stroller with Amanda, so one parent could watch her while the other attended class or practice.

Eventually the Wrights moved away, and Amanda started attending Capital High School in Olympia, Wash., where Kevin was the cross country coach. Continuing the family saga, Amanda began racking up league MVP and all-state honors for her running prowess. Despite her success, Amanda says her parents did not push her into cross country. Instead they supported Amanda and encouraged her to try new things, the first of which happened to be running.

Returning to Western Oregon
As Amanda continued to excel in high school cross country and track & field, she began to attract interest from collegiate cross country teams. One recruiting call came from Mike Johnson, Western Oregon head track & field and cross country coach, who told Amanda he would be interested in having her run for the Wolves. With Coach Johnson’s words as encouragement, Amanda began looking at Western Oregon.

Without committing to the school or recognizing it was the same place where her parents had met, Amanda attended a Preview Day at Western Oregon with her mother. Danelle pointed out where she and Kevin used to live, and Amanda then realized that Western was the university her parents had attended and where she had lived for the first years of her life. Despite these connections and possibly her parents' internal hope that she would attend WOU, Amanda was not pressured but given the chance to freely choose where she wanted to spend her college days. “My parents were always very supportive of whatever I wanted to do,” said Amanda. “They were really good about letting me decide which school fit best for me.” In the end, Amanda committed to Western Oregon and followed in her parents’ footsteps by becoming a Wolf.

Building a legacy
From the first day Amanda set foot on the WOU campus as a college freshman, she has been in constant motion. During that first fall, Amanda ran in all six races for the cross country team and was the Wolves’ top female finisher at the GNAC Championships. Amanda then built on her cross-country success, transferring it to the track, where she set the school record in the 5,000-meter indoor run and won the second spot in the outdoor 10,000-meter (she was also a two-time GNAC All-Academic team selection).

On the road, Kevin and Danelle have been avid team supporters. They also attend home meets whenever they can, taking pictures and cheering on their alma mater. However, the Wrights also give Amanda the space she needs as an athlete. “They know I really appreciate them coming but understand at times it is best that I just focus on my race,” Amanda says. “They are really good about being supportive but letting me do what is best for me and my race.”

Of course, both Kevin and Danelle were right at the finish line during the crucial Regional meet in fall 2010, when Amanda helped Western Oregon send both the men’s and women’s cross country teams to the National Championships—a feat the Wolves had last accomplished 22 years before when Amanda’s parents were competing.

The NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships are unlike any other NCAA Championship as the number of available bids per region (eight total regions) is determined by a region’s performance in the previous year’s national championship. Based on the West Region’s performance at the 2009 championships, in which two men’s teams and four women’s teams placed in the top eight, there were six bids out of the region available for the 2010 National Championships, and the WOU women were determined to step up and seize their opportunity. Coming on the heels of the men’s fourth place finish, which earned them a bid to Nationals, the women posted a fifth place finish to seal their own trip to the championships in Louisville, Ky.

This was special because it was the first time since 1988 that Western Oregon had sent both the men’s and women’s team to Nationals, especially because both teams went as a group. “Going with the guys’ team felt like it was right.” Amanda explained. “You know how hard they worked the past five years, and being able to go with same group took a lot of the pressure off. Although we are different teams, we are one team.”

Ultimately, Amanda’s attitude about teamwork and support is not only a concept encouraged by Coach Johnson and the present staff, but it has been a hallmark of the Western Oregon cross country program since the days when Kevin and Danelle began their journey by the light of a campfire.
Jon Carey: a champion for Western
by Danny Barnts, sports information director

UNIVERSITIES ARE traditionally a place where careers begin, but every once in a while Western Oregon has the opportunity to celebrate the career of an individual that has been committed to helping move the university forward. The man who the Wolves’ athletic department can credit with being the driving force to institute change is Jon Carey. Not only has Carey served the athletic department for 36 years he was the figure head behind a women’s basketball powerhouse and the Wolves’ ascension to NCAA Division II.

Coaching career
Many things have changed at Western Oregon over the past 36 years but there remained one constant, Jon Carey roaming the sidelines. It all began for the Stayton native back on the football field where he was a volunteer assistant coach with the team starting in 1975. He would continue to serve as an assistant with the football team for 13 seasons, and would also take on the role of head coach of the women’s basketball team in 1978.

