

the Reporter



News for the Faculty and Staff of Western Carolina University

Entrepreneurship Graduate Program Named National Model By USASBE

Western's Master of Entrepreneurship Program claimed first place in a recent nationwide competition sponsored by the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

The USASBE, which is regarded as the oldest and most prestigious organization for entrepreneurship education in the country, presented the award to Western's program during the association's annual national conference, held Jan. 13-16 in Indian Wells, Calif.

Representing Western at the competition were Jim and JoAnn Carland, the husband-and-wife team who envisioned and developed Western's undergraduate and graduate degree programs in entrepreneurship.

"The Carlands had an outstanding submission. It was very innovative, yet comprehensive, detailed and well thought out," said Robin Anderson of the University of Portland and vice president of the USASBE entrepreneurship education division, who presented the award.

"Rather than just adapt an MBA program to accommodate entrepreneurship students, Jim and JoAnn did extensive work in creating an entire master's program focused on how best to educate graduate students preparing to begin entrepreneurial activities," Anderson said. "The judges selected this program as a national model for universities that are developing graduate programs in entrepreneurship."



Jim and JoAnn Carland teach a class in entrepreneurship.

The designation of Western's program as a national model comes less than two years after the program's inception. The honor also comes just one year after Western, home of the nation's only Master of Entrepreneurship Program, finished second to Harvard University in the 2004 USASBE competition.

"Western's M.E. program has quickly established itself as a national model in entrepreneurship education," Anderson said. "This is quite an accomplishment for a program that is still in its

continued on page 2

Chancellor Seeks To Improve Campus Communication

All Western Carolina employees will have a chance during the spring semester to sit down with the two highest-ranking administrators at the university as part of a renewed effort to improve campus communication.

Beginning Tuesday, Feb. 1, and continuing through the end of the spring semester, Chancellor John Bardo and Provost Kyle Carter will be meeting with every academic and administrative division on campus.

"As our campus continues to grow, so grows the faculty and staff," Bardo said. "It's more important now than ever before to be sure the lines of communication are open and that all members of the Western family know that their voices are being heard. These

meetings are designed to be a true dialogue, and not simply the chancellor and the provost talking about the direction of the university. We plan to listen. We want to hear the concerns of faculty and staff."

The meetings will be scheduled in two-hour blocks. The first hour will include deans, directors and department heads. During the second hour, they will be joined by remaining staff or faculty within the respective divisions.

Abdul Turay, dean of research and graduate studies, and Patricia Brown, dean of distance and continuing education, also will participate in the meetings with the academic divisions.

The schedule for spring semester:
Administrative Divisions: Advancement and External Affairs, Tuesday, Feb. 1,

10 a.m.-noon; Chancellor's Division, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 3-5 p.m.; Student Affairs, Friday, Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-noon; Academic Affairs, Wednesday, March 9, 3-5 p.m.; Administration and Finance, Tuesday, April 19, 3-5 p.m.; and Information Technology, Wednesday, April 20, 10 a.m.-noon.

Colleges (All college-level meetings will be from 3-5 p.m.): Applied Sciences - Tuesday, Feb. 1; Business, Thursday, Feb. 3; Education and Allied Professions, Tuesday, March 15; Arts and Sciences, Tuesday, March 22; and Library, Tuesday, March 29.

The locations of the meetings will vary. For more information, contact your dean or division head.

SPA Compensation Adjustments Approved

There'll be a little something extra in the January paycheck for about 35 percent of Western's staff, thanks to in-range salary adjustments made following a campuswide study of SPA salaries.

The adjustments are the result of a university effort to help improve compensation for SPA staff members who have endured heavier workloads with very little improvement in compensation over the past several years, said Kathy Wong, director of human resources.

Eligible employees will receive a minimum annual increase of \$120, retroactive to July 1, 2004. The increase will be pro-rated for eligible part-time employees.

"Although they are modest, the increases should reinforce the notion that the university truly values its hard-working and loyal staff members," Wong said. "We are trying to do everything within our power to address the compensation concerns of our SPA workers."

