

the Reporter



News for the Faculty and Staff of Western Carolina University

It's More Than a Name Change

Information Technology Describes Priorities— Resources, Strategic Planning, Expansion

Communication and information access by computers has become an integral part of campus life at Western—for students, faculty, and staff. To help make sense of this rapidly expanding tool, Tom Franke, chief information officer, is developing plans for a new division that will encompass all aspects of information technology campus-wide.

“In recent years, the university has moved into a networked environment with pervasive technology,” said Franke. “In order to get the greatest value from our networked resources, we need a strategic technology plan that helps us to prioritize and prepare for the future. The new division will help us to create a reliable, comprehensive information technology environment to enhance teaching, learning, services, and business operations. This will be possible only if we address support needs, as well as hardware and software replacement, on a campus-wide basis.”

The Office of the CIO is now located in 106B Outreach Center, next to the Developmental Evaluation Center. In addition to Tom Franke, the office includes Jenny Owen, Barbara Ashe, and Debbie Justice, who will be assisting with planning and resource management.

Administrative Programming

The administrative programming unit headed by Edna Waldrop is still located in Forsyth Building. This group is working to implement the latest version of the Campus Pipeline portal for use by students and faculty.

The group also is analyzing the possibility of updating the university's business systems to SCT Banner, a fully integrated database system. This is a multi-campus project initiated by the Shared Services Alliance in The University of North Carolina Office of the President. If the project is approved, it will involve thirteen UNC campuses working together over a five-year period to implement the Banner program. All major business systems would be affected—student information, financial records, alumni, admissions, human resources, and financial aid.

Network Services

Scott Swartzentruber has been appointed acting manager of the systems, networking, and operations unit. This unit is responsible for maintaining the campus-wide data network, including the campus fiber-optic structure and the network servers. Other functions under this unit include systems programming, operation of the central computer systems for academic and administrative use, and ResNet.

A significant change in the networking area is the installation of a new connection to the Internet that will be operational by the start of the fall semester. The new connection is provided by DukeNet and will give the campus a “pipe” that is more than three times bigger and faster than the current connection. This high-speed connection will be very useful to faculty and students who want to do research over the Internet2 Abilene research network. WCU now has access to Abilene through membership in the Internet2 Sponsored Education Group Participants (SEGP) program.

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Award Presentation

Chancellor John Bardo presents Shirley Bateman her award as Outstanding Support Staff person. The honor was announced during the annual Service Awards ceremonies earlier this summer. Bateman was nominated for her work as the office assistant in elementary and middle grades education. She now works in the Division of Advancement and External Affairs.

Season Tickets Provide Best Deal

Theatre Season Offers Exciting Variety

Cullowhee may be a few miles from Broadway, but the lights shine brightly as the University Players offer evenings at the theatre with comedy, music, drama, and mystery during the 2002-2003 main stage theatrical season.

Tartuffe (The Hypocrite) by Moliere, translated and adapted by Ranjit Bolt, will be presented evenings September 25-28, with September 28 and 29 matinees. Moliere's comic masterpiece will be directed by Claire Eye with a delightfully modern twist.

A contemporary spin illustrates that a centuries-old play is still relevant. A family falls for a smooth-talking preacher who disrupts their lives and cheats them out of their money. The only way to salvage family and fortune is to expose the hypocrite for what he is—a devious scoundrel.

The Kentucky Cycle by Robert Shenkkan details 200 years of Kentucky history as seen through the eyes of three families. Winner of the 1992 Pulitzer Prize, the play blends nine short plays into a sweeping epic beginning in 1775 when Cherokee hunters roamed the hills of the Cumberland Gap. Michael Rowen, an indentured servant from Ireland, watches his wife and children massacred by Indians. In return, he sets in motion a legacy of corruption that will curse his valley and its people for generations. This is a tale of greed, sacrifice, murder, and betrayal. Stephen Michael Ayers will direct this play, which is divided into two parts. Part 1 is offered November 16 and 17 at 2 p.m. and November 20, 22, and 23 at 7:30 p.m. Part 2 is presented November 16, 17, and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and November 23 and 24 at 2 p.m.

The third main stage production of the season will be *The Fantasticks* by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, February 26–March 1 evenings with matinees March 1 and 2. The longest-running, most frequently produced musical ever will be directed by Dennis Jackson, who holds the new endowed professorship in musical theatre. *The Fantasticks* showcases

a number of familiar show tunes, including “Try To Remember.” Fathers meddle to make sure their children fall in love, including a phony kidnapping so the boy next door can be a hero and rescue his neighbor. Trouble ensues when the young lovers find out they have been manipulated.

