

# the Reporter

News for the Faculty and Staff of Western Carolina University

## Opening Assembly set for August 18

Jay Leno won't be the first person to grace the stage of Western's new Fine and Performing Arts Center, after all.

That honor will fall to Chancellor John W. Bardo, who will launch the 2005-06 academic year with an Opening Assembly for all university faculty and staff Thursday, Aug. 18. A reception will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the assembly scheduled to start at 9 a.m. in the performance hall.

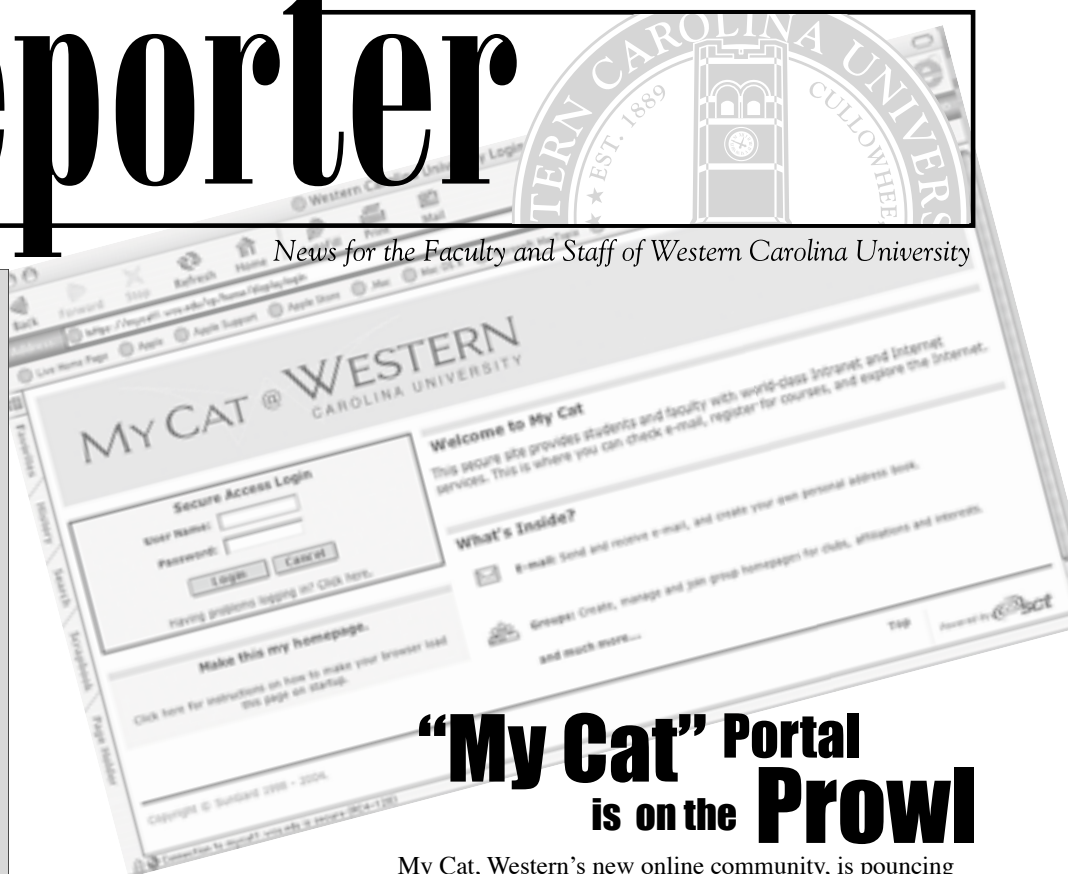
This fall marks a change from years past, when the chancellor's traditional opening-of-the-school-year remarks coincided with the annual Fall General Faculty Meeting, an event attended primarily by faculty members.

"We want everyone who plays such a critical role in both the learning and living environments of the university to be included in this important campus event," said Dianne Lynch, chief of staff. "This is typically the time when Dr. Bardo reminds us of the accomplishments of the past year and outlines the challenges of the coming years. It is important that faculty and staff alike have the opportunity to participate."

University administrators are inviting all faculty and staff members to the assembly, and are encouraging supervisors to allow their employees to attend. Shuttle service will be available.

The annual Fall General Faculty Meeting, which includes remarks from the chair of the Faculty Senate and Western's representative to the University of North Carolina Faculty Assembly, will be at 10:45 a.m. that day, also in the Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Leno, a nationally known comedian and host of NBC's "The Tonight Show," will have to wait a couple more months for his time on the stage. The opening night gala for the Fine and Performing Arts Center is set for Saturday, Oct. 22.



