Welcome to the New in touch!
We hope you enjoy our new format and additional updates about Western.

To receive future issues, e-mail us your preference:
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E-mail: richmans@wnc.edu, or jesse@wnc.edu
775-445-4410

Message from the Chairman

“Hope Springs Eternal” originates from a line in Alexander Pope’s poem, “An Essay on Man” written in 1733. Being the chairman of the Western Nevada College Foundation, I kind of live by these words, or possibly better yet, “Spring Brings Hope.” It certainly has been a long economic winter and while the recession is far from over, I do believe that better times are ahead, hopefully soon.

It has been a particularly harsh economic winter for education in Nevada. With budgets being slashed twice in 18 months, programs cancelled, libraries closed and tuition raised, it has not been a particularly good time to be a student in our state. And the fact of the matter is, in troubled times the last thing you want to do is cut funding for education. Any short term gains will most assuredly be outweighed by long-term permanent damage in the form of enduring job loss, failure to attract new industries, and most importantly, loss of our best and brightest.

I moved here almost 20 years ago and helped start a company that when I left a few years ago, employed almost 600 people. When we made the decision to locate here in Carson City, we did so after an exhaustive study. We wanted small town America in a state that was business friendly, with reasonable taxes and a good educational infrastructure.

Education was at the top of the list. You might ask why that was so important, especially considering other things like taxes and crime. The reason, quite simply, is that when locating a large national company in Nevada or any other state, your biggest concern and expense is finding a qualified and educated workforce to draw upon.

Western Nevada College is preparing for its comprehensive decennial evaluation in May by members of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, with the goal of reaffirming its accreditation. A team of evaluators will visit the college’s campuses May 3-5 to evaluate how well the college has fulfilled its mission in areas that include academic programs, student services, facilities, processes, and progress toward goals.

Evaluators are chosen from peer colleges around the country. They will review a college self-study document that is being prepared by WNC faculty and staff, and then personally meet with students, faculty, staff and community stakeholders.

WNC’s accreditation was reaffirmed in 2005, following the regular interim evaluation visit by the Northwest Commission. The college also submitted a progress report in 2007.

Members of the public are welcome to comment about the college’s qualification for candidacy or accreditation. Comments must be submitted in writing with an original signature and directed to the president of the Northwest Commission. They will be forwarded as received to WNC, the evaluation committee, and the commission.

Keep up to date on Western happenings @ www.wnc.edu - Bookmark it!

Donal Hummer, Jr.

College Preparing for Accreditation Visit
Western Nevada College lost its founding president last fall. The WNC Foundation hosted a memorial service in celebration of the life of Dr. Jack C. Davis. It was a time to honor a great man with an outpouring of love, appreciation and respect for his service and leadership.

From his tenure as a Merchant Marine during World War II to his success as a student athlete on the football team at the University of Nevada, Dr. Davis gave his time and talents for the greater good. He served in the Korean War in 1953 as an Army first lieutenant, earned a doctorate in Education at Stanford University, and enjoyed a 30-year education career in northern Nevada.

He also served as chair of the Nevada State Athletic Commission, vice president of the World Boxing Council and president of the North American Boxing Federation.

Dr. Davis taught elementary school in the rural Nevada town of Battle Mountain, and then became a high school principal and school superintendent in Fallon. He was also a college professor and administrator at the University of Nevada Reno.

In the late 1960’s, Nevada Governor Paul Laxalt mandated a study on the feasibility of creating a statewide community college system and appointed a committee that included Dr. Davis. When the 1970 Nevada Legislature approved creation of a state community college system, Dr. Jack Davis was chosen to lead Western Nevada Community College.

The college opened its doors on September 19, 1971, serving Carson City, Reno, and most of northwestern Nevada.

Originally, classes were held in the former Carson City Civic Auditorium and in leased facilities in Stead.

In 1973, groundbreaking began for a classroom, administration and laboratory facility located on the current 200-acre campus in northwest Carson City. The Bristlecone Building opened in 1974 as the college’s first owned facility.

In 1975, it became apparent that Reno needed its own community college, so the groundwork was laid to split WNCC and create Truckee Meadows Community College. Meanwhile, more students from Fallon and other rural towns were attending WNCC, highlighting the need for a campus east of Carson City. President Davis oversaw a major fund-raising effort in Churchill County to open a WNCC campus in 1980.

After his retirement from WNCC, Dr. Davis continued to be active in the community and supportive of the college.

In 1999, Dr. Davis helped the college obtain a $100,000 grant from the Nevada Gaming Foundation for Educational Excellence to build an observatory on the Carson City campus. His support spurred a major community fund-raising effort that brought famed astronaut Buzz Aldrin to the college for the project kickoff. In May 2003, the $1.3 million Jack C. Davis Observatory opened, with Dr. Davis and President Carol Lucey cutting the ceremonial ribbon, and Aldrin making a return visit to WNCC.

Words by Dr. Davis in 2003:
“"The observatory is a wonderful addition to the college and all of western Nevada. It will give young people a real opportunity to learn about astronomy, and also about science and math and other fields. I am deeply touched to have it named in my honor.”

In the words of his son, Greg, “My father was always straight-forward and his integrity never wavered. He was always willing to take the time to go the extra mile to help people out.”

Jack C. Davis was a true leader who will be sorely missed.