Compensation has become a concern for many staff members because of the different way that salaries are funded for SPA and EPA employees, she said.

"SPA employees are subject to the State Personnel Act, and their salaries are set by the General Assembly. EPA faculty and non-faculty employees are exempt from the State Personnel Act, and salaries are set by The University of North Carolina system," Wong said. "SPA employee compensation levels and rules are set by state government. We have no control over these processes, and this severely limits what we can do to improve compensation for SPA employees."

In an effort to help staff members, Chancellor John Bardo requested in 2004 that a portion of the local tuition charge paid by Western students be used to address SPA salary concerns, and the university's Board of Trustees unanimously endorsed the proposal. The University of North Carolina Board of Governors denied the request, however, saying that local tuition could be used only for EPA salary increases.

Bardo and Chuck Wooten, vice chancellor for administration and finance, identified \$125,000 in funding from unfilled positions that could be used for SPA salary adjustments, and asked the university's Staff Forum for recommendations on how that money should be allocated.

After several weeks of study, Staff Forum recommended salary increases for SPA employees with a minimum of three years of state service as of November 2004, and whose salary is below the UNC system average for similar positions.

Bardo said he will continue to lobby the legislature for support for increased salaries for all university employees, and will ask Terry Riouff, chair of the Staff Forum, to join him in meetings with local legislators.

"We appreciate the fact that the chancellor has been willing to go to bat on behalf of the staff, and we are thankful for his continued efforts to address the problem of inadequate compensation," Riouff said. "I look forward to working with him to convince the folks in Raleigh that the needs of university employees must be addressed."

Entrepreneurship Program

continued from page 1

infancy."

Western offers its graduate curriculum in entrepreneurship as an Internet-based distance education program and as a traditional residential program. The university also offers an undergraduate program in entrepreneurship, the first in North Carolina.

The entrepreneurship degree programs are designed to address a critical need across North Carolina for sustainable economic development through successful business start-ups by developing students' entrepreneurial abilities, one of the most frequently cited requirements for a successful career in business and for a healthy and robust economy.

Economists estimate that up to 60 percent of new jobs in North Carolina are created by owners of small businesses. Programs such as Western's are designed to help provide those skills, said Leroy Kauffman, dean of Western's College of Business.

For more information about the Master of Entrepreneurship Program, call 227-3386 or click on <http://online.wcu.edu/entrepreneurship>.

Lofquist Named Associate Vice Chancellor

Western alumna Beth Tyson Lofquist, a faculty member in the College of Education and Allied Professions since 1988, has been named to the position of associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Lofquist, who has served as head of the department of birth through kindergarten, elementary and middle grades education since 2002, began her duties in the Office of the Provost effective Monday, Jan. 24. She will continue in her role as department head through June 30.

In her new role, she will be responsible for overseeing university educational policy, curriculum development, academic scheduling and programming, academic program review, accreditation issues, strategic planning, institutional assessment and faculty development. Lofquist also will coordinate the university's liberal studies program, academic affairs grant programs and new faculty orientation, and will be responsible for overseeing publication of the undergraduate catalog and faculty handbook.

She holds three degrees from Western – a bachelor's degree in early childhood

education, received in 1978; master's in early childhood education, 1979; and educational specialist degree in intermediate education, 1988. She earned her doctorate in curriculum and teaching from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1997.

"We were seeking a dynamic individual with the leadership qualities necessary to be able to work effectively with faculty members, deans and departments across all academic disciplines," Provost Kyle Carter said in announcing the appointment. "Her career as an educator in the classroom, her experience as an administrator and her lengthy association with the university make Dr. Lofquist the perfect choice to support faculty in their various roles, as well as to provide administrative oversight to academic programs and policies. Beth's interpersonal skills and can-do attitude will serve her well as associate vice chancellor."