## "My Cat" Portal is on the Prowl

My Cat, Western's new online community, is pouncing onto the campus scene just in time for the 2005 fall semester. Replacing CyberCat Pipeline, the My Cat portal is designed to engage the Western community through authenticated access to appropriate online services, personalized information, university communications and collaborative tools, said Jed Tate, Web developer for Western and project manager for My Cat.

Offering the same services as the previous CyberCat Pipeline with similar navigation tools, My Cat will bring its users increased ease of usability and more options for customization, Tate said. My Cat offers convenient access to Western's online services and business information with a current university user identification and password and allows users to receive important university dates, deadlines and announcements. Users also may customize My Cat, choosing the additional news and information they want to receive.

The new portal is the result of a joint effort by a variety of Western students, faculty and staff who have collaborated in conceptualizing and creating My Cat, said Erin Bradley, a computer information systems major from Burke, Va., and one of the students working behind the scenes on the portal project.

"We wanted My Cat to be an application that is useful and friendly for all its users," said Bradley, who also works in Western's Web Office of Web Management. "The ability to customize the layout of My Cat makes the user feel as though they own a piece of this application and may drive more to use it."

Many departments have set up Web logs (better known as "blogs") for My Cat, and users can subscribe to those blogs to keep up-to-date on specific events or programs of interest, she said. "As a student sitting on a couple of the committees that created My Cat, it was exciting to see how many departments and various administrative areas were eager to be involved in creating an application that is going to set itself apart by essentially being a students' best resource for personal information, campus events and much more."

My Cat for students and faculty is available as of Aug. 10; access for staff is planned for later in the fall semester.

Students may click on the "Current Students" link from the Western homepage to be taken into the Virtual One Stop site. Once there, they will log in as usual and enter the new My Cat portal. A link into My Cat also will be available on the faculty and staff page.

For more information on My Cat, visit [mycat.wcu.edu](http://mycat.wcu.edu) or contact Jed Tate, Web developer, at 227-2431, or Bob Orr, associate chief information officer, at 227-7282.

# Project Management Director Earns Fulbright Chair

Jeanne Dorle, assistant professor in the department of management and international business at Western, has been named the Fulbright Research Chair in Project Management at the University of Quebec.

“Dr. Dorle is an exceptional scholar whose research will greatly contribute to our understanding of strategic problem solving in a business context,” said Michael K. Hawes, executive director of the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program. “I am pleased to welcome Dr. Dorle to the distinguished group of Fulbright scholars.”

A member of the faculty since 2002, Dorle brings to the classroom a background in law, professional management and training, and project management. In her current research, she is working to document diversity in thinking styles and problem-solving approaches and their impact on the success of project teams in business settings.

She recently completed the certification program to administer the Kirton Adaptor-Innovator Inventory (which measures the creativity, problem-solving and decision-making styles of individuals within organizations), and will continue to collaborate with its originator, Michael Kirton, during her Fulbright experience.



*Jeanne Dorle*

Director of Western’s graduate program in project management, Dorle has a record of active participation in the Project Management Institute, where she has served in leadership roles. She has experience in the design and delivery of synchronous and asynchronous online instruction. She serves on Western’s

education technology advisory council and chairs a committee for multimedia educational resources for learning and online teaching.

“This is an honor for Jeanne Dorle and for Western Carolina’s management and international business department,” said Kyle Carter, provost at Western. “In fact, it’s quite an honor for all of our faculty members at Western because we have excellent professors who deserve the recognition that a Fulbright brings. I know that this Fulbright award will enrich Dr. Dorle’s academic credentials and provide her with valuable cross-cultural experiences that she can share with our faculty and students. We hope that her time at the University of Quebec will lead to opportunities for our students and faculty to collaborate with their Canadian colleagues.”

Long regarded as the world’s premiere academic exchange program, the Fulbright attracts exceptional scholars from more than 150 countries worldwide. Among the fastest growing of the bilateral exchanges is the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program. Named for former U.S. Sen. J. William Fulbright and supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs Canada and the U.S. Department of State, the Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program has engaged more than 600 scholars in high-level academic exchanges since 1990.

## Anonymous University Employee Makes Gift To Staff Forum Scholarship Fund

An endowed scholarship fund designed to help the children of staff members attend Western is one step closer to reality, thanks to the contribution of \$2,000 from an anonymous university employee.

With the contribution, the recently established Staff Forum Scholarship Fund stands at about \$4,000 – still short of the goal of \$10,000 that is necessary to create an endowed fund.