Ash Canyon Poet
Bill Cowee Dies

Western Nevada College lost a good friend in Bill Cowee in late 2009. Cowee was a recipient of the Governor’s Arts Award in 2001.
In 2007, he donated more than 1,000 volumes of poetry, the majority featuring Northern Nevada writers, to the college. The collection is housed in the Joe Dini Library at WNC Carson City.
**WOODY WURSTER**

**Bringing Ideas to Life**

People enjoy working with Woody Wurster, founder, president and CEO of Custom Stamping in Carson City. Thirty families proved their loyalty to him when they packed up and followed Custom Stamping as it relocated from California to Nevada. Most of those families are still with the company.

Woody, a mechanical engineer, created Custom Stamping in 1970. His company has earned a world-wide reputation for innovative product design, creative manufacturing techniques and high quality. The telecommunications, automotive, and medical industries depend on him, and his company is only one of three that is approved and certified to produce compliant pins for the U.S. military.

Custom Stamping makes small, precision metal parts. It is the leader in compliant pin technology, making connectors that are not only superior in quality but energy efficient as well.

In fact, the “eye of the needle” design, invented at Custom Stamping, is the most accepted and widely used compliant pin design in the world. The company has produced 50 billion “eye of the needle” pins to date with zero field failures.

In addition to Woody’s highly experienced staff of engineers, the firm hires tool and die makers, among the most highly skilled workers in the manufacturing industry.

“The college is the best training ground to get people who are the right people for the job,” Wurster said.

To help ensure that northern Nevada industry has a qualified local workforce, he generously announced a gift of $100,000 to WNC in 1998 for the development of technology programs, purchase of equipment, and student scholarships. The Woody Wurster Machine Tool Technology Center, housing classrooms and laboratories, was named in his honor.

From 1998 to the present, Woody has allocated funding for the Machine Tool Scholarship, providing an opportunity for interested high school students to take classes in machine tool technology. Students are taught by an experienced journeyman, and introduced to the nuts and bolts of machine trades. From there, they can take additional classes to hone their skills and enter the work force as an apprentice.

At Custom Stamping, each newly employed tool and die maker apprentice works alongside an experienced journeyman for four years or 8,000 hours.

“Years ago, a lot of manufacturing companies had apprenticeships. Manufacturing was a major source of income for this country. Now, much of manufacturing is going to China and Third World countries. I would like to see people being trained for today’s technology in manufacturing so we could slow down or turn around that trend,” Woody said.

This school year, Woody enhanced his original gift with an additional $10,000. Western Nevada College honors his generosity and vision. In thanks, the college will remain committed to preparing a well-trained work force for our manufacturing community.

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**Accreditation Visit**

**Contact - continued from page 1**

Northwest Commission on Colleges & Universities
8060 165th Ave. NE, Suite 100, Redmond, WA 98052
Attn: Dr. Sandra E. Elman, President
425-588-4224 • Fax: 425-376-0596

To obtain a copy of Commission Policy A-5, “Public Notification and Third Party Comments Regarding Full-Scale Evaluation,” follow the “Standards and Policies” and then the “Operational Policies” link
www.nwccu.org • 425-558-4224

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“Ideas can no more flow backwards than can a river.”

Victor Hugo
TAKING THE TIME
to Say Thanks

Nearly 200 guests gathered on campus for the WNC Foundation’s Tenth Annual Scholarship Appreciation & Recognition Reception. It provided an opportunity for scholarship recipients and donors to meet face to face and talk. Recipients could tell their story and express the significance of the help they received. Donors could learn more about the students whose lives they changed by their generosity. The foundation thanks the scholarship donors who enhanced the lives of 160 students this year. Their kindness and commitment allowed the foundation to fund $111,000 of the $126,000 in scholarships awarded for the 2009-10 academic year.

WNC Employee Giving Campaign

“When you learn, teach. When you get, give.”
Maya Angelou

When the foundation asks our external communities to give to our students and programs, it also asks WNC employees to contribute as well.

Named “Choose to Make a Difference,” the employee giving campaign final tally shows that employees view their college as a good investment, in spite of difficult times. Our benchmark for the 2009/2010 campaign was 89 employees contributing out of 222 (40%). Currently, donations and pledges have been received from 126 out of 221 of WNC’s employees - 57%!

Funds generated will meet a multitude of departmental needs including scholarships and emergency student aid.

Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium Awards Scholarships

Two WNC Students Make the Grade

In search of students whose field of study and career interests coincide with NASA’s aerospace science and technology programs, the Nevada NASA Space Grant Consortium found two dedicated students at Western Nevada College that fit the bill. Erica Stepro and Colton Dudley each received $1,250 to pursue their science studies at WNC. To be eligible for the scholarship, students must attend Western full-time with a grade point average of 3.0 (B) or better. They must also be highly motivated to forward NASA’s mission of improving the understanding, assessment, development and utilization of space.

Grant to Help Students with Disabilities

Western Nevada College Disability Support Services and partners from three other colleges are recipients of a $114,994 grant from the National Science Foundation’s Advanced Technological Education program. The funds will help develop a course that educates college faculty and staff about resources and materials that help students with learning disabilities succeed in the classroom, and ultimately on the job.

Disability Support Services Coordinator Susan Trist explains, “The goal of the project is to increase the number of students with learning disabilities pursuing and graduating from technological programs. By educating our faculty and staff about the resources available to support students who struggle, we can improve the success rate when these students enter the work force.”
“SPACE: The Final Frontier” for this WNC Student

It’s no wonder that Matt Spaulding chose a career as a mechanical engineer and ended up working on the Mars Science Lab (known as the Rover) at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. From the time he was a young boy, he watched his father fix anything that was broken with ingenuity and talked science with his grandfather, an aeronautical engineer. Understanding the value of education was taught by his mother, a long-time teacher who instilled in him a love of learning. All his life Matt has been acquiring the skills necessary to reach for the stars.