Carey served the next 16 years at the helm of the women’s basketball program, winning nearly 75 percent of his games (369-126) and leading the team to the NAIA finals. During Carey’s tenure Western Oregon women’s basketball experienced the pinnacle of its program. He coached the Wolves to 13 of the school’s 16 20-win seasons, including reaching that plateau in eight straight seasons. Apart from leading WOU to conference championships in each of his first nine seasons, and in 13 of 16 seasons, Carey’s squads also experienced National success. The Wolves qualified for the NAIA Nationals in each of Carey’s last four seasons (1990-94), including reaching the Finals in 1994.

Athletic director era
During his final season at the helm, Carey also assumed the role of athletic director, a position he would hold for the next 17 years. During that run Western Oregon athletics would experience many of its greatest accomplishments. In 1995 it was the Western Oregon women’s basketball team winning the NAIA National Championship, with many of the women who had also played under Carey. The women’s basketball team would repeat for the National Championship in 1996, which still stands as Western Oregon’s last National Championship.

Carey would then lead the Western Oregon’s move to NCAA Division II in 2000-2001 and its acceptance into the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Carey then helped assemble the most well-rounded sports program in the GNAC during the 2007-08 academic year, as Western Oregon won its only Great Northwest Athletic Conference All-Sports Trophy.

Director of athletic projects
Carey also managed to leave his legacy on the new Health and Wellness Center as the representative from the athletic department. Carey helped advocate for the inclusion of a new athletic training room, equipment room, locker room and football coaches’ offices in the planning of the project. Carey’s commitment to seeing the project completed as planned kept him with Western Oregon three months after his scheduled retirement date. However, he felt it was important that he stick around to see the athletic areas in the Health and Wellness Center and lay the groundwork for all future athletic facility upgrades.

The future
Now seizing the opportunity of retirement Carey has taken on a number of different projects to occupy his time. In November, Carey was elected to the Monmouth City Council.

The greens are also calling Carey’s name for what he described as “a pretty active golf schedule” which will run into the fall. While he does not expect to win the U.S. Senior Tour, Carey is looking forward to the chance to play consistently and competitively. He will be participating in the Oregon Senior Amateur Tour in September.

Jon and his wife, Kim, plan to remain in Monmouth and have no plans to leave with city council, golf, family and maybe even coaching to occupy his time. But even if Carey is not seen roaming the sidelines at every home game in the future, he has left a legacy at Western Oregon University as a true leader of the Wolves.
Thank you letter from Arne and April Ferguson for the endowment in their name

My wife, April, and I welcome the opportunity to thank Dr. Julia Robertson, Kari Oppliger and Patrick Palmer who were instrumental in initiating the establishment of the Western Oregon University “Arne and April Ferguson Endowed Scholarship” to be awarded annually. We are especially pleased to have been honored in such a way that will always reflect our dedication to and support of WOU’s scholars and athletes.

We hold in high regard Dr. Minahan, the administration, and faculty of Western Oregon. Their involvement in such a positive way has made the education and sports efforts of the students a great life experience. Western Oregon University’s primary focus for its students is on education. The opportunity to participate in sports is an additionally important factor having major emphasis on earning high grades to be eligible.

Any scholarships offered are a great incentive for all students and athletes to excel in their studies. Having been a student-athlete for this University, then held various coaching positions and currently Head Football Coach, has been both challenging and rewarding.

We are proud to be associated in such a meaningful way with the ongoing educational goals and competitive spirit that exemplifies Western Oregon University.

With great appreciation,
Arne and April Ferguson
1930s

In remembrance

Lavelle H. Young ’32 Jan. 29 at age 100. Lavelle, originally from Stella, Wash, married Lowell Young in 1931 and celebrated 75 years of marriage just prior to Lowell’s death in 2007. Lavelle was a teacher, and taught elementary school in Roseburg, Baker City and Salem. Lavelle loved gardening and had two sons with Lowell.

