Provost’s Message

As we progress through this fast-paced quarter, faculty and staff in the Academic Affairs’ Division are engaged in a concerted effort to maintain high levels of student success and keep the university moving forward. I want to thank all of you for your dedication to our students and for your commitment to excellence at Eastern Washington University. Who we are and what we do would not be possible without you.

In terms of overall organization, I am pleased to update you on a number of ongoing initiatives in the division.

My first update is that the reorganization of the Division of International and Educational Outreach (DIEO) is nearly complete, and we are finalizing the International Task Force report begun in fall 2010. The Office of Global Initiatives has moved to the first floor of Hargreaves Hall, and OGI Executive Director Cathy Dixon and her staff are poised to make additional strides for EWU in the international arena. Dr. Chris Kirby and Ms. Olga Baron recently led EWU Honors’ students on a study trip to China (see page four), and I look forward to a continued expansion of such efforts with renewed attention to sending more EWU students abroad as part of their academic experience.

With the move of OGI to Hargreaves, the Undergraduate Studies’ Office, with Mr. Mark Baldwin and Dr. Helen Bergland, has relocated to 117 Showalter. We are searching for a vice provost for Undergraduate Affairs and expect finalists to be interviewed before the end of spring quarter. The Undergraduate Studies’ Office will be responsible for undergraduate policies, for providing support for the undergraduate curriculum process (i.e., UAC and its subcommittees), and for a new unit consolidated around academic advising and student success. Plans call for academic advising to be housed in Monroe Hall; this change will enable students to have one-stop access to many of the key services that they need.

The Virtual College initiative also continues to take shape. A new unit, E-Learning and Off-Campus Programs, is under the interim direction of Mr. John Neace and Ms. Sara Sexton-Johnson (see page 3). The search for an executive director is well under way, and we expect to have finalists on campus in May. As many of you know, Running Start is now a part of this unit. In 2011 - 2012, we faced many challenges to EWU’s concurrent enrollment program (also known as Running Start in the High Schools). Most notably, legislative changes dramatically reduced the revenue stream that was used to support this program. With the end of the legislative special session without additional changes, we will re-evaluate the best way to go forward. Our continued goal is to provide access to high-school students and participation incentives for faculty, departments, and colleges.

Along with searching a vice provost for Undergraduate Affairs and an executive director of E-Learning and Off-Campus Programs, a search for an executive director for Community Engagement is in progress. This executive director will oversee the Institute for Community Engagement (ICE), co-located in Cheney and Spokane, whose primary goal will be to assist faculty and staff in developing service-learning projects for EWU programs. We expect the institute to become a place where members of our region can find support and assistance for projects, internships, and volunteer activities.

These searches, along with the tenure-track faculty searches successfully concluded, and those still in progress, will add colleagues who will help us move forward in our efforts to sustain excellence.
Last, but not least, is a Learning Commons’ initiative, to include the Writers’ Center, expanded PLUS tutoring, and support for math tutoring. Plans are still being developed, but the guiding concept is to create a space where students can go to improve their work and enhance their chances for academic success. A task force of faculty and staff, under the direction of Dean Richard Wilson and Interim Vice Provost Colin Ormsby, has been working on this initiative since fall 2011. In all likelihood, the commons will be developed in stages, with the first phase targeted for fall 2012 (see page seven).

Faculty Merit Awards

Beginning in Academic Year 2006–07, an expanded Merit Award program has been used to recognize and reward outstanding contributions made by EWU faculty in teaching, scholarship, creative endeavors, and service. Nominated by their respective college personnel committees, Merit Award winners are selected by the Research, Service, and Scholarship Committee, composed of faculty representatives throughout Eastern’s academic areas and J.F.K. Library. Names of the winners for the 2010-11 academic year follow.

