

Academic Affairs: Update—Winter 2014

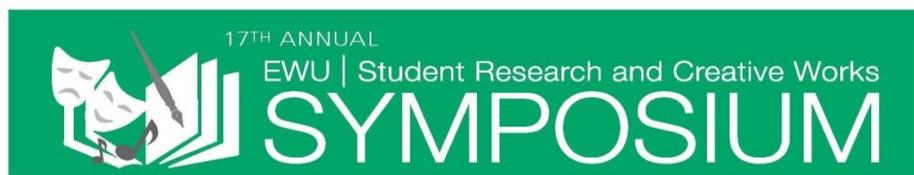
A newsletter published by the provost for the faculty and staff of Eastern Washington University

Provost's Message

March is flying by; the end of the quarter is at hand, and winter's grip is slowly easing its hold on our region. Academic year 2013-14 is moving forward at a record pace with many new initiatives. In this edition of the Newsletter you will see an update on the progress that we are making on reforming general education. This task force is led by Mindy Breen and Kevin Decker, and they deserve our heartfelt thanks for their dedication to the collaborative process that has been used. I am pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees approved the formation of a new college, the College of Health Science and Public Health. The college will include programs in health science and the new Master's in Public Health. With arrival of spring we look forward to the annual Student Research and Creative Work Symposium. Additionally, we are sending more than 40 students to the University of Kentucky for the NCUR 2014 conference. And our countdown to NCUR 2015 continues! Finally, I am pleased to report that we are gathering equipment requests from dean and unit heads for funding consideration in 2013-2014.



Thank you for your commitment to academic excellence. I look forward to celebrating the completion of projects-in-progress as they come to fruition and improve the educational experiences of our students.



Seventeenth Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium on Track for May 2014

The Symposium Planning Committee is pleased to announce that Eastern's Seventeenth Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium will be held on Tuesday, May 13, and Wednesday, May 14, 2014. Creative work presentations in visual, written, and performance arts are scheduled for Tuesday evening in the Arts Complex, with oral, interactive, and poster research presentations scheduled throughout the day on Wednesday in Senior Hall and Hargreaves Hall, respectively.

Students may now submit their abstracts via the symposium website at www.ewu.edu/symposium. Please remind students that the deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday, April 11, 2014, in order to be included in this year's symposium.

Faculty play a vital role in the symposium, and all faculty members are encouraged to mentor students who wish to participate. Mentors are expected to advise students in the development of their research or creative projects to ensure high-quality presentations that demonstrate students' knowledge and talent. Questions? Please contact Lindsey Porter, Symposium Coordinator (ewusymposium@ewu.edu 359-6826) or Chris Robbins (crobbs3@ewu.edu/359-4548).

Student Success Update

GERR: The General Education Review and Reform Committee (GERR) completed three open forums as well as utilized a faculty survey to identify broad learning outcomes and skills students will gain in Eastern's new general education experience. The committee's next step will be to develop a conceptual framework that includes these core components. Students have named the new general education program "Critical Foundations."

FYE: Drs. Tom Hawley, Lynn Briggs, and Robin O' Quinn are developing a pilot first-year experience (FYE) program that will integrate university skills into a year-long, linked course experience. Students will take courses in humanities, social science, and natural science, all drawing upon the underlying synergy of a common theme. The goal of this pilot will be to develop a program that can be scaled up in stages.

SSRC: Members of the Student Success and Retention Committee (SSRC), in identifying strategies for enhanced student success in a quarter-system learning environment, have discussed block scheduling as a way to give faculty the opportunity to provide additional high-impact practices in their courses. These opportunities include learning communities, service learning, internships, and additional undergraduate research. In another student-success initiative, SSRC is collaborating with the Strategic Planning Conference Committee to plan the fall 2014 university strategic planning event. Keynote speakers are Drs. John Gardner and Betsy Barefoot, president and vice president of the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. Since 1999, this institute has partnered with colleges and universities nationwide to enhance best practices in student learning, persistence, and completion.



EWU Selected to Host 2015 NCUR

Established in 1987 at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) is dedicated to promoting undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity in all fields of study by sponsoring an annual conference for students. Conference goals are to celebrate and promote undergraduate student achievement; provide models of exemplary research and scholarship; help to improve the state of undergraduate education; and maintain a strong commitment to diversity.

