Introducing Newcomers to Western

The Reporter will help you get to know the newest members of the WCU community. Here are names, photographs and brief biographies of the people who have entered full-time positions since September 1, 2005. We hope we haven’t missed anyone, but please let us know if we have.

Andrew Adams, visiting instructor, Music; D.M.A., University of Colorado at Boulder; previously lecturer/vocal coach and director of collaborative piano, Iowa State University.

Ann Alexander, associate professor, Educational Leadership and Foundations, Ph.D., University of Texas; previously president, Wytheville Community College, Virginia.

Mark S. Anderson, staff coordinator, Admissions; B.A., University of South Florida; previously information specialist/system administrator, Smoky Mountain Center for Mental Health.

Jean Andrei, processing assistant, Facilities Management; graduate certificate, Webster Business College; previously secretary, Pavey & Smith, PA.

John R. Ashcraft Jr., instructional technology consultant, Coulter Faculty Center; B.A., University of South Florida; previously electronic formats coordinator faculty, University of Florida.

Michael Baker, visiting assistant professor, Music, a.b.d., Indiana University; previously adjunct faculty, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Mich.

Sandy L. Ballinger, program assistant, College of Education and Allied Professions; previously receptionist/clerical assistant, Meridian Behavioral Health.

Raymond Barclay, director, Office of Institutional Research and Planning; a.b.d., Temple University; previously director of institutional research and assessment, The College of New Jersey.

Bruce Barker, police officer, University Police; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University.

Matthew Jovian Barrett, technology applications analyst, Graduate Studies; B.A., Western Carolina University.

Thomas Belt, Cherokee Language Program coordinator, Modern Foreign Languages; certified language instructor, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma; previously counselor, Indian Health Service, UNITY, Cherokee.

Travis Bennett, visiting assistant professor, Music; D.M.A., University of Alabama; previously adjunct horn instructor, Mercer University, Macon, Ga.
Matt J. Bibens, operations and systems analyst, IT Services; B.S., East Carolina University; previously administration/information systems clerk, U.S. Marine Corps.

Ingrid Biddix, housekeeper, Facilities Management; previously supervisor at Ashley Co.

J. Elaine Bishop, office assistant, Educational Outreach, Hendersonville office; A.A.S., Blue Ridge Community College.

Christopher Blake, assistant professor, English; Ph.D., Purdue University; previously instructor, Purdue University, Indiana.

Karina Boulle, program assistant, Office of the Internal Auditor; B.A., Texas Woman’s University.

Dana Boyer, accountant, Controller’s Office; B.S., University of North Carolina at Asheville; previously accountant, Crawley, Lee and Co.

Hillary Brett, assistant curator, Fine Art Museum; M.A., Florida State University; previously gallery director, Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, Hendersonville.

Anthony Brown, technology support analyst, IT Services; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University.

J. Elaine Bishop, office assistant, Educational Outreach, Hendersonville office; A.A.S., Blue Ridge Community College.

Cynthia A. Brown, assistant professor, Applied Criminology; Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi; previously attorney, private practice, Mississippi and Florida.

Beverly C. Bryson, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously cook, Jackson County Public Schools.

Amanda Buchanan, program assistant, Talent Search; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously student worker, Talent Search.

Keith Buchanan, grounds worker, Facilities Management; previously carpenter helper, Farmer Construction Co.

Grady Carver, painter, Facilities Management.

Ann Marie Buchmann, visiting assistant professor; Biology; Ph.D., Northwestern University; previously visiting assistant professor, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Indiana.

Brian Christopher Burton, interim assistant strength & conditioning coach and instructor; Athletics; B.A., Trinity International University, previously head strength and conditioning coach, Trinity International University, Illinois.

Frederick C. Buskey, assistant professor, Educational Leadership, and Foundations; Ed.D., Bowling Green State University; previously special education supervisor, Putnam County Educational Service Center, Ohio.

Lisa Miller Carter, office manager, Counseling and Psychological Services; A.B., Athens Area Technical Institute; previously executive assistant, Madison Medical Affiliates, Milwaukee, Wis.

Robbie Carter, public safety officer, University Police; B.S., Appalachian State University; previously police officer, Waynesville Police Department.
Stephanie L. Ceraso, visiting lecturer, English; M.A., University of Vermont; previously graduate teaching assistant, University of Vermont.