Matt was always interested in seeing how things work, and by the time he completed high school, was certain that he wanted a career in mechanical engineering. Western Nevada College played a part in the journey from growing up in rural Nevada to his career as a mechanical engineer at a world-renowned space research center. He attended WNC from 1997-1999 and graduated with an Associate of Science degree in pre-engineering. The scholarship donors who made a valuable investment in Matt’s educational pursuits at WNC were Nevada Bell, Builder’s Association of Western Nevada and Sierra Pacific. He also received the Space Grant Scholarship and a WNC Academic Scholarship. He transitioned to University of Nevada, Reno and finally to the University of Washington where he achieved his Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering.

When asked about his favorite subject while attending WNC, Matt said “Mathematics has always been a strong subject area for me, so I enjoyed the level of challenge in that coursework. I especially enjoyed the courses I took with Edwin Kingham. He took a personal interest in his students; he made the classes interesting, and his commitment to the students’ success was always apparent.” Matt emphasized the high quality of the WNC mathematics program. “Since mathematics is such an integral part of engineering, that subject matter was a crucial part of being well prepared for the curriculum at UNR,” he said.

“Community colleges have a real place in a person’s education,” Matt said. “In my situation, it proved to be a valuable segue in my higher education experience. I was able to live at home, save money and work while still gaining course work that was transferable to UNR. I also felt that the WNC staff took more of a personal interest in my academic success which was a real impetus for me to complete my academic goals.”

At JPL, Matt designs and supervises manufacture of various components for numerous space projects including the most recent Rover. It has been named “Curiosity” and is set for launch to Mars in September 2011. When Curiosity leaves the launch pad, WNC will cheer with pride to have played a role in the education of a real rocket scientist.

Tell Us About Yourself...
You are WNC! Some of you have earned associate degrees or have transferred to four-year institutions. You may have reached milestones in your life that you would like to share. A strong alumni association can provide opportunities for meaningful interaction. But first, we’d like to get reacquainted. Please fill out this form to help us update our alumni database.

Name: * ___________________________________________________________ (please print)
Address: ____________________________________________________________ City __________________________ State ____________ Zip
Business: __________________________________________________________ Title: __________________________
Telephone: __________________________ E-mail: __________________________
When did you attend WNC?* ________________ Year graduated* ________________
Program of study* __________________________________________________ Year of Transfer ________________
Transfer School* __________________________________________________
What’s new in your life?* ___________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

*This information may be printed in Class Notes. Yes_____ No______

Send to: in touch • 2201 W. College Parkway • Carson City • NV • 89703 Fax: 775-445-4472 • e-mail: richmans@wnc.edu
Annual Giving Awards - Generally donors establish annual giving funds in which they donate gifts to be placed in a WNC scholarship fund. The sum may or may not change annually per donor wishes. The foundation office confirms donor participation annually and posts scholarship availability accordingly.

One-Time Awards - Donors may establish scholarship awards which are awarded once or in designated increments until funds are exhausted. Memorial donations are often established as this type of scholarship.

Endowment Funds - Donors may establish an endowment with a suggested minimum of $20,000 and can choose to make payments over a two to four year period. It is suggested that the donor include an additional $500 per year while the endowment is being funded to allow annual scholarships to be awarded during that time. When the scholarship is fully established, the foundation expends the interest earned during a fiscal year as the scholarship amount, leaving the principal intact to allow the scholarship to exist in perpetuity. Additional gifts to the fund may be made at any time.

The foundation would like to recognize and thank the following individuals and organizations establishing scholarships from September 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010.

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Allene Hunnewell Memorial Scholarship - In memory of her grandmother, Director of Financial Assistance Lori Tiede has established a scholarship for continuing students at WNC. Six or more credits must have been completed at WNC to be eligible. The student must be a Nevada resident with a grade point average of 3.0 or better and enrolled in at least six credits. One student will be awarded $600.

BAWN/Edd P. Furgerson Memorial Scholarship - In support of students pursuing a Bachelor of Technology Degree in Construction Management, Builders Association of Western Nevada has doubled its scholarships for 2010. They will award three $2,000 scholarships to sophomore students in the AAS Construction Technology Program who have declared a BT Construction Management major, or sophomore through senior students in the BT Construction Management Program. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better and maintain this average in construction courses to qualify for future scholarships.

Helen F. Harpin Memorial Scholarship - In memory of their beloved mother and grandmother Helen Harpin, long-time resident of Fallon, Mary Olsen and Monika Fairbanks established this scholarship for students with financial need. A grade point average of 2.5 or better is required.

Jeremy Williams Memorial Scholarship - In memory of Jeremy S. Williams (7/12/85 – 8/18/09), beloved son of Kendall Buscay and nephew of Leslie Townsend, a scholarship has been established. Kendall and Leslie, both WNC employees, have chosen to honor Jeremy by awarding a scholarship to a criminal justice student. Jeremy began attending WNC in 2006 and graduated from the WNC Police Officer Standards and Training Academy in 2008. He was actively involved in donating his time with the Walker River Police Department and through the youth group at his church. He loved to snowboard, wakeboard, play basketball, take his dog to the dog park, hang out with family and friends and most importantly to be with his twin sisters. The scholarship requires full-time enrollment, a grade point average of 2.5 or better, and financial need. One student will be awarded $500.