In a nationwide competition, EWU was selected as the 2015 NCUR site and, from April 16 – 18, 2015, will welcome more than 3,000 student participants and 400 faculty mentors from nearly all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, additional U.S. territories, Canada, and other countries worldwide.

For the 2015 conference, faculty networks and colleagues will be needed to review all of the student proposal abstracts submitted. The nationwide call for papers will go out on September 8, 2014; the

deadline for applications and abstracts is December 2, 2014; and registration will open on January 13, 2015. Faculty who have interest in reviewing student proposal abstracts are encouraged to contact Dr. Chuck Lopez, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Student Success (clopez17@ewu.edu/359-2202) or Chris Robbins, NCUR Project Manager (crobbins3@ewu.edu/359-4548).

Summer Research Grants

The purpose of faculty grants for research and creative works is to provide time for faculty to develop and expand new and innovative research projects and creative endeavors. The Research and Scholarship Committee, a sub-committee of FPAC, has selected twenty-six faculty projects for summer 2014 grant support. The immense variety of projects listed below underscores the strength of Eastern's faculty as the originators of scholarship and creative works.

Eric Abbey: Development of New Alkylborohydrides for Organic Synthesis and Hydrogen Fuel Storage

Keith Adolphson: Using Technology to Teach Mathematics – Developing Conceptions

Lynn Briggs and Justin Young: The Relationship between Resilience and Effective Academic Writing in First-Year College Students

Rebecca Brown: Riparian Vegetation Restoration after Dam Removal on the Elwha River, Olympic Peninsula, WA

Nicholas Burgis: Site-directed Mutagenesis of Human ITPase at Amino Acid Position 22

Michael Conlin: The Constitutional Origins of the Civil War

David Daberkow: Determining Placement of Dopamine Microelectrodes in the Rat Brain

Maria Veronica Elias: Integrating Rural Latinos in the Governance Processes – The Ease of Home Visiting in Central Washington State

Peter Fawson: A Modification of an Adolescent Dating Violence Prevention Program through Integration of Participant Feedback

Thomas Hawley: Politics for a Contentious Age – Friedrich Nietzsche and the Recovery of the Tragic Disposition

Jonathan Johnson: Marquette Speaks – Twenty Dramatic Monologue Poems

Joanna Joyner-Matos: Trade-offs between Activity, Reproduction and Survival in Freshwater Clams Exposed to Heavy Metal Pollution from the Coeur d'Alene Drainage

Min-sung Koh: Audio/Speech Enhancement with a Masking Algorithm in Multivariate Empirical Mode Decomposition for Mobile Devices

Paul Lindholdt: The Range of Ecocriticism
Krisztian Magori: Ticks and Tick-borne Pathogens at the Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge

Jamie Manson: Synthesis and Characterization of Molecular Nickel(II)-based Building Blocks for Potential Materials Science Applications

John Marshall: Dances with Friends – A New Compact Disc of Music for Cello, Bassoon, and Other Instruments

Camille McNeely and Carmen Nezat: Tracing Sources and Pathways of Water in Eastern Washington using Stable Isotopes

Gina Petrie: 'Just-in-time' Learning in the Nicaraguan English for Tourism Industry – An Initial Exploration of a New Approach

Chad Pritchard: Deciphering the Cheney Fracture Zone using Fracture Analysis

Paul Schimpf: Speaker Volume Monitor for Parkinson's Patients

Gregory Spatz: A Violin History of the World – a Novel in Progress

Wes Steiner: Human Blood Plasma Treatment Assay for Rheumatoid Arthritis Linked Lymphomas

Dan Tappan: An Exploratory Framework for Introspective Machine Learning of Helicopter Flight Dynamics

Rachel Toor: Abcederian, a Novel

Michael Waldrop: Michael Waldrop's Music for Large Jazz Ensemble



Frances B. Huston Medallion Recognizes Graduating Seniors for Excellence in Academics, Leadership, and Service

Frances Breitweg Huston (pronounced HYOO-stən) was born in Vancouver, Washington on August 13, 1912. She grew up in Portland and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Reed College in 1931 and her Master of Arts in English Literature from the University of Washington (1947/1948). In 1955, Dr. Graham Dressler, Professor of English at what was then Eastern Washington College of Education, offered Ms. Huston a position teaching English and English as a Second Language. Ms. Huston joined the faculty in the fall of 1955 and taught until her retirement in 1975/1976.