Cassandra Chambliss, visiting lecturer, English; M.A., Indiana University; previously editorial assistant, Indiana University.

Ted Chiappelli, associate professor, Health Sciences; Dr.P.H., Johns Hopkins University; previously behavioral scientist, U.S. Public Health Service, Pasadena, Md.

Darryl Clark, visiting assistant professor/director of dance program; Communication, Theatre and Dance; M.F.A., State University of New York College at Brockport; previously instructor, Draper School of Dance Education, Rochester, N.Y.

Victoria Clement, assistant professor, History; Ph.D., Ohio State University; previously postdoctoral associate, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

Beverly Collins, associate professor, Biology; Ph.D., Rutgers University; previously associate research scientist, University of Georgia’s Savannah River Ecology Laboratory.

Stephanie Collins, allergy clinic/immunization coordinator, Health Services, B.S.N., Western Carolina University.

Angie Conner, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously cashier, McDonald’s.

Wade Conner, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously manager, McDonald’s.

Guy W. Cook, maintenance mechanic, Highlands Biological Station; previously maintenance technician, Miami-Dade County.

Peggy Cope, Harrell Hall resident director, Residential Living; M.S.Ed, South Dakota State University; previously head resident, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Shawn B. Collins, visiting assistant professor, Nursing; M.S.N., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; currently president and owner; Sandman Anesthesia Services, St. Luke’s Hospital.

Regina Cowan, processing assistant, Purchasing [fixed assets and surplus].

Dale W. Cox, accounting specialist, Controller; B.S., Guilford College; previously accountant, Maxton C. McDowell, C.P.A.

Josie Crolley-Simic, assistant professor, Social Work; Ph.D., University of Georgia; previously instructor, Kennesaw State University and University of Georgia at Athens.

Robert K. Crow, instructional developer, Coulter Faculty Center; Ph.D., University of South Carolina; previously educational psychology instructor, University of South Carolina.

Bethany A. Davidson, visiting assistant professor, Accountancy, Finance and Entrepreneurship; M.B.A., Western Carolina University; previously consultant.
Ronald W. Davis, assistant professor; Geosciences and Natural Resources Management; Ph.D., University of Illinois; previously post-doctoral researcher, University of Illinois Extension/U.S. Army Civil Engineering Research Laboratory.

Mary Beth DeConinck, visiting assistant professor; Marketing and Business Law; M.B.A., Central Missouri State University; previously substitute teacher, Haywood County Schools.

Paula A. Demonet, visiting instructor; Health and Human Performance; M.S., Western Carolina University; previously coordinator of Swain County Child and Family Clinical Services, Meridian Behavioral Health Services.

Alexandra DeSiato, visiting lecturer, English; M.A., Appalachian State University; previously English instructor, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College.

Paul K. Dezendorf, visiting assistant professor; Social Work; Ph.D., University of South Carolina; previously associate professor, Winthrop University.

Cassandra Dickson, outreach counselor; Educational Talent Search; B.S., Mississippi State University; college and career counselor, All Saints’ School, Vicksburg, Miss.

Lura Embrick, visiting instructor; Chemistry and Physics; M.S., Western Carolina University; previously administrative assistant, Western Carolina University.

Mary Ella Engel, visiting assistant professor; History; a.b.d., University of Georgia; previously researcher, Freedmen’s Teacher Project, University of Georgia.

Lauren Faulkenberry, visiting lecturer, English; M.F.A., Georgia College and State University; previously graduate research assistant, University of Colorado at Boulder.

Hartwell Francis, Cherokee Language Program director; Anthropology and Sociology; Ph.D., University of Colorado; previously associate professor, Western Carolina University.

Elaine Franklin, visiting assistant professor and director; Center for Mathematics and Science Education; Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; previously director of education, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Colo.

Tammy D. Frizzell, program assistant, Orientation Office; M.A., Western Carolina University; previously payroll manager/operations manager, Intax Inc.

Kevin Gabruk, grounds worker, Facilities Management; previously grounds worker, Southeastern Jurisdictional Administrative Council.

Bill Gates, maintenance mechanic, Facilities Management.