Zuna Virginia Olson ’32 Jan. 16 at age 98. After receiving her teaching degree, Zuna married Don R. Olson in 1937. Zuna taught at a rural school near Oregon City. She was later employed by Oregon Physicians Service doctor’s clinic in Astoria, as well as Columbia Memorial Hospital as an insurance clerk. She retired in 1981. Zuna was an active member in her church where she taught Sunday school. Zuna also enjoyed volunteering as a reader for the SMART program and a helper at many senior citizen functions. Zuna also loved to knit and garden.

Elsie E. Tracey ’34, ’60 Dec. 17 at age 97. Elsie began her teaching career at Aplary Elementary, Fern Hill Elementary, Rainier Elementary and finally at Hudson Park Elementary. She taught all levels, ranging from first to eighth grade, and retired in 1975. Over her 41 years of teaching she was said to have taught and touched the lives of many students. Elsie enjoyed volunteering her time and was an active member of Fern Hill Grange and Pomona Grange, The Rebekea Lodge, Eastern Star and the Rainier Garden Club. She also loved traveling.

Helen Agnes Wetherell Sar Babbit ’37 Jan. 1 at age 93. Helen was born in Rogue River, Ore. and later moved to Roseburg where she lived until she passed. Helen was an educator, teaching in many different cities. In 1951 Helen started a private kindergarten which she operated in her home for 22 years. She helped her husband, Bernard, with his lumber business, taught piano and was an active member in her community. She volunteered for many organizations, including mentoring children in reading for SMART, helped out at the Roseburg Visitor’s Center, and was very involved in Zonta club. Most of all Helen enjoyed spending time and traveling with her family and husband.

Jeanne LaVerne Dixon ’38 July 31 at age 91. Born in Portland, Jeanne made a career as an elementary educator.

Nola R. Womer ’39 Dec. 19 at age 95. After receiving her degree Nola went on to teach for rural schools in Benton and Polk counties. Nola lived on the family farm until 1997 when she moved to Monmouth with her sister. She enjoyed being involved in her community and attended Pedee Memorial Evangelical Church, where she played the piano for every service as well as taught Sunday school. She wrote the weekly “Pedee News” column for the Itemizer-Observer for 62 years.

1940s

In remembrance

James R. O’Connor ’41 Feb. 28 at age 93. After receiving his degree in education, James enlisted into the United States Navy where he served active duty until discharge as a Lieutenant Commander in 1946. James married Cora Mae Denney and had two children. James began his career at Enterprise High School where he taught math and physical education and coached football. In 1948 James moved to Hermiston where he taught high school math and drivers education and coached several sports teams until he became the school administrator in 1966. Later he was offered the position of principal at Scappoose High School, where he stayed until retiring in 1984.

Barbara Ann Ruef Smith ’42 Feb. 25 at age 90. Barbara was born and raised in Independence, Ore. She went on to be a teacher and a coach for Grants Pass High School. After World War II ended, Barbara married Dean Smith and went into the family grocery business. After they sold their business she worked as a bookkeeper for the market place until her retirement.

Emily Helenius ’44 Oct. 17 at age 88. Emily born in Sherwood, Ore., graduated as valedictorian of her class and went on to receive her degree in education. She worked for Tigard-Tualatin school district for over 25 years, first as a teacher and later as the librarian. Her hobbies included gardening, swimming, playing piano, and watching Trailblazers games. She was a life-long member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church and taught Sunday school and vacation bible school. She was also a member of the Tualatin VFW ladies auxiliary.

1950s

In remembrance

Joyce MacKenzie ’55 July 13 at age 77, after a year-long battle with cancer. She was raised on a farm outside of Silverton with her identical twin sister, Janice. Joyce married John MacKenzie and settled in Eastmoreland where she taught junior high math for 25 years at Meadow Park and Five Oaks middle schools in Beaverton. Joyce also served as the president of the Beaverton Education Association for a term and co-wrote a personal finance book. After retiring in 1990, she split time between her home in Lake Oswego and her beach house in Oceanside. Joyce enjoyed traveling, opera, knitting, baking, and served on the citizens review board of Clackamas County.

Kenneth David Miller ’55, ’59 Jan. 3 at age 82. After graduating college in 1950, Kenneth served in the U.S. Army until 1956. He then returned to college and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education and later received his Masters in Education. Kenneth married Lois M. Burnett in 1957. Kenneth became a speech therapist and special education teacher in the Crowfoot School District for 30 years. Kenneth was an active member in his church. Following retirement he enjoyed wood working, and traveling the world with his wife.