Professor Huston had a lifelong commitment to education and helping students. The Frances B. Huston Medallion, established in 1998, recognizes outstanding graduates as it honors Ms. Huston, reflecting her compassion and respect for what education can do for an individual and a community. Colleges and departments will begin the Huston medalist selection process early in spring quarter 2014. To be eligible to receive the award, students must

- ◆ be graduating seniors;
- ◆ have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement with a minimum of a 3.75 GPA in their previous four quarters; and
- ◆ qualify for the award in one or more of the following areas: leadership, service to the university, and/or service to the community.

Trustees Named as Liaisons to the Division of Academic Affairs

In addition to their roles as EWU trustees, BOT liaisons serve as conduits to their assigned divisions and work closely with unit heads to develop relationships, raise questions, and identify and monitor policies. The Division of Academic Affairs welcomes this year's BOT liaisons:



Mr. Uriel Iñiguez, the university's newest trustee, was appointed to the Board as of January 1, 2014. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, with a concentration in Human Resources, from EWU and a master's degree in Public Administration from City University. He has served as the executive director of the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs since 2005. In addition to Mr. Iñiguez, six of his siblings graduated from Eastern Washington University, and his son is a current EWU student. In October 2013, four of the Iñiguez alumni established the Iñiguez Family Endowed Scholarship at Eastern to help first-generation Latino students complete their college degrees.

Mr. Michael O'Donnell is the fifteenth student trustee at EWU. Currently a senior, Mr. O'Donnell is working toward a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. Future plans include developing a non-profit agency for life coaching, located in Cheney, and pursuing a macro political career. Mr. O'Donnell is the past president of EWU's Undergraduate Bachelor of Social Work Club and remains involved in the EWU-Cheney community as a servant leader to organizations such as Feed Cheney and Associated Students of EWU.



Dr. Ron Dalla Continues His Service to Eastern



Dr. Ron Dalla, long-time faculty member and administrator at the university, continues his service to Eastern as Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Accreditation. Until the end of June 2014, Dr. Dalla will be the primary liaison between EWU and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, the regional accrediting agency of postsecondary institutions. In addition, he will oversee specific programmatic self-studies and accreditation processes; monitor state approval procedures for new programs and program changes; supervise the program review process internal to the university, and consult with the Office of Academic Planning, Graduate Programs, Grants, and Institutional Research.

Dr. Dalla came to Eastern in 1970 and, since his arrival, has lent his talents to a variety of initiatives. The list of his service to the university is a long one. Having achieved the rank of Professor of Mathematics in 1978, he served as Chair of the Mathematics Department; as Faculty Athletics' Representative; as Interim Executive Director of the Division of Educational Outreach; as Vice Provost of Faculty Development, of Graduate Education, Research, Academic Planning and Evaluation, and, most recently, of Academic Planning and Accreditation. In addition, Dr. Dalla served as Dean of the Graduate School, as Dean of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies, and as Interim Executive Dean of EWU-Spokane. Dr. Dalla also served as Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Planning is under way for a celebration of Dr. Dalla's service to Eastern. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, May 29, 2014, 2:00 – 5:00 PM in the Hargreaves Reading Room and plan to attend.

The Extended Campus Welcomes Director of Eastern Online



The EWU Extended Campus is pleased to welcome **Timothy L. Snyder**, Ed.D., as the new Director of Eastern Online. Dr. Snyder holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Delaware and a Master of Science in Instructional Technology from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Snyder has held a number of faculty positions in higher education in these areas: Interactive Media Design, Web Design, Graphic Design, and Video Production and brings several years of experience as both a Director of Technology and a Director of Development in private industry. Dr. Snyder will be a key leader in the continued development of Eastern's online programs and presence throughout the state and in the development and growth of the EWU Extended Campus.

Faculty Put Students First with Help from *Start Something Big* Grants

In another granting initiative, The EWU Foundation's *Start Something Big* grant program supports proposals that reflect innovative opportunities for instructional design and delivery; that enhance instruction and provide opportunities to conduct research; that support and enhance the university commitment to the community; and that demonstrate future benefits to Eastern. The Foundation Board reviews proposals three times during each academic year; for winter 2014, the following proposals have been funded:

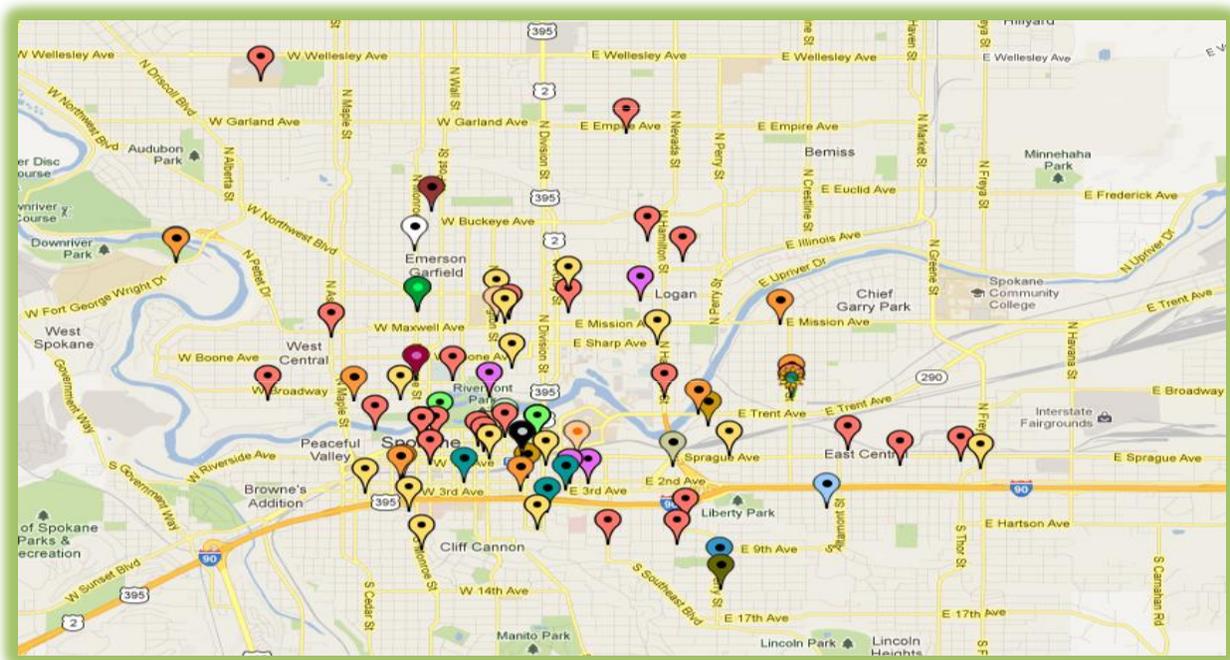


- **Mindy Breen and Ginelle Hustrulid** (Engineering and Design): Supplies for the Inside/Outside Gallery; and materials, fees, and transportation associated with the Creative Coding project.
- **Andrea Castillo** (Biology): Supplies specific to identifying novel intracellular acting Helicobacter Pylori proteins.
- **Tara Haskins and Jane Liu** (Education): Lunches for Logan Elementary School teachers and students participating in the School Partnership project.
- **Melissa Huggins** (College of Arts, Letters and Education): Funding for the 2014 Get Lit! Festival.
- **Donald Richter** (Engineering and Design): Funding in support of the Delta Robot project.
- **Susan Ruby** (Psychology): Instruments for the Martin Hall 141 testing laboratory.
- **Julia Salerno** (Music): Funding in support of the jazz and classical violinist Stanley Chepatis Workshop at EWU.
- **Michael Waldrop** (Music): Equipment for the Steel Drum Ensemble.
- **Sheila Woodward** (Music): Expenses associated with recruiting first-generation Latino and Hispanic students.

Thanks go to Eastern's faculty, who support our students in a variety of original and effective ways.

Faculty Research Focuses on Community Engagement

Communication Studies faculty Heather Robinson, Elizabeth Kissling, and Patricia Chantrill have had a research proposal accepted at the 17th Annual Continuums of Service Conference, to be held in April 2014. Their research, titled *With A Little Help from My Friends: Advancing the Civic Mission in Higher Education through Intra-Departmental Peer Support for Service-Learning Faculty*, presents a strong connection to Eastern's mission and its student success initiatives.



The Office of Community Engagement's partner map highlights local businesses and organizations with which the university has established meaningful, reciprocal partnerships. At Eastern, 63 courses have earned service-learning designations, and these designations will become part of the 2014 – 2015 undergraduate and graduate catalog. Also, please mark your calendars: a service-learning institute has been scheduled for June 16 and 17, 2014, and the Office of Community Engagement will sponsor twenty faculty members to attend. For additional information, please contact Community Engagement Director Ms. Molly Ayers (mayers1@mayers1@ewu.edu/359-2792).