Michele Glover, program assistant and Mountain Heritage Day coordinator; Mountain Heritage Center; M.A., Western Carolina University; currently instructor, Southwestern Community College.

Robert G. Godfrey, facility mechanical engineer, Facilities Management; previously utility rate consultant, Mike Hendley Services.

Pierre V. Grabolosa, technology support technician, Admissions; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously C++ programmer, CERES Logiciels.

Cynthia Jean Grantz, visiting assistant professor; Mathematics and Computer Science; Ph.D., University of Texas at Arlington; previously instructor of mathematics, University of Texas at Arlington.
Glenda Kay Green, program assistant, Reading Center; previously hourly assistant, Western Carolina University Admissions Office.

Eudema P. (Dee) Greene, social research assistant, Institute for the Economy and the Future; M.S., Western Carolina University; previously trainer and instructor, Blue Ridge CC & Southwestern Community College.

Karen Greenstone, visiting lecturer, English; M.A.T., School for International Training, Vermont; previously instructor of teacher of English to speakers of other languages, Loyola University, New Orleans, La.


Shirley Guffey, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously machine operator, Whitley Products, Inc.

Andy Haggerty, grounds worker, Facilities Management; previously calibrator technician, Thomas Electronics.

Glenda Kay Green, program assistant, Reading Center; previously hourly assistant, Western Carolina University Admissions Office.

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Shirley Guffey, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously machine operator, Whitley Products, Inc.

Andy Haggerty, grounds worker, Facilities Management; previously calibrator technician, Thomas Electronics.
James Holbrook, visiting lecturer, English; M.A., Western Carolina University; previously assistant instructor, North Carolina Outward Bound School.

Jennifer Brooks Holland, accountant, Controller’s Office; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University; previously hourly administrative officer, Western Carolina University.

Betty Hopkins, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously seamstress.

Ernie R. Hudson, police supervisor (lieutenant), University Police; previously major, training and community education bureau, Indianapolis Police Department.

Kenneth Gray Hunt, visiting assistant professor and director of field experiences, Office of Field Experiences; Ed.S., Western Carolina University; previously director of secondary student services, Polk County Schools.

Daniel Huss, technology support technician, Registrar’s Office; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously computer programmer, TekTone Sound & Signal Manufacturing Inc., Franklin.

Jeremy Hyman, assistant professor, Biology; Ph.D., University of North Carolina, previously instructor, Duke University.

Debra Jean Iosa, sales clerk, Bookstore; previously cashier, Wal-Mart.

Betty Hopkins, housekeeper, Residential Living; previously seamstress.

James [Jam] Jenkins, visiting assistant professor, Mathematics and Computer Science, M.S.E., University of Texas at Austin; previously online instructor, Duke University Talent Identification Program.

Donald A. Jensen Jr., assistant professor, Construction Management; Ph.D., Texas A&M University; previously associate professor, University of North Florida.

Neil H. Ketting, floor maintenance assistant, Facilities Management; A.A.S., Union County Technical College; previously carpenter, MB Haynes Corporation.

Teresa Killian, information and communications specialist, Public Relations; B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; previously staff writer, Spartanburg Herald-Journal.

David Kinner, assistant professor of geology, Geosciences and Natural Resources Management; Ph.D., University of Colorado at Boulder; previously Mendenhall postdoctoral fellow, U.S. Geological Survey, Denver.

Kathleen Topolka Jorissen, assistant professor, Educational Leadership and Foundations; Ph.D., University of Minnesota; previously assistant professor, Bowling Green State University, Ohio.

Kelly R. Kelley, grant project coordinator and instructor, Human Services, M.A.Ed., Western Carolina University; previously office administrator and afterschool director, Ninevah Baptist Church.

Anne-Marie Jones, assistant professor, Nursing; M.S.N., University of Texas Health Science Center; previously full-time home school instructor.

Natalie Karycki, program assistant, Kimmel School; B.A., University of Central Florida; previously billing coordinator, Learning Perspective Inc.
Oleg Kodolov, visiting assistant professor, Political Science and Public Affairs; Ph.D., University of Western Ontario, Canada; previously instructor in political science, Monmouth College, Illinois.