Kennametal Engineering & Science Scholarship - The Kennametal Foundation has approved a grant of $7,920 to WNC for awarding scholarships to three students in the amount of $2,640 per year for three years. The scholarship was established in 2006 for students who reside in Churchill County and are pursuing a degree in accounting, business, welding, or science and math as it relates to pre-engineering. Students must attend WNC at least half-time with a 3.0 or better grade point average.

Mary & Joe Lushina Nursing Scholarship - Foundation Board of Trustees member Joe and wife Mary have established a scholarship for nursing students who have been accepted into the nursing program. Full-time students with a 3.0 or better grade point average and financial need will be eligible. One student will be awarded $500.

Nancy Fischer Gaskill Memorial Nursing Scholarship - This scholarship was established in memory of Nancy Fischer Gaskill, a WNC graduate and one of the two original nurses that started the WNC nursing program in 1967. Nancy had a 46 year career in nursing. Sophomore students with financial need are eligible and must reside in Carson City or Dayton, attending the Carson City campus. Students must be accepted into the nursing program and maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average with full-time enrollment. One student will be awarded $500.

The Blas Memorial Scholarship - Western Nevada State Peace Officer Academy Coordinator Katie Durbin has established a scholarship in memory of her parents Ruth and Jess Blas. Full-time students, in good academic standing, enrolled in the Western Nevada State Peace Officer Academy with financial need are eligible. One student will be awarded $300.

The Dentists’ Office Scholarship - The Dentists’ Office of Fallon, Drs. Quincy L. Gibbs, George O. Henderson, and James P. Smerdon have established a scholarship for students pursuing a degree in biological sciences with intent to work in the field of dentistry. Both freshman and sophomore students are eligible. Full-time enrollment and a 3.0 or better grade point average are required. The student must be a graduate of Churchill County High School and a resident of Churchill County. One student will be awarded $500.
GIFTING TO WNC

Ways You Can Give

The foundation invites you to partner with the college in building a better community. Our greatest resource is education, and educated citizens are our greatest asset.

There are many ways that you can participate in the growth and improvement of WNC. One way is to make a financial gift to the college.

| Annual Gift | An individual annual gift has a tax advantage for donors who itemize their deductions. Funds can be designated to address a variety of the college's needs such as scholarships and athletics. |
| Memorial Gift | A gift which recognizes achievement and shows love of family or friend is a beautiful memorial. When the gift also benefits the community through the education of future generations, it is truly a living gift. |
| Charitable Gift Annuity | In return for a transfer of cash or property, WNC will send you generous fixed payments for life. Payments can be made to you, you and your spouse, or two other people if desired. This type of gift provides you both security and tax benefits. |
| Endowment | Endowments are gifts that keep on giving. The fund's principal is invested and only the earnings are used to support the desired project. This is an extraordinary investment that changes many lives and builds many futures. |
| Gifts of Securities & Real Estate | This type of gift has both tax benefits and long term benefits for the college. You'll get a double income benefit by giving long-term appreciated securities and real estate rather than selling them to give an equal amount in cash. Initially, you'll receive a deduction for the full present fair market value of the gift. Then, you're allowed a complete avoidance of the capital gains tax on the appreciation. |
| Life Insurance | You may now make a charitable gift of life insurance for the cash surrender value of the policy and the current premiums. The insurance donor receives the same basic tax benefits as other donors contributing to WNC. |
| Will/Bequest | Naming WNC in your will is another way to support the college. This type of gift gives you the flexibility in providing for your family needs first while receiving the benefit of estate tax deduction for the value of your bequest. |

INFORMATION

Helaine Jesse Morres, Vice President of Development & External Affairs, 775-445-3240
Sandi Richman, Foundation Special Projects Coordinator, 775-445-4410

CHOOSE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

Yes! You can join Western Nevada College's efforts to make a difference by passing along some of your good fortune to those trying to improve their lives through education.

Please make your check payable to WNC Foundation and mail it with the completed donation form to the WNC Foundation Office. All contributions are tax deductible and truly appreciated.

☐ Enclosed is my check for: $_________ ☐ MC/VISA #: ____________________________ Exp. Date: _________________

Please direct my contribution to:
☐ Scholarships ☐ Athletics ☐ Performing Arts ☐ Greatest Need ☐ Other __________________

Name: ___________________________________________________________          Daytime Phone: ___________________________
(please print)

Address: ___________________________________________________________ City ____________________________ State ______ Zip

________________________________________________                    E-mail: __________________________________

Signature

Thank you for caring!
GIFTING TO WNC

Investing in Our Future

The following list recognizes those who made a gift to Western Nevada College between July 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009.