Herbert D. Schunk ’56 Aug. 7 at age 84 of cancer. Born Jan. 4, 1924 in Oregon City and raised in Heppner, Herbert enlisted in the US Army in 1944 and served in WWII. He was discharged in 1949 with a medal of good conduct. Herbert spent his career as a teacher until he retired in 1975. He and his wife, Illa Schweizer Schunk ’51, lived in Lake Oswego from 1959 to 2000. They then moved to Keizer. Herbert was known for helping others, sharing his possessions and fixing things. He enjoyed gardening and golf.

Robert Yearout ’56 Feb. 12 at age 84. Robert married the love of his life, Violet Ham, in 1951. After serving in the U.S. army during World War II he received his master’s degree in education. Robert taught fifth and sixth grade in the Portland Public School District, Newburg, and on the island of Guam. He retired in 1985. One of Robert’s passions was singing; he sang solos for special occasions in many Portland churches and was part of the Bethany Presbyterian Church choir where he also served as an elder.
Shirley Rae McGinnis ’56, ’73  Feb. 6 at age 77.
Born in Salem, Shirley loved to read, listen to music and sing. She also loved animals, especially cats. Shirley taught for 40 years in elementary schools. In 1973 Shirley took a leave of absence from teaching and moved to Santa Barbara where she earned her M.A. degree a year later. She retired in 1997, but continued being involved in education by mentoring new teachers.

Carlotta Marie Strandberg ’57  Aug. 14 at age 75. Born in Astoria, Carlotta married Peter Strandberg in 1959. During her career Carlotta taught as far as Honolulu, Hawaii and San Antonio, Tex. as well as close to home in Eugene, Hillsboro, and Warrenton. She retired in 1995. She was an active member in many clubs and service organizations and enjoyed traveling.

Class Notes

Mary “Rose” Morales ’79, ’92  Dec. 31 at age 54.
She married Lenard “Randy” Williams in 1981. Rose and Randy welcomed their twin girls into the world in 1988. Rose divorced and remarried in 1999 to Reinar Morales and moved to Turner, Ore. Rose had a passion for learning and teaching. Rose taught in Colorado, Utah, and Oregon. She was nominated for the “crystal apple award” for being an outstanding teacher. Rose was an active member in the youth programs at Queen of Peace Catholic Church. Her interests were broad and ranged from scuba diving to cooking but her greatest joy came from being a mother and grandmother.

Class Notes

John M. Petersen ’66 has retired after 32 years of teaching. Petersen spent 30 years teaching special education and two years teaching social science, art and directing plays.

Sybil Stanbro ’68, ’75 has retired and become a full time Oregon resident after spending 20 years in Alaska.

Dr. Jim Porter ’69 was inaugurated as president of Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, Miss., on October 12, 2010. (Porter took office in July 2010.)

1970s

In remembrance

Amy (Barton) Castle ’71  Sept. 9 at age 93. Born in South Attleboro, Mass., Amy was the last living sibling of her 11 brothers and sisters. Amy was an educator for over 40 years. A cancer survivor, she took up running at age 60 and in retirement running became her passion. She started the Oregon Senior Olympics in 1985 and received the Charles W. Bowles award in 1992.

Rodney “Rod” Leo Bixler ’72  Dec. 12 at age 67. Rodney was born on Feb. 28, 1943 in Rapid City, S.D. Following Rodney’s high school graduation he joined the U.S. Army and served in Germany as a tank driver near the Berlin Wall. After three years he was honorably discharged and went on to get his Bachelor of Science in elementary education, he later earned his master’s degree in education. While completing his education Rodney met his wife, Patsy Tucker. He was a passionate educator who taught for 28 years and coached many sports.

Shelton Carey Perrigan ’75  Jan. 13 at age 60. Shelton was born and raised in Bend. After college he worked for the Corps. Science Department of Oregon State University. He left OSU to start his own agriculture development company. After 10 years he again changed careers and became a mortgage broker. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, as well as camping, fishing, and home improvement projects.

Class Notes

Michael Zagyva ’74 has retired from the Canby School District, where he worked in both administration and as a teacher for 30 years. He is now working full time for the Oregon Military Department.