Beth Tyson Lofquist

January

Monday, January 31

Presentation—Rodney B. Lewis, the attorney who represented the Gila River Indian Community, discusses the settlement of a legal dispute over Colorado River water. 6 p.m. Conference Room A, Ginger Lynn Welch Building, Cherokee. (227-3841)

February

Tuesday, February 1

Presentation—*Mirror-Mirror: A Reflective Journey into the Awareness of Prejudice*. Mark Benn, professor of psychology, Colorado State University, presents a unique blend of self-disclosure and supportive challenge to assist individuals in beginning to explore personal prejudices. 7–8:30 p.m., plus 30-minute open discussion time. Theater, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7206)

Multi-media concert—*Ask Your Mama: Twelve Moods for Jazz*. Scholar John Wright from the University of Minnesota and the Ron McCurdy Quartet will perform work by Langston Hughes accompanied by a live jazz quartet and video images of the Harlem Renaissance by African-American artists and photographers. 2005 Black History Month event. Free. 7 p.m. Grandroom, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-2276)

Catamount Concert Series—Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet, performing works from classical music by Renwick, Ewazen, and Holst; early music arranged by Allan Dean; and jazz by Gillis and Lew Pollack. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7242)

Wednesday, February 2

Appalachian Cultural Lunchtime Series—Poets Jane Hicks, *Blood and Bone Remember*, and Diane Fisher, *Copper Bottom*. Attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Co-sponsored by Ron Rash, Parris Professor of Appalachian Cultural Studies. 12:15 p.m. Auditorium, Mountain Heritage Center, Robinson Administration Building. (227-7129)

Open forum—faculty discussion of ideas to use in developing new set of instruments for student assessment of classes. 3:30–5 p.m. Multipurpose Room, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7415) Continued Feb. 3.

Thursday, February 3

Films That Matter—*Children of Paradise* (Marcel Carne, 1945). 6 p.m. Room 130, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-2324)

Old-time Music and Bluegrass Jam—local musicians share tunes and techniques while enjoying old-time and bluegrass music. 7–9 p.m. Mountain Heritage Center, Robinson Administration Building. (227-7129)

WCU Calendar

Jan. 31 - Feb. 13

Black Theatre Ensemble—*Riff Raff*, by Laurence Fishburne, a gritty, intense, and engaging tale. Contains strong language and adult content. Fund-raising event for Western's Black Theatre Ensemble. Admission: \$5. 7:30 p.m. Hoey Auditorium. (227-2612)

Thursday, February 3–

Saturday, February 5

Film—*Ray*. Admission: \$2 with student identification; \$4 without student identification (includes small soda and popcorn). Through February 5. 9 p.m. Theater, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7206)

Friday, February 4

Talent show—*Cullowhee Idol*, campus version of the popular *American Idol* show. Grand prize \$300. Open auditions 6–10 p.m. to be televised later on Channel 62. Grandroom, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-2616)

Sunday, February 6

Arti-Facts!—series designed for children ages 6 through 12 to explore our natural and cultural heritage presents *With Pen and Ink*. No admission charge, but reservations required. 2:30–3:30 p.m. Mountain Heritage Center, Robinson Administration Building. (227-7129)

Southern Circuit Film Series—filmmaker Jan Krawitz's *Big Enough*, a unique perspective on the lives of several dwarves 20 years after they appeared in the 1982 film *Little People*. Free. Director will be present to discuss the film. 7 p.m. Theater, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7206)

Monday, February 7

Lady Catamount basketball—vs. East Tennessee State. Southern Conference game. 5 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (227-7338)

Catamount basketball—vs. Appalachian State. Southern Conference game. 7 p.m. Ramsey Regional Activity Center. (227-7338)

Tuesday, February 8

Catamount Concert Series—Shannon Thompson, clarinet, and Alan Mattingly, horn. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7242)

Wednesday, February 9

Appalachian Folklife Series—Historian Victoria Casey McDonald of Sylva presents a program on the history of regional African-Americans. 6:30 p.m. Auditorium, Mountain Heritage Center. (227-7129)

Thursday, February 10

Workshop—van safety; required for all employees, including student employees, to be eligible to drive 15-passenger vans. Registration required. 2:30–4:30 p.m. Tom Young Room, Field House. (<http://www.wcu.edu/hr/training/personal.asp>)

Films That Matter—*Citizen Kane* (Orson Welles, 1941). 6 p.m. Room 130, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-2324)