The final production is the light-hearted spoof *Sinners* by Norm Foster, April 23–26 evenings with April 26 and 27 matinees. Directed by Steve Carlisle, this comedy/mystery has it all—love, lust, death, and deception. She's beautiful, she's sexy, and she's married—to the preacher. There is her affair, a case of mistaken identity, murder times two, and a host of nosey parishioners and neighbors, all with their own little secrets. It's a funny, who-done-it, dark comedy.

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. with weekend matinees at 2 p.m. All productions are staged in Hoey Auditorium.

The Theatre Patron Club offers multiple tickets for all main and second stage productions (depending on the level of membership) along with the opportunity to meet the cast and crew at a reception in the Hospitality Room of the Ramsey Center after the opening night performance of each main stage production. Club memberships start at \$250 for two tickets. Proceeds from the Theatre Patron Club memberships provide special support for the University Players' activities.

Season tickets for the four productions are a special price of \$40 for Western faculty and staff, instead of the regular season ticket price of \$50. Regular at-the-door prices are \$12.50 for adults for each of the non-musicals and \$15 for *The Fantasticks*. Student tickets are \$6 each.

For more information, to become a member of the Patron Club, or to purchase season tickets, call the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts at 227-7491.

Information Technology continued from page 1

Client Services

This area has been reorganized into two new areas:

—Information Technology (IT) Services

Dixie Lawson is the manager of this new unit and is responsible for operating the Help Desk, conducting IT workshops, and providing desktop support and consulting services. New Help Desk software and a new phone system are being implemented that will help IT services respond more effectively to calls. Callers will be asked various questions in order for staff to handle the call appropriately. This information also will let staff members collect data on the types of calls

coming into the unit.

—Academic Computing Support Services and Computer Repairs

The academic computing support services staff will focus on assisting instructional users on campus. Faith Dabney has been appointed acting manager of this unit. This area includes management of the general student computer labs and the electronic classrooms. Computer repairs, currently part of this new unit, will continue to provide services for all university-owned IT equipment, not just instructional IT hardware. Jeff Kiska from Hunter Library

will serve as interim lab coordinator.

“During the fall semester, we will be seeking input on how to best implement these changes in order to support university needs,” said Franke.

Information Technology Phone Numbers

Office of Chief Information Officer
Tom Franke: 227-7282

IT Services
Questions/Staff: 227-7ITS (7487)

WCU Calendar

August 12-25, 2002

Look for regular updates on the university's Web site at www.wcu.edu/cal.html

Monday, August 12

New faculty orientation, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., beginning in MHC auditorium. (227-7495)

Tuesday, August 13

New faculty orientation, 9–11 a.m., 1–3 p.m., and 3:15–5 p.m., 105 and 202 Coulter. (227-7495)

Wednesday, August 14

New faculty orientation, 9 a.m.–noon and 1:30–4:30 p.m., Room 186, Hunter Library. (227-7495)

Thursday, August 15

Reception and general faculty meeting, 8:30–11 a.m., RH. (227-7100)

Deans' meetings with department heads, 1–4 p.m. (227-7495)

Part-time faculty orientation, 1–5 p.m., MHC. (227-7495)

Registration in Asheville, 3–6 p.m., Karpen Hall. (828-251-6642)

Friday, August 16

College faculty meetings, 9:30–11 a.m.

Departmental faculty meetings, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Open faculty assembly, 1:30–3 p.m., Killian 104. (227-7495)

Saturday, August 17

Residence halls open to freshmen only. (227-7303)

Saturday, August 17– Sunday, August 18

Orientation—for new students. (227-7234)

Sunday, August 18

Orientation—for transfer students. (227-7234)

Residence halls open for all students. (227-7303)

Advising for transfer students, 10:30–11:30 a.m. (227-7170)

Registration for transfer students, 11:30 a.m. (227-7232)

Advising for freshmen, 2:30–3:30 p.m. (227-7170)

Registration for freshmen, 3:30 p.m. (227-7232)

Monday, August 19

New graduate student orientation, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m., RH. (227-7398)

Registration and drop/add in Cullowhee, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (227-7232)

Workshop—graduate teaching assistants, 1:30–3 p.m., RH. (227-7398)

Valley Ballyhoo, 5 p.m., UC lawn. (227-7206)

Classes begin, 5 p.m.