Sharon Baugh Baum ’75, ’86 has retired after 33 years in education. Baum’s education career included positions teaching physical education, coaching, serving as school counselor, assistant principal and served the last 10 years as principal of North Marion Middle School. Baum has also taught Montessori preschool and college undergraduate and graduate classes. Baum is looking forward to traveling and reconnecting with friends.

Margaret Sturma ’77 retired from Madras High School in 2007 after 14 years as Athletic Director. She was inducted into the Oregon Athletic Directors Hall of Fame on April 16, 2011.

Theodore “Ted” Bennett ’78 has retired from teaching after 30 years at Clackamas High School.

Margaret Kello ’73 retired in 2008 from the U.S. probation and pretrial services system where she worked for 32 years in adult corrections. At her time of retirement, she was a senior officer, and a sex offender specialist for the western district. Kello and her husband, Glen ’73, have moved to the coast to start their new chapter in life with their three children and two grandchildren.
1980s

In remembrance

Priscilla Schwejda '80 Feb 14 at age 88. Priscilla was born in Tacoma and raised in Seattle and Portland. She earned her master’s degree in education in 1980. She married Donald Martin Schwejda in 1948 in Chicago. They moved to Forest Grove where she taught at Yamhill Grade School from 1972 to 1987. She belonged to St. Anthony’s Parish. Priscilla enjoyed nature, hiking, reading and art.

Patricia J. Friesen ’80 Dec. 10 at age 68. She earned a reading endorsement and master's equivalent in elementary education. Patricia taught for the Portland Public School System for over 20 years. In retirement, she enjoyed doing medical mission work in Moldova with Medical Teams International. Patricia had a passion for volunteering and enjoyed traveling, gardening, painting, hiking, biking, cooking, bible study, and spending time with friends and family.

Beverly Ann Melton Winbolt ’80 Dec. 22 at age 71. Beverly was born on April 25, 1939 in Portland, Ore., and later moved to Grants Pass, where she was raised. After receiving her degree in psychology she became the executive director for Henderson House Family Crisis Shelter for 14 years. She loved jazz, enjoyed creating water color paintings, and also loved reading and writing. Beverly’s interests included: gardening, General Hospital, picnics, movies, celebrating holidays and most importantly her family and friends.

Clarence Leon Borden ’81 Feb. 11 at age 73. Clarence was born in Victoria, Tex. He joined the Air Force in 1956, and retired after 20 years. Clarence met and married Dahlia Magetti in 1968. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and psychology he worked as a mental health technician until he retired in 2003. Clarence enjoyed fishing, traveling, cooking, music, reading the Bible, and visiting with friends. Clarence was a member of numerous organizations including the Association for Black Veterans, the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice and American Legion Post 30. Clarence was also a member of the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church.

Mark B. Dowdy ’82 Jan. 12 at age 52. After receiving a degree in language arts, Mark went on to teach and coach girls basketball at Port Orford. He married Pamela Reimers and the couple moved to Heppner, where he taught language arts and continued coaching basketball. They moved to Brookings where he again found his niche teaching and coaching. They later returned to Heppner. He was a devoted sports fan who positively impacted the lives of many.

David L. Opperman ’89, ’01 Jan. 15 at age 47. David began his career teaching music and math, as well as coaching various sports at Forest Grove High School. While at Forest Grove he met his wife, Melissa Ann Grahek. Five years later they had two sons, Bradley and Brice. David had many passions in life, he loved his family, enjoyed the outdoors, camping, and hiking. Music was another passion of David’s. He played various instruments, and was also bass guitarist for numerous bands during his lifetime.

Class notes

Kurt Hollingsworth ’80, ’85 retired from the Federal Bureau of Prisons on September 30, 2010. Hollingsworth’s final duty station was the Federal Detention Center located in Seatac, Wash. Hollingsworth retired as an associate warden with 21 years of service.

Elaine (Whitman) Premo ’86 served as the social service director at Sunny Side Care Center after graduation, then accepted a position with the Oregon Department of Corrections. She attained executive manager and after 17 years, transferred to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training as the assistant director for regional and advanced training.