The WNC Foundation extends its deepest appreciation and gratitude to donors who have so thoughtfully invested in the support of the educational experience for so many students. If your name was omitted from the Leadership Circles, please accept our apologies and contact the Office of Development and External Affairs at 775-445-3240. On behalf of the college, thank you for the extraordinary opportunities you have helped provide.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLES 2009

Friend of the College- Up to $499
Gary Adams
Sterling T. Albin
American Legion High Desert Unit S6
Valerie Andersen
Deloy H. Anderson
Dane Apalategui
Charles E. Arciniega
Edward Arciniega
Stephanie & Richard Arrigotti
Donna M. Ashby
Jamal Azzam
Glenn Bakker
Michael J. Bako
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Jerald E. Bardecker
Judy Barnaby
Diane Barndt
Candace Barrenchea
Michele Basta
Michael Batesel
Ronald Belardinelli
Ron Belbin
Craig Berger
Michelle Bertocchi
William Bevill
Steven Bjorklund
Donald Bland
William T. Bley
Donald S. Boston
Steve Boucher
Jim Brant
Delbert Bugg
Steven Bregmeier
Ralph Burkett
Emmet R. Burns
J. Scott Bush
James Buzonik
Luis A. Cadena
Wesley Eagler
Claudia & Anthony Calabro
Ursula Carlson
Steve Carman
Laura Carmona
Leo J. Carney
Paul Carroll
Carson Valley Inn
Melinda Carter
Deborah Case
Gary S. Cassill
James Cassill
CC Communications
Maxine Cirac
Kathryn Clark-Ross
Tina Cluver
Raymond Cochran
Steve Cochrane
Jami-Sue Coleman
John Coleman
Thomas W. Conner
Contris Construction Company
Roy Conwell
Dave Cook
Judith B. Cordia
Mabel Cotton
S.M. Cresta
Brian F. Crowe
Brad Croxford
Carl Cunningham
Frank Cutolo
Dan Dable
Kimberly A. Dandos
Larry Danielson
Richard Danielson
Nicole Davenport
Morgan Davis
Margaret V. Deal
Joseph DeCarlo
Linda Demarco
Dennis Banks Construction
Patricia J. Devereux
Brittany Anne Devitt
Darla Dodge
Michelle Dondero
Andrea Doran
Ginny Dugan
Jeffrey Duncan
William Durand
Mary (Katie) Durbin
Doris D. Dwyer
Colleen & Michael Dwyer
John Dykes
Eagle Valley Golf Course
Paul Eastwood
Floyd Edsall
J. Renee Ekleberry
Mark Elston
Mike Epps
John Erickson
Reuben E. Erickson
Mary Erquiaga
Scott Etchison
Donald Evett
Monica Fairbanks
Miladean L. Farrell
William Feltner
Stanley Ferguson
Mike Fetics
C. Fettig
Jeanne Fields
Linda Fleetwood
Donald Folgner
Kurtis Folgner
Barbara Ford
Brenda G. Ford
Scott Foster
Tammy J. Fournier
Cindy Frank
Kevin Gaffney
Andrew Garcia
John P Gaskill
Russell Gaub
Donald A. Gendleke
Veronica & Quincy Gibbs
Edda Gibson
J. Roy Giurlani
Niki & John Gladys
Grayson Gold
Agustin A. Gonzalez
Sean Gorin
Eleanor Graff
Peggy Graham
Frank Grasso
John F. Grasso
Greenhouse Garden Center
Karen & Brian Guerin
Ronald Gularte
May Gustin
Lillian & Al Hack
Brian Hagen
Mire Halsey
Nancy Hammon
Laurel Hammond
Vicki Hargrove & David Thomas
Donna & Don Hataway
David Haupert
Tom Hetrick
Christopher Highley
Christina M. Hillis
Joe Hooft
Donald E. Horton
Emily Howarth
Mary Fullstone Hussman
Deborah Ingraffia-Strong
Alice & Harold Jacobsen
Barbara & Robert Jepsen
Maizie Harris Jesse
Gina Johnnie
Jack S. Johnson
Perry V. Johnson
Don Kidd
James P. Kiley
Julie King
Kevin King
John Kinkella
Valerie Klein
Richard Kloes
Robert Knick
Christine Knight
Tim Knorzer
Margaret Koniecny
Winnie Kortemeier
Charles F. Kreider
Christopher Kreider
Benton P. Kutch II
Sean Lagier
Carol R. Lange
Judy Larquier
Danny Lawrence
Construction Tech Teams Compete in Regional Event

Two teams of Western Nevada College construction management students made a good showing at the Associated School of Construction Regional Competition and Conference in Reno in February. The teams spent two days in a cloistered room, applying their classroom skills and developing presentations that solve real construction management problems.

WNC’s Heavy Civil category team, Curtiss Elliott, Cody Cummings, Ryan Anderson, Adam Loomis, Tom Hunt, Bryan Forster and alternates Steven Forster and Cassandra Noll, finished in fifth place. The team’s assignment was to bid, schedule and perform risk assessment for an airport runway safety improvement project. The Commercial category team of Randy Contreras, David McGarry, Alex Jares, Cory Jares, Scott Etchison and Josh Etchison placed in the top 10 for their building construction project plan.

Thirteen schools, including California State Polytechnic University, California State University, Oregon State University and Montana State University participated in the competition.

Bachelor of Technology peer mentor and competition participant Curtiss Elliott said, “Performing as well as we did alongside these schools proves that the WNC Construction Management program has an opportunity to become one of the best programs in the country.”

Holiday Potluck Benefits “Food for Thought”

As part of the annual college holiday potluck in December, WNC employees presented a $500 check to the non-profit Carson City group that provides food for the weekends to children who are homeless. Many of the youth are able to eat breakfast and lunch at school, but go without on the weekends and holidays. Food for Thought provides the children with weekly school backpacks full of food that can be eaten without needing an oven or refrigerator. During the year, the charity will provide more than 100,000 meals to the area’s homeless children. Carson City has nearly 500 homeless children enrolled at all times.