“On behalf of the members of the Staff Forum and all employees at Western, I would like to thank our benefactor for making this significant contribution to our scholarship fund,” said Terry Riouff, Staff Forum chair. “Although the donor is an SPA employee who wishes to remain anonymous, I can say that this contribution was made in part to help encourage other employees to give. We realize that times are tough for staff members, but even a small monthly contribution of \$5 through payroll deduction will go a long way toward achieving our goal of being able to start awarding scholarships to a deserving student,” Riouff said.

The Staff Forum is planning to hold a scholarship fund-raising event as part of the annual Mountain Heritage Day, set for Saturday, Sept. 24. Details will be announced later. Employees also may make contributions to the Staff Forum Scholarship Fund through the Family Campaign, and may do so through payroll deduction.

“We all know that scholarships make it possible for young people to attend college who might not otherwise be able to afford to do so,” said Brett Woods, director of annual giving and special gifts. “That is our hope with the Staff Forum Scholarship – to help the children of our fellow staff members attend Western.”

For more information about the Staff Forum Scholarship Fund, contact the Office of Annual Giving at (828) 227-7124, or go to [www.wcu.edu/Advancement/annualgiving](http://www.wcu.edu/Advancement/annualgiving). Forms are available online or from the office at 401 H.F. Robinson Administration Building.

# WCU August Calendar

Aug. 15 - Aug. 29, 2005

## Monday, August 15

**Orientation**—new faculty: “Wellness for You and Your Students Matters.” 8:30 a.m.–noon. University Center. (227-7495)

**Workshop**—WebCT Proficiency Level I, an introduction to WebCT. 2–4 p.m. Room 406, Belk Building. (<http://paws.wcu.edu/etech/workshops/signup.aspx>)

## Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday August 16, 17, 18

**Workshop**—WebCT Proficiency-Level II. Level I or equivalent experience prerequisite. August 16 and 18, 1–3 p.m.; August 17, 2–4 p.m. Room 406, Belk Building. (<http://paws.wcu.edu/etech/workshops/signup.aspx>)

## Wednesday, August 17

**Meeting**—deans meet with department heads. 9 a.m.–noon. (227-7495)

**Workshop**—USI 130. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Hospitality Room, Ramsey Center. (227-7495)

**Meeting**—Faculty Senate Planning Team. Noon–2 p.m. Mary Will Mitchell Room, Brown Cafeteria. (227-7495)

## Thursday, August 18

**Opening Assembly**—for fall semester. Reception, 8:30 a.m.; assembly and chancellor’s opening address, 9 a.m. Performance Hall, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-7100)

**General faculty meeting.** 10:45–noon. Performance Hall, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-7495)

**Meeting**—WCU Macintosh Users Group. Participants should bring lunch. Noon. Cardinal Room, University Center. ([frady@email.wcu.edu](mailto:frady@email.wcu.edu))

**Meetings**—departmental faculty. 1–3 p.m. (227-7495)

**Information session**—and registration for fall semester for Programs in Asheville. 4:30–6:30 p.m. Karpen Hall, University of North Carolina–Asheville. (828-251-6642 or 800-369-9854 or <http://westerngrad.com>)

## Friday, August 19

**Meetings**—college faculties. 9–11 a.m. (227-7495)

**Meeting**—Faculty Senate. 1–2:30 p.m. Lecture Hall, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-7495)

**Meeting**—open faculty caucus. 3–5 p.m. Lecture Hall, Fine and Performing Arts Center. (227-7495)

**Concert**—Dwight Yoakam, with special guest the Charlie Daniels Band. Benefit concert for Habitat for Humanity and other local charities. 7:30 p.m. Ramsey Center. (227-7206 or 866-WCU-FEST)

## Saturday, August 20

**Residence halls open** to freshmen only. 9 a.m. (227-7303)

**Workshop**—Jumpstart computer training for freshmen. 2–8 p.m. (227-7487)

## Sunday, August 21

**Orientation**—for freshmen. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (227-7087)

**Residence halls open** for all students. 10 a.m. (227-7303)

**Workshop**—Jumpstart computer training for freshmen. Noon–8 p.m. (227-7487)

**Spring into Summer**—“Stream Watch.” 2:30–3:30 p.m. Mountain Heritage Center, Robinson Administration Building. (227-7129)