Brent Wilson ’86, ’89 received his Doctorate of Computer Science from Colorado Technical University and is now a professor at George Fox University in Newberg, Ore.

Lino Amor ’89 is currently serving as an internal investigator for the Pohono Police Commission Office after serving 19 years as an officer for the Federated States of Micronesia.

Dan McGraw ’88 has been doing well, staying musically active, playing in a few groups and arranging music. He has also been caring full time for his wife, which he says is a blessing.

1990s

In remembrance

Sandra Farran ’91 Oct. 8 at age 43. Sandra was born in Jerusalem and moved to Salem with her family when she was three years old. Sandra grew up in Salem and went to work in pharmaceutical sales. What Sandra loved most was spending time with her friends and family, and being an aunt to her eight nieces.

Patricia Ann (McNerney) Ridgway ’94 Dec. 28 at age 51. Patricia was born in San Pedro, Calif., where she met her husband, Bill, with whom she spent 48 wonderful years. San Pedro is also where her three children were born. In 1975, Patricia and her family moved to Oregon. After raising her three children she finished school and received her B.A. degree in English literature. Patricia’s passions included learning and traveling with her friends and family. She particularly loved traveling to Napili Bay, Maui, where she had a second home.

Class notes

Mikael Snitker-Magin ’95, ’03 is currently an assistant professor at a state university working with students with disabilities. Snitker-Magin is finishing his dissertation toward his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, focused on self-efficacy measures for people with disabilities.

David Verigan ’96 is currently working as a test technician for Micro Power Electronics in Beaverton, Ore.

Jennifer Stroup ’98 is currently a stay-at-home mom to her daughter who was born in Oct. 2008. Her husband, John, is a gunner’s mate in the U.S. Coast Guard, and Jessica herself is a reservist for the U.S. Coast Guard, they are currently stationed in Miami, Florida. After graduating from Western, she went on to get her M.B.A. in management.

Sean Ragsdale ’98 and wife, Julie, welcomed their second child, Savannah Eileen, on Nov. 16, 2010.


Oct. 1, 2010. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 20 in. long.
2000s

In remembrance
Grant Pauls ’04 of Dallas, Oregon.

Class Notes
Tyler Michel ’06 and Bonnie Michel ’07 welcomed their first child, daughter Adele Nadine Michel, on May 12, 2010 at 4:51 p.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz.

Todd Kunders ’05 is currently an elementary school principal in Florence, Texas, and is completing his Ph.D. in Education and Administration at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Tex.

Amy (Gino) Coyle ’06 received her Masters of Education in curriculum and instruction in 2009 and her National Board Certification in 2010 and currently resides in Arizona with her spouse Jefferson Coyle ’06.

Tomas Mendoza ’06 and Amanda (Falske) Mendoza ’06 welcomed a baby boy into their lives on September 5, 2010. They named their son Santiago Cristobal Mendoza, after his grandfather.

Sarah Jo Tomlin ’05 and Justin Tomlin ’06 welcomed Henry Joseph Tomlin on January 31. He weighed 8 pounds and was 19 inches long.

Tammy McCammon ’07 had been working with SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) for the past two years, but recently accepted a position with Salem-Keizer Education Foundation as director of volunteer service.

Kathryn (Katie) Enos ’07 and Andrew John Lee married on July 17, 2010 at Sheldon Farm. It was an outdoor garden service attended by 160 people. The couple married under a white arbor built as a wedding present by the bride’s brothers. They honeymooned in Maui, and now reside in Armita. Katie is an education coordinator at Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum in McMinnville and Andrew is currently working for Farmers Insurance in Tualatin.

Eva (Fleming) Hawes ’08 and Levi Hawes ’08 are expecting their first child in May.

Faculty & Staff
In remembrance
Donald Joseph Weiss Jan. 12 at age 78. After receiving a degree in classical studies he went on to get his master’s in comparative literature. Donald began teaching at Northern University in Marquette, Michigan. He also taught at De-Paul University in Chicago and the University of Minnesota-Duluth before moving to Monmouth in 1966 for a position at WOU, where he taught for 30 years. Donald loved classical music and cooking, gardening, photography, and travel as well as spending time at his beach house in Newport. He was a longtime member and past president of the Monmouth-Independence Community Arts Association and was well known for his sense of humor.