Thursday, August 22

Faculty Senate meeting, 3–5 p.m., Hospitality Room, RRAC. (227-3321)

Friday, August 23

New faculty orientation, 3:15–5 p.m., Hospitality Room, RRAC. (227-7495)

Sunday, August 25

Spring into Summer program—A natural history series for children and adults presents “Bugs in the Creek.” No charge, but reservations required, 2:30 p.m., MHC. (227-7129)

Reporter Now Web Accessible

Starting with this issue, the *Reporter* will be accessible online along with printed copies that are distributed on campus. When possible, the online version will feature color photos. A campus-wide e-mail will be sent indicating the new issue is available and a link will be provided. You also may reach the newsletter from the Western homepage through news and publications.

Submissions:

Send news items and calendar notices to *WCU Calendar*, 1601 Ramsey Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina 28723 or e-mail to Reporter@email.wcu.edu.

Submit items for the university's calendar online at least one week prior to the event.

★★★ Now Showing ★★★

Exhibitions:

North Carolina Women Making History, the trials, triumphs, and changing roles of women during the past 400 years. Through May 2003. MHC. (227-7129)

Let's Play, a look back at the ways Americans enjoyed leisure time at the turn of the twentieth century. Through September 6. MHC. (227-7129)

Migration of the Scotch-Irish People. (permanent exhibition). Information, illustrations, artifacts, and murals. MHC. (227-7129)

Key: \$ - Admission fee; HA - Hoey Auditorium; HFR - H.F. Robinson Administration Building; HS/CF - Hennon Stadium/Childress Field; MHC - Mountain Heritage Center; NSA - Natural Sciences Auditorium; RRAC - Ramsey Regional Activity Center; RH - Recital Hall, Coulter Building; BB - Belk Building; UC - A.K. Hinds University Center; UOC - University Outreach Center; WS/BW - Whitmire Stadium/Bob Waters Field; SSF - Shrader Soccer Field.

Police, Traffic Office Moved; Vehicles Need Parking Permits

The operational office for university police and traffic services has moved to the ground floor of the H.F. Robinson Administration Building in preparation for renovations at the Jordan-Phillips Fieldhouse.

University police will be occupying the space formerly utilized by auxiliary services, and traffic services will be located in what was the mail room. Renovations of the fieldhouse are anticipated to be completed next summer. With the move, university police has expanded the visitor and short-term parking area located beside the Mountain Heritage Center to accommodate police vehicles and traffic customers. Additional spaces were added in the lot, so no spaces were lost. Police will strictly enforce parking in the visitor and short-term parking spaces, said Gene McAbee, director of university police and traffic services.

Reminder

Vehicle registration continues through the beginning of the fall

semester. New parking permits must be displayed on your car by 8 a.m., Thursday, August 22. Parking permits are \$40 for faculty and staff, and a transferrable permit is an additional \$1 for each additional vehicle. Drivers must provide auto insurance information per new state law.

Silent Meditation Group To Begin Sessions

Counseling and Psychological Services will begin offering weekly, half-hour meditation sessions for beginning and experienced meditation practitioners starting Thursday, September 12.

Focus of the group is silent sitting practice. Meditation may be used for relaxation, stress management, or spiritual practice. The group meets Thursdays, 12:15–12:45 p.m., at the Counseling Center in 116B Scott Hall. The first session will include half an hour of instruction for beginners. For more information, call Beth Johnson at 227-7206 or June Wytock at 227-7469.

2002 Faculty and Staff Fund Drive Celebrates Success

Thanks to the generosity of the Western family, the 2002 Faculty and Staff Fund Drive was deemed a huge success. Overall participation increased from 28 percent to 31 percent with more than \$100,000 raised for the university.

“We are thrilled with this year’s increase,” says Tori Ellison, director of annual giving. “It is wonderful to see that so many faculty and staff members believe in and support Western”

While the 2002 Faculty and Staff Fund Drive has come to a close, a contribution to support a program, department, or college is always welcome. Contributions can be made at any time during the year—including payroll deduction. For more information, contact University Advancement at 227-7124.

The Reporter is published by the Office of Public Information. Debie Connelly, editor. Mail faculty/staff notes, events, notices, and changes of address to *The Reporter*, 1601 Ramsey Center, or send them via e-mail to Reporter@email.wcu.edu.

The
Reporter

Office of Public Information
Publications Unit
1601 Ramsey Center
Cullowhee, North Carolina 28723

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