**Advising and registration**—for freshmen. 2:15–5 p.m. (227-7170)

## Monday, August 22

**Advising**—for transfer students. 8 a.m.–3 p.m. (227-7170)

**Workshop**—Jumpstart computer training for freshmen. 8 a.m.–8 p.m. (227-7487)

**Orientation**—for transfer students. Registration required. (227-7087, [orientation@email.wcu.edu](mailto:orientation@email.wcu.edu), or [www.wcu.edu/orientation](http://www.wcu.edu/orientation))

**Registration**—for transfer students. Begins 11:30 a.m. (227-7232)

**Luncheon**—welcome lunch for new faculty. Noon. Coulter Faculty Center, Hunter Library. (227-7495)

**Departmental open houses**—freshmen meet with advisers. 3–5 p.m.

**Barbecue**—Honors College. 7–8:30 p.m. Reynolds Hall lobby and front lawn. (227-7383)

## Tuesday, August 23

**Orientation**—for new graduate students. 8:15 a.m.–noon. Recital Hall, Coulter Building. (227-7398)

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

**Workshop**—for graduate teaching assistants. 1:30–3 p.m. Multipurpose Room, University Center. (227-7495)

**Freshman convocation**—The Honorable Ranandra Sen, ambassador of India to the United States. 3:30–5 p.m. Ramsey Center. (227-7087)

**Valley Balleyhoo.** 5 p.m. University Center lawn. (227-7206)

## Wednesday, August 24–Tuesday, August 30

**Late registration** and schedule changes in Cullowhee. (227-7232)

**Wednesday, August 24**  
**All classes begin.** (227-7495)

## Thursday, August 25

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

## Sunday, August 28

**Crafts at the Center**—“Gourds” with Doris Pannell. 2–4 p.m. Mountain Heritage Center, Robinson Administration Building. (227-7129)

**Submissions:** Send news items and calendar notices to WCU Calendar, 1601 Ramsey Center Western Carolina University Cullowhee, NC 28723 or e-mail to: [Reporter@email.wcu.edu](mailto:Reporter@email.wcu.edu). Submit items for the university’s online calendar at least one week prior to the event.

# Planning Under Way for HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

The second annual Western North Carolina Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration co-sponsored by Western is scheduled for Sept. 16 through Oct. 15, with a variety of activities centered on the theme "Hispanic Americans: Strong and Colorful Threads in the American Fabric."

The month of free programs will kick off Friday, Sept. 16, with an opening celebration at 7:30 p.m. in the Grandroom of the A.K. Hinds University Center on the Western campus. Patrick Tapia, director of the Latino Advocacy Coalition Center in Hendersonville, will deliver the keynote address.

Musical entertainment and performances of traditional Hispanic dances also are expected to be part of the evening. The opening celebration is co-sponsored by Western's Office of Multicultural Affairs and Office of International Programs and Services.

Other activities will be held throughout the month-long celebration at sites in Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain counties. Topics will include Latino contributions and challenges in American society; Latino art and culture; community interaction; and personal stories and histories. A detailed schedule will be available later.

"Hispanic Heritage Month is a way to promote and celebrate friendly awareness and understanding of the Hispanic historical and cultural presence in the United States and in our home counties of Jackson, Macon, Swain and Haywood," said Patricia Hackett, organizer of the event and visiting assistant professor of Spanish at Western. "We also want to encourage involvement of the Hispanic



community in the activities of the counties in which they live, which will help foster greater understanding of the Hispanic people in WNC."

Hackett, a native of Panama, said the month is designed in part to help shatter myths and stereotypes about Hispanic people. "We are not all field workers," she said. "We do not all like to eat fajitas and frijoles."

Organizers are still putting the finishing touches on the month's schedule of activities, and are seeking volunteers from the community to assist in planning and implementing events. Planning meetings are set for 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the Haywood County Public Library in Waynesville; 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 24 and 31, in the Hinds University Center at WCU; 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at Haywood County Public Library; and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, at Hinds University Center.

Other sponsors of Hispanic Heritage Month activities include the Jackson County Multicultural Task Force, Jackson County Family Resource Center, Jackson County Library, Solidaridad Latino Outreach Center of Franklin, COLA – Latino American Coalition from Asheville, Mosaic Multi-Cultural Center of Waynesville, Jackson County Health Department, Manos Latinas women's advocacy group of Haywood County, Smoky Mountain Vicariate Roman Catholic Hispanic Ministry, Jackson County Public Schools, Jackson County Arts Council, the town of Sylva, and Western's Mountain Heritage Center, Fine and Performing Arts Center and department of modern foreign languages.

For more information, call Patricia Hackett at (828) 227-3761.

The Reporter is published by the Office of Public Relations. 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](mailto:Reporter@email.wcu.edu).

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*The* Reporter

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

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