Outstanding Faculty Awards

In Teaching -
Kirk Damon Aiken, Marketing
Jonathan Anderson, Psychology
Polly Buckingham, English
Daniel Canada, Mathematics
Kelley Cullen, Economics
N. M. Awlad Hossain, Engineering and Design
Sarah Jackson, Dental Hygiene
Richard Orndorff, Geology
Bruce Teague, Management
Justin Young, English

In Scholarship/Creative Activity -
Jonathan Anderson, Psychology
Daniel Anton, Physical Therapy
Joanna Joyner-Matos, Biology
Romel Mackelprang, Social Work
Jamie Manson, Chemistry/Biochemistry
John Marshall, Music
Jeni McNeal, Physical Education, Health and Recreation
Robert Sauders, Anthropology and History
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
Dick Winchell, Urban and Regional Planning

In Service -
Jonathan Anderson, Psychology
Daniel Canada, Mathematics
Grant Forsyth, Economics
N. M. Awlad Hossain, Engineering and Design
William Kelley, Urban and Regional Planning
Romel Mackelprang, Social Work
La Vona Reeves, English
Robert Sauders, Anthropology and History
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
Dick Winchell, Urban and Regional Planning

Distinguished Faculty Awards

In Teaching – Justin Young, English
In Scholarship/Creative Activity – Daniel Anton, Physical Therapy
In Service – Daniel Canada, Mathematics

Professors of the Year
Jonathan Anderson, Psychology
Daniel Canada, Mathematics
N. M. Awlad Hossain, Engineering and Design
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
Dick Winchell, Urban and Regional Planning

President’s Award
Jonathan Anderson, Psychology

Congratulations to this year’s Merit Award winners, whose work within their academic disciplines and with Eastern’s students makes a vital contribution to academic rigor and excellence at EWU.
**Trustees’ Medal Award**

The Trustees’ Medal is the university’s highest form of recognition for faculty achievement. Each year, since its inception in 1978, the award has honored a faculty member for teaching excellence, significant contributions to scholarship and research, and accomplishments in the development of academic programs and curricula. Dana C. Elder, professor of English and director of the University Honors’ Program, is the recipient of the 2012 Trustees’ Medal. Congratulations to Dr. Elder for his excellent ongoing work in teaching, scholarship/creative activity, and service and for his commitment to Eastern Washington University and the success of its students.

**Personnel Announcements from the Division of Academic Affairs**

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Martine Duchatelet has accepted the dual position of dean of the College of Business and Public Administration and executive dean of EWU-Spokane on the Riverpoint Campus. She will assume her position on June 1st. Dr. Elizabeth Tipton will serve as interim dean until that time, following the retirement of CBPA Interim Dean Niel Zimmerman on March 31st.

Our new dean comes to Eastern from Purdue University, Calumet (PUC), where she has served as dean of the School of Management since 2006. The School of Management at PUC is one of six schools in an institution of approximately 10,000 students. Dr. Duchatelet led the School of Management through the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) process of acceptance for accreditation eligibility. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Duchatelet to the university community.

In addition to welcoming our newest dean, I also am pleased to announce the appointment of Sara Sexton-Johnson and John Neace as interim executive co-directors of E-Learning and Off-Campus Programs. Together, Sara and John have more than 34 years of experience at Eastern in managing a wide array of successful off-campus programs. Their shared role will include facilitating the reorganization of the former DIEO and moving new initiatives forward, while continuing to manage previously assigned responsibilities. At this time we also welcome to the E-Learning and Off-Campus Programs’ unit the Running Start Program. These organizational changes became effective on February 1, 2012. The search process for the permanent director’s position is underway, and the successful candidate is likely to come on board no later than July 1, 2012.

Effective May 4th, Dean of Libraries Richard Wilson tendered his resignation from the university for health reasons. Dr. Wilson was instrumental in leading the EWU Libraries through a strategic planning process. In addition, he served EWU through his work on the Accreditation Steering Committee in preparation for the NWCCU site visit this past April. I wish Richard well and thank him for his service to EWU. Dr. Theophil (Ted) Otto has accepted the position of interim dean of Libraries, as the search for a permanent dean of EWU Libraries gets under way. Dr. Otto has been a member of the Libraries’ faculty since 1985, holding various positions including head of public services, chair of the Libraries’ faculty, project coordinator for the 1998 remodel and expansion of J.F.K. Library, and most recently, collection development coordinator. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Otto to his new role at Eastern Washington University.

**Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)**

On March 1st, EWU submitted its Year Three self-study to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, the accrediting agency for all post-secondary institutions in the seven-state Northwest region of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. The Year Three report expands the university’s Year One self-study to address Accreditation Standard Two: Resources and Capacity. A team of six accreditors visited EWU in April to further explore the university’s performance, integrity,
and quality in terms of resources and capacity as well as to follow up on elements of Accreditation Standard One: Mission, Core Themes, and Expectations. Thanks go to all faculty, staff, and students who worked together in the planning and hosting of this visit; more details will be shared as soon as the accreditors’ report becomes available.

**Textbook Rentals and Student Savings**

The EWU Bookstore and the Textbook Task Force have reported a significant savings in textbook costs to EWU students for fall quarter 2011 and winter quarter 2012. LeeAnn Case, associate vice president for Business and Auxiliary Services, notes that, by renting textbooks, students saved $83,000 in fall and $123,699 in winter for a total of $206,699 so far this academic year. The trend to rent textbooks appears to be growing, with increases predicted for spring quarter.

**Commencement**

Please make plans to attend this year’s commencement ceremonies on June 16th. I know from personal experience that our graduates appreciate seeing faculty on this important day. The faculty at Eastern have a time-honored tradition of congratulating each graduate, and it makes a lasting impression.

As you might have heard, this year’s morning and afternoon commencement ceremonies will graduate students at the bachelor’s, master’s, and professional doctorate levels in a single ceremony. CBPA and CSBSSW students will graduate at the 9:00 AM ceremony, while CALE and CSHE students will graduate at the 2:00 PM event. Additional information is available on the commencement website: [http://access.ewu.edu/Records-and-Registration/Graduation/Commencement.xml](http://access.ewu.edu/Records-and-Registration/Graduation/Commencement.xml)

**Updates from the Office of Global Initiatives, the Colleges, and the Library**

EWU faculty, staff, and students can be proud of the strong academic tradition and rich variety of experiences offered by our international initiatives, our academic areas, and J.F.K. Libraries. Selected highlights follow.

**Honors and the Office of Global Initiatives**

Ten EWU students, led by Philosophy Professor Dr. Chris Kirby, participated in EWU’s inaugural study-abroad experience in China during spring break 2012. This one-credit, faculty-led program was jointly administered by the EWU Honors’ Program and the Office of Global Initiatives (OGI) and provided EWU its first institutional opportunity to reciprocate a strategic study-abroad partnership with Chinese 1+2+1 Sino-American Dual Degree Program institutions.

During their eleven-day journey, students climbed the Great Wall of China, strolled Tian’anmen Square and the Forbidden City in Beijing, saw the Terra Cotta Warriors in Xi’an, walked the ancient streets and the Lingering Gardens of Suzhou, also known as the “Venice of the East”, took in the picturesque sites of the West Lake in Hangzhou, and experienced the international culture of Shanghai.

The value of the program was significantly enhanced by Dr. Kirby’s expertise in the history of philosophy and specifically, ancient Chinese thought. Students were given historical and philosophical insights into the ancient Lingering Gardens in Suzhou and the boat excursion at the West Lake in Hangzhou that brought these ancient treasures to life.
“This effort reminds us of how powerful we can be when students, faculty, the Office of Global Initiatives, the Honors’ Program, and the Office of Academic Affairs join together to enhance the EWU learning experience,” said Dr. Dana Elder, Honors’ Program director.

Travel was arranged and supported by a third-party program provider that offered turn-key logistics, 24/7 on-site risk management support, knowledgeable tour guides, and five-star accommodations. Engaging a third party allowed OGI to set a program price of less than $2,000 per person, to include international airfare and three domestic flights in China.