M. Scott Koger, security analyst, Information Technology, B.G.S., University of New Orleans; previously system development project lead, Kirklen Group for Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

Michel Caufman Kozuch, student services assistant, Research and Graduate Studies; B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, previously network engineer, MCI.

Jose F. Kuhn, practice leader, Center for Digital Entrepreneurship, Institute for the Economy and the Future; B.A., University of North Carolina – Asheville; previously systems/CAD administrator, Lee Nichols Clark Patterson.

Katherine F. Laveck, visiting assistant professor, Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education; M.S., University of Tennessee at Knoxville; previously center manager, Mountain Area Child and Family Center.

Eric C. Lawhorn, enrollment services officer, Admissions; B.S., Clemson University; previously resident assistant, Clemson University.

Kyuo Lee, assistant professor; Management and International Business; a.b.d., Virginia Tech University; previously instructor, Virginia Tech University.

Tracy Linville, ticket manager, Athletics; B.A., Western Carolina University; previously administrative assistant for sports marketing and promotions, Wake Forest University.

Jiangxia Liu, assistant professor; Accountancy, Finance and Entrepreneurship; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas, previously teaching assistant, University of Texas at Dallas.

Zihua [David] Liu, visiting assistant professor; Political Science and Public Affairs; M.A., State University of New York at Buffalo; previously instructor, Niagara University.

Katherine F. Laveck, visiting assistant professor, Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education; M.S., University of Tennessee at Knoxville; previously center manager, Mountain Area Child and Family Center.

Deborah Lovern, accountant, Administration & Finance; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University; previously manager and accountant, Rocks.

Heath Martin, collection development librarian, Hunter Library; M.L.S., Queens College; previously acquisitions and collection development librarian, Maritime College, State University of New York, Bronx, N.Y.

Nicholas M.G. Martin, visiting assistant professor, Health Sciences; M.S., University of North Carolina at Greensboro; previously graduate assistant, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
Lynn Mathis, assistant director for residence life, Residential Living; M.A., University of North Carolina at Charlotte; previously residence coordinator, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Michael L. McIntosh, counselor, Counseling and Psychological Services Center; M.A., Argosy University/Chicago Illinois School of Professional Psychology; previously predoctoral clinical psychology intern, University of Iowa.

Amber P. McKendrick, program assistant for special events, Advancement and External Affairs; B.S., Western Carolina University.

Amy L. McKenzie, office assistant, Philosophy and Religion; M.Div., Harvard Divinity School; previously chaplain, Big Bend Hospice.

Chris McMahen, police officer, University Police; previously N.C. Highway Patrol.

Erin McManus, director, Upward Bound Math and Science; M.S., Wake Forest University; previously outreach counselor/resource teacher, Southwestern Community College.

Ronald J. Miers, assistant professor, Construction Management; Ph.D., State University of New York; previously assistant professor, Roger Williams University.

Chad D. Miller, assistant soccer coach and instructor, Athletics; B.S., Pfeiffer University; previously head women’s soccer coach and director of soccer, Pfeiffer University.

Stephen C. Miller, assistant professor, Business Computer Information Systems and Economics; Ph.D., George Mason University; previously research assistant, George Mason University.

Venus Miller, Helder Hall resident director, Residential Living; M.P.A., Western Carolina University; previously public affairs graduate assistant, Western Carolina University.

Curtis B. Monteith, maintenance mechanic, Facilities Management; B.S., Western Carolina University.

Clay Montgomery, painter supervisor, Facilities Management; A.A.S., Prospect Hall College; previously owner, Smokey Cove Wall Covering.

Kevin Wade Oliver, HVAC mechanic, Facilities Management; previously maintenance technician, Whitley Products.

Scott P. Moore, visiting physical education instructor, Health and Human Performance; M.A.Ed., Western Carolina University; previously graduate assistant, Western Carolina University.

Danell A. Moses, visiting professor, Business Computer Information Systems and Economics; M.A. Ed., Western Carolina University; currently online professor, Southwestern Community College.

Lynette Mount, assistant athletic trainer and instructor, Athletics; M.S., James Madison University; graduate assistant, James Madison University.

Laura B. Myers, visiting professor, Applied Criminology; Ph.D., Florida State University; previously professor of juvenile justice, Prairie View A&M University, Texas.