Kay Sedlak Receives Prestigious Award

Nursing Faculty Member Earns National Honor

WNC faculty member and certified emergency nurse Kay Sedlak was named to the Academy of Emergency Nursing in Des Plaines, Ill, an honor bestowed on only eight individuals in 2009.

Sedlak is a long-time member of the Emergency Nursing Association, and worked for several years in the Emergency Department of Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center in Reno. She is also the editor of the “CEN (Certified Emergency Nursing) Review Manual, 4th Edition,” a two-year effort by 45 authors that provides written and online exams to prepare emergency nurses for the certification exam. WNC nursing instructor Michael Ma- lay is one of the authors. Sedlak has served as Nevada state president of the ENA and “influenced the practice of nurses across the nation by lecturing at ENA-sponsored conferences in Nevada and other states, conducted annual and leadership conferences, as well as those for local, rural and large groups,” said William T. Briggs RN, president of the ENA.

Nursing Graduates Post Top-Notch Test Scores

WNC’s 2009 nursing graduates were nearly perfect in their pass rate on the national licensure examination last fall. The class scored a 96 percent pass rate, with 45 of 47 graduates succeeding on their first try. It was the second highest pass rate in the state, and highest in western Nevada.
Golfers “Putt for a Purpose”

Each year, golfers in Fallon and Carson City have their fill of fun on the greens as they “Putt for a Purpose.” While enjoying spirited competition with friends and co-workers at two different tournaments, they support Western Nevada College and its students.

The most recent tournaments were played at the Golf Course at Fallon and Thunder Canyon Golf and Country Club in Washoe Valley. Thanks to the many generous sponsors and players, the Fallon tournament raised almost $1,800 that funded five scholarships for graduates of Churchill County High School who now attend WNC Fallon campus.

The Carson City tournament raised $15,000 which is being used for special projects – the annual Scholarship Appreciation and Recognition Reception, Newspapers in Education, the In Touch newsletter, the athletics program, and faculty/staff appreciation events.

Message from the Chairman—continued from page 1

We need to find a broader based source of revenue for the future of our state. Based on the current forecast, if we do nothing, the shortfall is projected to be even bigger next year, resulting in additional cuts to education and other necessary services that will have negative repercussions on our state for decades.

What do we do in the meantime? That is where the WNC Foundation comes into play. Enrollment at WNC is up and the budget is down. We can help fill in the gaps by raising funds through donations. In this way the foundation can help fund scholarships, capital projects and programs destined for the chopping block.

The foundation is kicking off a major gifts campaign this spring that will be unprecedented in its scope and size for WNC. I will be providing all the details and goals in my next update. Our theme for the campaign is “Choose to Make a Difference.”

We owe it to ourselves and to our young Nevadans, from kindergarten through college, to provide them with the best opportunities to thrive. If we are successful and keep our best and brightest here in Nevada, business will flock to our state, and we will be strong once more.

In fact, our state is potentially on the cusp of something great. Our consistent winds, abundant sunshine and wide open spaces put us in the running for attracting many new green companies in the form of solar and wind energy production. The strength and fortitude of our residents can insure that we will get the lion’s share of this industry, but only if Nevadans are well educated and prepared to accept the challenge.

Knowing the strength and conviction of this community, I do not see how we can fail, because after all, we are the Battle Born State. I will close with this sentiment from my mother, who told me long ago, “Get a good education. It will open doors and provide opportunities that you will never have without it. But more importantly, as you go through life, it is the one thing that you will always have and can never be taken away from you.”

Join me and “Choose to Make a Difference,” too!
Western Nevada College’s baseball and softball teams are in the midst of their playing seasons, but they have already earned accolades on campus. Both groups of student athletes have made the grade in their classrooms.

The WNC women’s softball team, in just its second season, tallied a 3.22 cumulative grade point average in the fall term. The student athletes also completed 89 percent of their courses.

Softball coach Leah Wentworth said, “We set the bar high in the beginning with a goal of being an Academic All-American team next spring, and our young ladies have really stepped up to the plate.” Seven of 15 softball players held a GPA of 3.5 or higher, and four had a 3.8.

Head coach DJ Whittemore said his team made sacrifices and was dedicated to their studies last fall. Six players earned over a 3.75 GPA and two players earned a perfect 4.0. The team tallied a 3.12 fall GPA and completed 96 percent of their courses.

“Dominating the classroom the same way we do the playing field has been our program’s top priority since its inception, and this group is no different,” Whittemore said. “This marks the ninth time in nine semesters that the team GPA has exceeded a 3.0 and we are hoping for a fifth straight “NJCAA Spring Academic Team of the Year” award in 2010.”

### Dustin Pedroia Scores Hit at Wildcats Fund-Raiser

More than 800 supporters of Wildcats baseball and softball welcomed baseball great Dustin Pedroia at WNC’s seventh annual Wildcats Athletics Benefit in January. Few people are aware that Pedroia, Boston Red Sox Second Baseman, spent two summers playing American Amateur Baseball in Carson City as a 17 and 18-year-old. One of his teammates, former Nevada High School Player of the Year Joe Hooft, is now a WNC assistant coach.

It was a real coup to have Pedroia speak. Although he has only been in the big leagues for four years, he has earned all of baseball’s most prestigious awards. Pedroia was American League Rookie of the Year in 2007 and helped the Red Sox to a World Series title. He is the only rookie in the history of baseball to lead off the Series with a home run. In 2008, his outstanding hitting and fielding lead him to the American League’s Most Valuable Player title. In addition to other awards, he is one of the few career .300 hitters in baseball.