Miriam Louise Bednarz March 6 at age 81. Miriam was a prominent patron of music and the arts in the Salem community. She was born in New York City and raised in New England. She attended the New England Conservatory of Music, where she learned to play the piano. After graduation she began teaching in Vermont, where she met her husband, Bernard Bednarz. They were married in 1953, and moved across the country to Salem. She received her master’s in music from Willamette University, where she later began teaching. She taught at several different universities, including WOU.

Friends of WOU
In remembrance
Capt. Samuel H. Mallicoat Dec. 6 at age 95. Samuel was an elementary school teacher and administrator. He served in the U.S. Navy Reserve, as well as active duty during World War II and Korea where he later retired as a captain. He served as a commander in the pacific theater from 1951 to 1953. He was a lobbyist for the Oregon Railroad Association and the first director of the Oregon Department of Planning and Development. Samuel was married for 44 years to Ellen Ann Jones who preceded him in death. After her death Samuel met Barbara Zehrung, who became his loving companion for eight years.

Lisa Marie Beauchamp Jan. 22 at age 50. Born and raised in Washington state, Lisa married James Beauchamp and they moved to Arlington, Wash., where they had their two daughters. They later divorced and Lisa moved to Aumsville in 1998, where she began studying criminal justice until illness forced her to leave school. Lisa worked with handicapped children all her life, she enjoyed collecting and repairing old jewelry and working with horses.

Douglas Carl Gore Jan. 23 at age 68. Douglas was raised in Portland, and later moved to Albany in 1967 where he spent his life. Douglas taught at Sweet Home High School, Memorial Middle School in Albany, Albany Union High School and South Albany High School. He was a member of Albany First Church of God and the USB Bowlers Association. Doug married Sharon Lea Keller in Portland on June 11, 1965.

Gerald “Jerry” Alan Murphy Jan. 16 at age 60. Jerry was born in Salem, and moved to Dallas where he was raised. During high school he played baseball, football, and basketball. Jerry worked at Fort Hill Lumber as the personnel manager, and later became an agent with State Farm. He loved sports, and was a Trail Blazer season ticket holder for 22 years. He was a member of Grace Bible Fellowship for over 20 years and went on mission trips to Haiti, Mexico and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Jerry married Charlie J. Rannings in 1989 in Dallas.

Robert Craig Ryan Dec. 14 at age 60. Ryan worked for the forest service for several years as a skidder operator until a serious shoulder accident forced him to change careers. Robert started working in construction, building houses in Central Oregon and Colorado. Robert loved the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing.

Virginia Denmore “Gigi” Starbuck Dec. 23 at age 90. Virginia married Thomas Beaver Starbuck in 1943. Virginia devoted her life to volunteering for community organizations. Virginia was active in the PTA, American Legion Auxiliary. She served the Willamette area council of Camp Fire Girls as president. She volunteered in Dallas city schools, and helped in raising funds for the Dallas Library. Virginia was a devoted member of the Dallas Women’s Club and served as both secretary and treasurer. She also served on the board of directors for the Edgar Smith Fine Arts Series at Western Oregon University.

Josephine Lynn Scott on Jan. 22 at age 49. Josephine was born in Boise, Idaho and graduated from high school in Salem. She then went on to attend WOU for two years. Most recently Josephine worked for Sea Breeze Landscapes. She had a natural ability to bring out the best in the people around her. Josephine saw the beauty in life and in every person she met. Josephine was very involved with the Humane Society and in the rescue of dozens of stray animals. She enjoyed gardening, plants and flowers, traveling and reading.

Robert “Bob” Carl Stanton at age 69. Born on December 14, 1960 in Corvallis, Bob attended high school in Mapleton. After attending WOU for a while, he moved to Eugene where he worked as a wholesale lumber broker. He is survived by his wife, Sharon Stanton, his three daughters, two stepsons, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.
Alumna Korena Lund’s book is released

WOU ALUMNA Korena Lund ’98, ‘10 recently published “Cinco de Mayo: A Thematic Unit of Study.” This book was inspired by her master’s thesis at WOU, an educational resource which Lund hoped would be useful for her students and fellow educators. The book contains lessons in language arts, social sciences, mathematics, Spanish, French, food science, music and art. It was designed for elementary, intermediate, Spanish, French, and bilingual education instructors who would like to integrate Mexican history, culture, and language into their everyday studies, while still meeting national curriculum requirements.