Sandy Neuenschwander, processing assistant, Human Resources.
Wagner Parente, senior systems analyst, IT Services; B.A., Colorado State University; previously storage expert engineer, Sun Microsystems.

Jason Pierson, assistant counselor, Small Business and Technology Development Center; M.F.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; previously administrator, New Vistas Behavioral Health Services.

Dale Hobart Putman, maintenance mechanic, Residential Living, previously residential paint supervisor.

Chris Parrish Jr., senior assistant director of admissions, Admissions; M.A.Ed., Clemson University; previously graduate assistant for Parents’ Council, Clemson University.

Ken Place, director of business development, Institute for the Economy and the Future; M.B.A., Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science; previously associate athletic director, Yale University.

Lauren Ray, assistant director for facilities, Residential Living; M.A., Appalachian State University; previously assistant research scientist, ASU Energy Center, Boone.

Paula J. Parton, technology support technician, Registrar; A.A., Southwestern Community College; currently owner and operator, Echo Valley Creations.

Ernestine "Ernie" Plemmons, office assistant, Office of the Chancellor; previously medical transcriptionist, AMC Transcription.

Stephen G. Rice, Albright-Benton Hall resident director, Residential Living; M.Ed., University of North Carolina at Greensboro; previously residence director, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Michael Thomas Payne, grounds worker, Facilities Management; previously residential landscaper, Harrison, Tenn.

Eva E. Plowman, executive assistant, Advancement and External Affairs; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University.

Brooke Roberts, assistant director of admissions, Admissions; B.A., Gardner-Webb University; previously sales representative, ADT Security Services.

Joseph Pechmann, associate professor, Biology; Ph.D., Duke University; previously assistant professor, University of New Orleans, La.

Kenneth Price, assistant professor, English; Ph.D., University of North Texas; previously director of technical writing, California State University at Chico.

Delonda B. Roberts, housekeeper, University Center.

Jeremy Pero, police officer, University Police; B.S., Western Carolina University.

Mark Pullium, floor maintenance assistant, Facilities Management; previously, maintenance/janitor, Wal-Mart, Salisbury.

Brandon Alexander Robinson, public relations assistant, Hunter Library; B.A., Western Carolina University.
Pam Rollins, visiting professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders; M.S., Western Carolina University; previously with Greenville (S.C.) County Schools.

Shelia Scarbrough, office assistant, Fitness Center and Intramural Sports; previously credit manager, Loes & Co.

Hillary M. Sherman, social research assistant, Institute for the Economy and the Future; L.L.M., National University of Ireland-Galway; previously community service coordinator, Juniata College.

Rashelle Saeger, office assistant, Educational Outreach; A.A., LeHigh College; previously credit and collections manager, Springfield Corporation.

John W. Scott Jr., assistant football coach and instructor, Athletics; M.Ed., University of Louisiana at Lafayette; previously defensive line coach, Northeast State University.

James F. Smith, professor of the practice, Institute for the Economy and the Future; Ph.D., Southern Methodist University-Dallas, Texas; previously director, Center for Business Forecasting, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Shauna Sage, assistant fitness director, Fitness Center; M.A., Western Michigan University; previously assistant director for fitness programs, Montclair State University, N.J.

John F. Schweikart, study abroad adviser, International Programs and Services; M.A., Ohio State University; previously staff archaeologist, Ohio Department of Transportation.

Katherine Duff Smith, assistant director for student media and marketing, University Center; B.A., Northeastern State University; previously graduate assistant, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Arthur Salido, assistant professor, Chemistry and Physics; Ph.D., Wake Forest University; assistant professor, Mercer University, Georgia.

J. Lamont Seward, assistant football coach and instructor, Athletics; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously teacher assistant, Warren County Schools Alternative Learning Program.

Mary Lockey Smith, academic advisor, Advising Center; M.Ed., University of North Carolina at Greensboro; previously admissions counselor, Southwestern Community College.

Jody B. Sanchelli, visiting instructor, Marketing and Business Law; L.L.M., New York University; previously law instructor, South College, Asheville, and attorney, Nexsen, Pruet, Adams, Kleemeier law firm.