The event at the Peppermill Resort Spa & Casino in Reno raised more than $95,000 to support WNC men’s and women’s intercollegiate athletics teams. Athletic programs receive no state general funding, making private support critical to their existence. The event also benefited Galena High School baseball, at Pedroia’s request.

Thank you to all who participated at this year’s event. The proceeds will help with the costs of travel, equipment, uniforms and officials’ salaries for both the baseball and softball teams.

### Seven Baseball Players Sign with Western Nevada College

Seven top high school baseball players from Nevada and around the West have committed to the Western Nevada College Wildcats for 2011.

According to Head Coach DJ Whittemore, “This is one of the finest groups of players WNC has ever recruited.” It includes two top players from Northern Nevada, as well as standouts from Las Vegas and Salt Lake City, and several top players from the Northwest.

“We are really excited to welcome these players into the Western Nevada family,” Whittemore said.

Head coach Leah Wentworth said, “We set the bar high in the beginning with a goal of being an Academic All-American team next spring, and our young ladies have really stepped up to the plate.” Seven of 15 softball players held a GPA of 3.5 or higher, and four had a 3.8.

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Head Coach Earns National Honor

Western Nevada College baseball coach DJ Whittemore, whose Wildcats finished third at the Junior College World Series last spring, was named a 2009 Diamond Sports Regional Coach of the year.

Athletic Director John Kinkella said, “I believe DJ Whittemore may be the top baseball coach in (NJCAA) Division I. He has brought his team to the JUCO World Series two years out of the last three, and was the only coach in the World Series whose team was also an Academic All-American Team of the Year.”

The NJCAA Division I honor comes from the American Baseball Coaches Association, which held its annual Hall of Fame and Coach of the Year Banquet in January in Dallas. Whittemore said he was honored to be recognized but chose to miss the trip in favor of working with his players during spring practice.

Whittemore’s team set a number of Western records for the program last season. The 2009 World Series showing was the highest the program has finished in its four-year history. Western set school records for most wins – 48; winning percentage - .774; and number of players who signed with NCAA Division I colleges or universities – 11.

Kramer Champlin to Join NJCAA All-Star Baseball Team

One of Western Nevada College’s best pitchers has been invited to be part of a National Junior College Athletic Association All-Star baseball team and compete on behalf of the United States. Kramer Champlin, a right-handed sophomore, commands a presence on the mound at 6’5” and 200 pounds, and is the reigning Scenic West Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year.

Now he can be seen on a world stage representing the United States in the 25th Honkbal Tournament in Haarlem, Netherlands, July 9-18. The six-team tournament has already confirmed participation by Venezuela, Taiwan, and Netherlands, as well as the USA, which won the event in 2000, 2002 and 2008.

“It’s a huge honor,” said Wildcats coach DJ Whittemore, and a first for a WNC player. “The head coach of the U.S. team saw him pitch at the World Series (last spring), and the SWAC is widely recognized as one of the best two or three regions in the country.” Champlin will probably be utilized as a closer or come out of the bullpen in one-inning stints, he said.

Texas Hold-em Poker Tournament Wins Big for Wildcats Athletics

Most people don’t know much about the invention of Texas hold-em poker, or that the Texas Legislature dates the game to the early 1900’s. After the game spread throughout Texas, hold-em was introduced to Las Vegas in 1967 by a group of Texan card players and gamblers.

The 35 players at the recent Texas Hold-em Poker Tournament probably didn’t care much about the history but just wanted to have fun, which they apparently did, as they raised over $4,600 to benefit Wildcats Baseball. The team will use the funds to pay their umpires and for traveling expenses.

Softball Team Features Nevada Student-Athletes

Western’s second year softball team brings together student athletes from many Nevada high schools. Eleven of 15 players graduated from a Nevada high school, and six hail from Northern Nevada. They include:

Alex Arciniega - Spanish Springs High School, Sparks
Elisa Dawson - Clark High School, Las Vegas
Frances Estrada - Fernley High School
Kelsie Fahr - Coronado High School, Henderson
Anastacia Kreider - Pershing County High School, Lovelock
Melissa McKinnon - Lowry High School, Winnemucca
Alicia Merrell - Silver Sage High School, Silver Springs
Alissa Rampa - Centennial High School, Las Vegas
Paige Savage Cimarron - Memorial High School, Las Vegas
Cassaudra Vondrak - Carson High School, Carson City
Jennifer Watkins - Centennial High School, Las Vegas

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**ARTS & CULTURE**

**Coffee w/Carol**
The foundation is proud to present “Coffee with Carol” events to familiarize the community with WNC’s many outstanding faculty and programs. Join President Carol Lucey at these free discussions. Enjoy coffee and a continental breakfast, and receive a “Coffee with Carol” commemorative mug.

**CARSON CAMPUS**
Friday, April 9 • 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Featured Professor: Josh Fleming
Topic: Pizza and Pedagogy: Engaging Students and Teaching Writing in the Online Environment
Location: Reynolds 103
RSVP to 445-3240 by April 7

**FALLON CAMPUS**
Friday, April 23 • 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Featured Professor: Julie King
Topic: Lifelong Learning – A Personal Perspective
Location: Virgil Getto Hall Room 304
RSVP to 423-5186 by April 21

**DOUGLAS CAMPUS**
Friday, April 30 • 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Featured Professor: Elizabeth Tattersall, Ph.D.
Topic: Soaring - Staying Aloft With Mother Nature
Location: Bently Hall Room 106
RSVP to 445-3240 by April 28

**Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival**
Films of Adventure & Inspiration
Friday, April 23 • WNC Carson City - Cedar Building, Marlette Hall – 7 p.m.