**EWU faculty, staff, and students are cordially invited to meet program participants and hear their stories on Thursday, May 17th at 2:00 PM in the Honors Lounge, 215 Hargreaves Hall.**

---

**College of Letters, Arts and Education — CALE**

More than 100 acting principals and school administrators in Washington State are graduates of CALE’s Educational Leadership program.

Other CALE alumni of distinction include Jess Walter (BA, Journalism, 1987), author of five books awarded or nominated for honors including the National Book Award; Shann Ferch (MFA, 2005), who in 2011 was awarded a $25,000 Literature fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts; and Bryce Woodworth (BA, Film, 2007), who, as an EWU senior, produced Colville musician Jim Boyd’s music video “Inchelium.” The piece won Best Short Form Music Video/DVD at the 2007 Native American Music Awards.

Creative Writing faculty member Greg Spatz was awarded a $25,000 Literature Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2011. Creative Writing faculty have widely published in such publications as *O, The Oprah Magazine, The Journal of the American Medical Association*, and the University of Iowa, University of Nebraska, University of Washington, and Carnegie Mellon University Presses.

Now in its fourteenth year, the Get Lit! Festival has brought to the Spokane region headlining authors like Jane Smiley, Tim O’Brien, and Richard Russo for workshops and local readings. The fourteenth annual festival featured authors Jess Walter (*Beautiful Ruins*), Susan Orlean (*Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend*), and former Poet Laureate Ted Kooser (*Delights and Shadows*).

One-third of Spokane Symphony members are either alumni of EWU’s Music Department or EWU Music faculty. At Eastern, “Jazz Dialogues” brings 1,000 secondary students each year to attend workshops with EWU Music Department faculty and guests and to perform in concerts.

On the road in 2011, EWU’s symphonic choir performed in the East Coast premier of Vijay Singh’s new mass at Lincoln Center under Music faculty member Kristina Ploeger’s direction.

---

**College of Business and Public Administration — CBPA**

CBPA was featured in the 2011 edition of The Princeton Review’s annual guidebook, “The Best 300 Business Schools.”

Notable MBA alumni are Rob Neilson (1983), former chief executive officer of Itron; Zach Davis (2003), vice president of business and commercial banking for Regions Bank (Texas); and Leo Stevens (2008), part owner of Infinetix Corporation.
Roberta Brook, MBA director, is president of the Friends of KSPS Public Television board of directors.

Professor Pamela Stanley-Weigand, director of the Business Education Program, is the 2012 president of the Washington State Business Education Association and an invited speaker at the regional conference in California and the national conference in Boston.

An article by Bruce Teague, Damon Aiken, and George Watson: “Consequences of Employee Perceived Breach of the Consumer’s Psychological Contract,” was selected as the Distinguished Research Contribution by the Academy of Culture, Conflict, and Communications at the conference in Las Vegas, Nevada in October 2011.

Faculty member Vince Pascal (Marketing) has been selected as the 2011 – 2013 chair of the Special Interest Group on Entrepreneurial Marketing for the American Marketing Association.

The EWU Business Program, through the efforts of Professor Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management, has been invited to become an affiliate with the Harvard Business School Microeconomics of Competitiveness (MOC) course. The main topics of the course are:

- Firms, Industries and Cross-Border Competition;
- Locations and Clusters;
- Policies for Nations and Regions;
- Advanced Topics: Attracting Foreign Investments; and
- The Process of Economic Development.

College of Science, Health and Engineering — CSHE

In April, EWU hosted a regional FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). Approximately 45 high-school teams registered to compete, including last year’s FRC world champion team. Hosting this event was a unique opportunity for EWU to engage in student recruitment in the STEM fields as well as networking with technology businesses in the region.

In Nov 2011, Computer Science served as a host site for the Association of Computing Machinery's Pacific Region Programming Contest. EWU took first place among the on-site teams, which included Washington State University, University of Idaho, Gonzaga University, and Whitworth University. Simon Fraser University was sufficiently impressed with EWU’s performance to invite EWU to compete at its local contest, which includes world-class competitors from the University of British Columbia, University of California-Berkeley, and Stanford University.