Rocio V. Sharpe, administrative assistant, Assessment; B.A., University of Lima, Peru; previously customer service representative, Great Smoky Mountain Railroad.

Patricia A. Smith, processing assistant, Office of the Provost; previously data processing clerk, Smoky Mountain Center.

Rebecca Saunders, associate director for programs, University Center; M.S.O.M., Central Connecticut State University; previously coordinator of student union activities, North Carolina A&T State University.

Jan Beegle Shearin, accounting clerk, Controller’s Office; M.P.M., Western Carolina University.

Alan Socha, applications programmer, University Planning; B.A., The College of New Jersey; previously research assistant, The College of New Jersey.
Bill Spencer, visiting assistant professor; English; Ph.D., University of Tennessee at Knoxville; previously professor of English, Delta State University, Miss.

Don E. Taylor, Cat-Tran supervisor; University Police.

Reid Toth, visiting assistant professor; Applied Criminology; Ph.D., University of South Carolina; previously assistant professor; University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Jaysen T. Spencer, coordinator of student-athlete support services; Athletics; M.A., Kent State University. Previously athletic academic support assistant, Villanova University.

Holly A. Taylor, assistant director; Student Judicial Affairs; M.Ed., University of South Florida; previously Student Judicial Services Office graduate assistant, University of South Florida.

Dina Towey, administrative secretary; Enrollment Management; previously administrative assistant, Smoky Mountain Center.

Debra Chiltoskie Standingdeer, program assistant; Cherokee Studies; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University; previously sales clerk, Qualla Arts and Crafts.

Alan Z. Thornburg, senior policy fellow; Institute for the Economy and the Future; J.D., Wake Forest University; previously judge, N.C. Court of Appeals in Raleigh and attorney, Patla Straus Robinson & Moore.

Bridget Caroline Tyson, accountant; Controller’s Office; B.S.B.A., Western Carolina University; previously accountant, Dean Coward C.P.A.

Donnie Stepp, visiting lecturer; Communication, Theatre and Dance; M.A., California University of Pennsylvania; previously English and German teacher; Sunflower Language Center, Lutsk, Ukraine.

Richard Tichich, department head; Art; M.F.A., The University of Texas at San Antonio; previously director, School of Art and Design, East Carolina University.

Bart Voskuil, reference librarian and environmental and geosciences liaison, Hunter Library; M.L.I.S., University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee; previously urban planning program graduate assistant, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

George B. Sutton, floor maintenance assistant; Facilities Management; previously press operator and material handler, Consolidated Metro.

Peggy Tompkins, administrative secretary; Construction Management and Hospitality and Tourism Management; previously human resources associate, Naples Community Hospital, Fla.

Kelly Vreeland, associate director of operations; Admissions, B.A., Rollins College; previously chief operating officer, Education and Research Consortium of the Western Carolinas.

Lucian A. Szelizewski, assistant professor; Educational Leadership and Foundations; Ph.D., Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; previously superintendent, Tri-Village Local School District, Ohio.

Neil A. Torda, digital media lab technician and lecturer; Coulter Faculty Center; B.S.Ed., Western Carolina University; previously help desk manager and systems administrator, Translational Genomics Research Institute, Phoenix.

Dan Wahl, visiting assistant professor; English; M.F.A., Minnesota State University at Mankato; previously teaching assistant, composition and creative writing, MSU at Mankato.
Beth Walden, international student advisor; International Programs and Services; M.A., Andover Newton Theological School; previously associate pastor working with international families, Second Church in Newton, Mass.

Wen-Chun Wang, assistant professor; Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education; Ed.D., Loyola University, Chicago; previously adjunct faculty, Harold Washington College, Chicago.

Yishi Wang, assistant professor; Mathematics and Computer Science; Ph.D., State University of New York at Binghamton; previously teaching assistant, State University of New York at Binghamton.

Keith G. Wells, visiting assistant professor; Health Sciences.

Robert Bryan Danner, carpenter supervisor; Facilities Management.

Leslie J. Davis, office assistant, Highlands Biological Station; B.A., Florida Atlantic College; previously financial analyst, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County.

Joseph Aaron Ensley, electrician; Facilities Management.

Adam Neal Freeman, general utility worker; University Center.