Traditional Dance—informal traditional dance gathering. No dancing experience necessary; square dancers and buck dancers invited to teach steps to other participants. 7–9 p.m. Grandroom, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7129 or 227-7206)

Thursday, February 10–

Saturday, February 12

Film—*SpongeBob SquarePants*. Admission: \$2 with student identification; \$4 without student identification (includes small soda and popcorn). 9 p.m. Theater, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-7206)

Friday, February 11–Saturday, February 12

All-District Band Festival. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7242)

Friday, February 11–Monday, February 14

Display—internationally acclaimed Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, memorial to individuals who have died of AIDS. Grandroom, A.K. Hinds University Center. (227-3618 or 227-3982)

MOUNTAIN HERITAGE
CULLOWHEE, NORTH CAROLINA CENTER

Slideshow Spotlight

Going Places: Travel and Tourism in Western North Carolina portrays the history of the tourism industry that developed in the early 19th century.

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 online calendar at least one week prior to the event.

WCU Newsfile

▲ **Nicholas Allmendinger**, visiting assistant professor in geosciences and natural resource management, has an article about the influence of riparian vegetation on stream width in the January-February issue of *GSA Bulletin*, published by the Geological Society of America.

▲ **Chris Dahlquist**, training and development coordinator, received professional certification as training manager/director from Langevin Learning Services, the world's largest train-the-trainer company. Certification through Langevin is widely recognized by private and public organizations that provide ongoing training to employees.

▲ **Mariea Caudill Dennison**, art historian and lecturer, authored an article in the September issue of *The Burlington Magazine*, published in London. The article details Dennison's findings concerning *Americaine*, a work by French artist Francis Picabia.

▲ **Tom Franke**, chief information officer, was awarded a grant to participate in the *SC2004* supercomputing conference held in Pittsburgh last November. Funding was provided by grants to the UNC Office of

Information Resources. The grant's purpose was to help technology leaders understand the support needed for high performance computing in academic research and instruction.

▲ **Stan Hammer**, database administrator in the department of applications, development and support, gave a presentation on reporting services at the UNC CAUSE Conference in Boone in October. The presentation emphasized how to utilize Microsoft's new reporting services software with Oracle and Banner software. North Carolina College and University Systems Exchange (UNC CAUSE) is an organization for IT professionals in the UNC system.

▲ **Tim Inman**, resident director of The Village, and **Andrew Soroka**, resident director of Albright/Benton Hall, hosted one of the most successful North Carolina Housing Officers (NCHO) RA drive-in conferences ever held. In attendance were approximately 200 students from 20 universities throughout the state.

▲ **N. Leroy Kauffman**, dean of the College of Business, was recently listed in a select group of America's teachers in the 8th edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. Students were requested to name "the one teacher from their entire academic experience who made a difference in their lives by

helping to shape their values, inspire interest in a particular subject and challenge them to strive for excellence."

▲ **Katya Moorman**, assistant professor of art, received a Silver Award from *I.D. International Design* magazine in their November 2004 Interactive Design issue for the Cranbrook 2D Web site she designed along with fellow designer Ned Snider. She is currently designing a new look for the art department website which will be unveiled in February.

▲ **Dane Scott**, assistant professor of philosophy and religion, has been named associate dean of the Honors College. He was one of the chief architects of Western's new humanities program, which he will direct. Scott also will coordinate the national student exchange program at Western.

▲ The Division of Information Technology sponsored two presentations last fall by John Killebrew, director of The North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN), from MCNC Grid Computing and Networking Services. NCREN is the organization that provides network access to the entire UNC System. To view the presentations, and for more information on NCREN, visit the web site: <http://www.wcu.edu/it/news/Killebrew112304.html>

The Reporter is published by the Office of Public Relations. John Ashcraft, 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.

1,850 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$338.29, or \$0.18 per copy. Western Carolina University is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

the Reporter

Office of Public Relations
Publications Department
1601 Ramsey Center
Cullowhee, NC 28723

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CULLOWHEE, N.C.
PERMIT NO. 1