Lund, an ESOL, French and math instructor, grew up in the small timber town of Willamina, Ore. Then attended WOU to earn her bachelor’s in secondary education: French, with the honors of Summa Cum Laude and Phi Kappa Phi. She then taught in France for a year.

“Western Oregon University’s location, prestige as a teaching college, and language exchange programs were what attracted me,” she said. During her education at WOU, Lund participated in three international exchanges: Poitiers, France; Angers, France; and Puebla, Mexico. All three of these experiences influenced her book. Her experience as a teacher taught her that many students and educators tend to have a misconception about the Cinco de Mayo holiday. “Many people think that it celebrates Mexico’s Independence Day, which is really September 16th,” she said. After her exchange to Mexico—where the famous Battle of Puebla took place—Lund drew from her experiences of living within the Mexican culture and knowledge of Franco-Mexican history to begin the research for her book.

Lund worked closely with her advisors, Dr. John Rector, chair of the Social Science Division and history professor, and Dr. Karie Mize, associate professor of teacher education, in order to complete the master’s project. She was also able to survey members of the community along with WOU students to compile necessary data for her research. Members of the campus’ MECHA organization were especially helpful in providing information about the Cinco de Mayo holiday.

The book is available in a downloadable e-book format through cincodemayoathematicunit.weebly.com. A printed version is available through Teacher’s Discovery at teachersdiscovery.com.

Making integrated technology accessible to middle schoolers

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job of teaching and understanding it. “I don’t want to learn and use technology for the sake of technology,” she said. “I want it to benefit students.”

Etherton decided to pursue a master’s degree in technology and found that WOU’s information technology program was a perfect fit. It contained both the tech and education elements that she desired and she liked that she could continue working full time, raise her children and take classes in what she calls an “effective triad.”

When it came to the structure of the program and classes, Etherton appreciated that there was both an academic and practical element. “We can get closed in and intra-focused as teachers and the academic pieces help to broaden the perspective,” she said. Ultimately her classes at WOU helped her see many perspectives of how a tool can be used.

Part of her job at Calapooia Middle School is helping other teachers incorporate technology into their classrooms. The graduate program helped her look at technology from an instructional perspective, not just a teaching perspective.

“I think I bring more into the classroom as a result. I have better information to give to students and more accurate information to give to them,” she said, adding that “I think I also have more to offer other teachers as well.”

The information technology master’s program has led to great opportunities for other students in the program. Etherton has planned a computer camp for this July and has invited other students from the WOU graduate program to join her. This will help them learn how to run a camp and expand their knowledge of computer languages, specifically ALICE 2.2 and SCRATCH. Students, aged 10 to 16, attending the camp will learn how to develop their own video games using these languages. Through this process, the students will develop problem solving skills and determination as video game development is a challenging process. The camp is partnering with Oregon State University’s Open Source lab, which has a connection to Google. Google has been hiring youth from 13 to 18 years old to develop applications for the company. Etherton hopes that some of her students will have this opportunity.

“I would have never tried anything like this before my education at WOU. I wish more teachers had the opportunity to just sample what integrated technology can do for their classrooms, teachers would benefit,” she said. Etherton added that being a part of the information technology program has made her a better teacher, more intentional and more successful.
What's in a name?

That which, we call the WOU Magazine.

It promises to be just as sweet, and we feel now is the time to change the name of our publication. We want to hear from you—our readers: alumni, faculty, staff, students, the campus community, and friends of WOU. **Think about what WOU means to you and please send us your suggestions.**

**Here are the details:**

1. All suggestions must be emailed to magazine@wou.edu by July 30, 2011.

2. Be sure to include your name in the email.

3. Be creative.

4. The staff of the Public Relations Office and University Advancement will choose the top three submissions.

5. Voting on those three submissions will open to the public. Check your email for the link to vote on your favorite name.

6. The new name will be announced in the annual *Honor Roll of Donors*, which reflects gifts for the 2010-11 fiscal year and will be mailed out late this summer.

**We look forward to your submissions!**