This selection of inspiring environmental films features hard-hitting topics including bioengineering, water issues, wilderness preservation, citizen activism, and more. Explore the issues and movements with leading environmentalists and professionals, filmmakers, and celebrities. Leave feeling inspired and motivated to make a difference in our community and the world.

**ADMISSION**
Student (with ID)-$5 • General-$8
Advance tickets/information…..445-3324
Funds generated will be used to plant trees on campus

**15th Annual Multicultural Festival**
Rhythms of our Community
Saturday, May 15 • WNC Carson City – Outdoor Plazas • 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Celebrate culture and diversity with live music, dancing, colorful decorations, and food from Nevadans of many cultures. Exhibits will display articles and art from various cultures, and youngsters will enjoy the Children’s Cultural Corner.

FREE ADMISSION
Limited Seating • INFO: 445-3000 • www.wnc.edu

**Events**

**Faces, Voices & Stories**
Western Nevada College's annual series of lectures, films and events brings the world and issues into sharp focus. All events are on the Carson City campus.

**The SPOTLIGHT is on Broadway!**

**The Sound of Music**
May 7-9, 14-16

When a postulant proves too high-spirited for the religious life, she is dispatched to serve as governess for the seven children of a widowed naval captain.

- **White Christmas**
November 6-7, 12-14, 19-21

The sparkling new stage adaptation of the beloved Irving Berlin movie with added Berlin favorites, bursting with spectacular production numbers and warmed with your favorite songs.

**Tickets:** $20/$18/$16
Carson City Community Center
Call 775-445-4249

**GALLERY EXHIBITS 2010**

**CARSON CAMPUS**
Main Gallery - Bristlecone
April 19 – May 14
“Student Art Show”-
May 26 – September 2
“Printmaker’s Conspiracy”
Information: 775-445-3000

**FALLON CAMPUS**
May 1-14
“Student Art Show”
May 1, 12-3pm
Spring Art BBQ
Information: 775-423-7565
Two new members have been named to the Western Nevada College Foundation Board of Trustees. Jeff Brigger and Pamela Powell join 32 other board members and officers who help develop funds for support of the educational, cultural and service goals of the college.

Jeff is the Economic Development Executive for NV Energy. He is responsible for attracting new businesses and industry to northern Nevada and is the company’s liaison to rural development agencies. As the former Business Development Manager for the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada, Jeff recruited new businesses to the area and assisted existing companies in expanding their business interests. Previously with McKee Foods Corporation for 16 years, he worked in California, Oregon, Washington and finally Nevada as District Sales Manager.

Jeff has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and Master of Business Administration degree from Marylhurst University in Oregon. He is a member of Western Industrial Nevada and the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. He also sits on the board of the Fernley Chamber of Commerce and is an associate member of the Western Nevada Development District.

Pamela is the Churchill County Extension Educator for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. She has been a faculty member with Cooperative Extension for ten years, working in two states.

Pamela received a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Oregon State University in Family and Consumer Science and a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon. Her experience includes working with youth through their involvement in Community Readiness Networks and developing evaluation instruments to measure the impact of youth and adult learning as it concerns geospatial technology for disaster preparation. She served as program director and co-evaluator for the nationally award-winning Alert, Evacuate and Shelter Program. Pamela also provides programming to address health and wellness issues for senior citizens in Nevada in collaboration with Western Nevada College and is involved with the 2009 program initiative to educate Nevada’s communities about domestic violence. Pamela is a 2009 recipient of the Extension Family Science Team Award and NAE4-HA Distinguished Service Award, and is a 2006 recipient of the National Priester Health Award in the state/multi-state category.

DAVIS OBSERVATORY OPEN HOUSE

Lucky Couple Wins Rare Coin & Telescope

Western’s Jack C. Davis Observatory was the location for a free after-Christmas open house on December 26. Guests enjoyed a presentation about the night sky followed by viewing from a number of telescopes.

One of the highlights of the evening was a drawing for a rare coin and a four-inch Celestron GoTo telescope. The coin was minted on the Number One Coin Press at the U.S. Branch Mint in Carson City and commemorates the opening of the observatory. Weighing in at one troy ounce of silver, the jacket was signed by Buzz Aldrin, second man to walk on the moon, and Dr. Jack C. Davis.

The winners, Tom and Alice Tyson, were also in attendance at the opening of the observatory in 2003 where they met astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

The observatory, a research-level facility for WNC students and the community, is located at 2699 Van Patten Avenue on the northwestern edge of the Carson City campus, off Combs Canyon Road. Proceeds from the raffle help to support the observatory.

INFORMATION
775-445-3240 · collier@wnc.edu
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Robin Williamson, Secretary-Treasurer  •  Roger Williams, Immediate Past Chair

**COLLEGE PRESIDENT**  
Carol A. Lucey, Ph.D.

**VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
Helaine Jesse Morres, CFRE

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WNC does not knowingly discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or participation in its programs and activities.

Western Nevada College  
FOUNDATION  
2201 West College Parkway  
Carson City, NV 89703

~ Choose to make a difference ~