The Department of Physical Therapy has been working with local community health clinics to provide physical therapy services to low-income families and local businesses, such as Yokes Supermarkets, to help reduce the rate of work-related injuries.

CSHE’s Dental Hygiene Clinic at EWU-Spokane (Riverpoint campus) served more than 6,800 patients last year by providing dental services to uninsured patients. The department’s Kid’s Day clinics provide free and low-cost comprehensive dental services to low-income children (usually about $30,000 worth of services a day). The department also hosted a dental camp to introduce K-8 students from under-served populations to the health sciences.
In addition to its community outreach programs, the Department of Dental Hygiene has become the national expert in the use of simulation (SimMan) for medical emergencies in dentistry.

**College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work — CSBSSW**

Thomas Hampson (BA, Government, 1992), an internationally known opera singer, is considered one of America’s leading operatic baritones. The 2003 recording of Wagner’s *Tannhäuser*, for which Hampson sang the lead baritone role, received a Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording.

Since 2008, more than 25 CSBSSW students have attended the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

For 2011 – 2012, the Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program (CWTAP) received federal and state funding for $1.7 million, and the Idaho Children’s Welfare Research and Training Center (ICWRTC) received federal and state funding for $1.1 million.

School of Social Work personnel are currently working on agreements with the Children’s Administration in the state of Washington and the University of Washington to become a training hub for the eastern side of the state.

*Winds of Change* magazine, published by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, has honored EWU in its Top 200 List for Native American programs. Eastern’s American Indian Studies’ Program made the list for the first time based on graduation rates and services offered for indigenous students, including scholarships and support services.

**John F. Kennedy Memorial Library — JFK**

Recent campus climate data indicate that the Library is viewed as a source of strength on the Cheney campus. Use of J.F.K. Library in the current academic year (July - January) is up from 34,000 to 36,000 people per month. With increased accountability at the federal and state levels, but more importantly, in view of a renewed commitment to student success, a unique opportunity for innovation in the Library has arisen.

JFK Library and the EWU Writers’ Center began conversations about collaborating to combine resources in the Library to create a multi-literacy center to better reflect a student-centered learning environment with inviting, comfortable spaces and places that extend and complement the classroom experience of students in seeking and creating information.

Other EWU constituents (e.g., General Undergraduate Academic Advising, the ASEWU, Libraries’ Faculty, the MARS Lab, the Math Lab, and the PLUS program) expressed interest in joining the conversation about a learning commons. A working group crafted the following draft introduction and mission statement:

> The Eastern Washington University Learning Commons is a comfortable, student-centered environment focused on academic exploration. The Learning Commons fosters a community of inquiry where learning becomes creativity and where intellectual growth is promoted through the social construction of knowledge. The Learning Commons is grounded in the University’s mission: “EWU expands opportunities for personal transformation through excellence in learning.”
With this in mind EWU’s Learning Commons’ mission is to provide a collaborative intellectual setting that inspires excellence in learning. EWU’s Learning Commons will achieve this mission by:

• Expanding learning opportunities for all students regardless of their academic development.
• Fostering undergraduate and graduate research; student and faculty interactions; and extending learning beyond the classroom.
• Providing spaces and places for the university community to come together and support learning goals and practical outcomes.
• Promoting the practice of successful critical thinking and communication skills.
• Complementing curricular development.

ASEWU officers Oscar Ocaña and Eric Palomino have taken the draft mission and vision statements to the Associated Students for further discussion and revision.

In Closing …

Despite all ongoing challenges, Academic Affairs is finding ways to sustain our commitment to academic excellence. As you can see, there are a number of important projects in progress: I look forward to seeing these come to fruition and the results they will have on improving the educational experience for our students. I hope you have a very successful spring term, and I look forward to working with you to further our goals.

Best wishes,

[Signature]