Jann S. Graham, visiting assistant professor; Human Services; M.A., Appalachian State University; previously educational diagnostician, Children's Developmental Services Agency of the Smokies, and adjunct faculty, Western Carolina University.

Barbara Ann Gravett, administrative assistant, Research and Graduate Studies; previously retail merchandiser, Crossmark.

Tammy Lee Grubb, housekeeper; Facilities Management.

Michelle A. Hargis, director of sponsored programs, Research and Graduate Studies; Ed.D., Argosy University; previously director of grant administration, University of Texas Health Center at Tyler.

Jeremy Eugene Hughes, student services assistant, Financial Aid; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously office assistant, work study, Western Carolina University.

Tammy Darlene Key, housekeeper; Facilities Management.

Xiaobao Li, assistant professor; Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education; Ph.D., Texas A&M University; previously graduate assistant, Texas A&M University.

NOT PICTURED:

Martin Lee Anthony, public safety officer; University Police;

Sharon Archer, medical records assistant; Health Services;

Brittannia J. Bintz, visiting assistant professor; Chemistry and Physics; M.S., Western Carolina University; previously teaching assistant, Western Carolina University.

Todd Campbell, assistant professor; Music; M.M., West Virginia University; previously assistant professor of music, Shenandoah Conservatory, Virginia.

Michael David Carpenter, electrician; Facilities Management.

Juliana Brooke Cody, enrollment services officer; Admissions; B.A., Gardner-Webb University; previously sales representative, ADT Security.

Robert Bryan Danner, carpenter supervisor; Facilities Management.

Leslie J. Davis, office assistant, Highlands Biological Station; B.A., Florida Atlantic College; previously financial analyst, Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County.

Nathan Dawson, technology support analyst, IT Services; B.S., Western Carolina University; previously 3-D modeler, Rhudy's Jewelry Showroom.

Joseph Aaron Ensley, electrician; Facilities Management.

Adam Neal Freeman, general utility worker; University Center.

Jann S. Graham, visiting assistant professor; Human Services; M.A., Appalachian State University; previously educational diagnostician, Children’s Developmental Services Agency of the Smokies, and adjunct faculty, Western Carolina University.

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Tammy Darlene Key, housekeeper; Facilities Management.

Xiaobao Li, assistant professor; Birth-Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle Grades Education; Ph.D., Texas A&M University; previously graduate assistant, Texas A&M University.

Fujia Lu, director of polling and research, Institute for the Economy and the Future; Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin; previously senior research analyst, Pinkerton Computer Consultants Inc.

Amy Ward Martin, instructional developer, Coulter Faculty Center; Ph.D., Illinois State University; previously director, writing center, Pace University.

Jerry Lamar McCall, boiler operator; Facilities Management.

Benjamin McFadden, sales clerk, Bookstore; B.S., Johnson Bible College; previously library assistant, Wake County Libraries.

Oran Mosteller, computing consultant, College of Education and Allied Professions; previously digital preservationist, Adventure of the American Mind Grant.

Annette Goodson Parris, administrative secretary, Chemistry and Physics.
An online list of “All-Time Best Scores” shows the friendly competition is heating up on Western Carolina University’s new par-3 disc golf course, Catamount Links.

Justin Menickelli, an associate professor in health and human performance, and Chris Tuten, a health and human performance instructor, joined forces to design the nine-hole course, which was installed this summer. In disc golf (also called Frisbee disc golf), players toss discs instead of hitting balls with clubs. They aim for metal baskets about 4 feet high rather than holes in the ground. The goal is to finish with as few shots as possible. Players often carry as many as 15 different discs that serve as drivers, putters or mid-range discs as they navigate around obstacles such as trees and shrubs.

Catamount Links, which features nine holes ranging from 151 to 420 feet, begins at the band practice field behind Reid Gymnasium, winds around an old golf driving range, utilizes the fields near Norton Road Residence Hall and ends across from Scott Residence Hall. Planning and construction for the course is low, but the student response has been overwhelming.

“Comparing the course to traditional golf courses, I think we can say that the disc golf course has very little environmental and visual impact on the landscape,” said Menickelli. “Unlike traditional golf courses that require significant maintenance, the disc golf course has very little environmental and visual impact on the landscape, Menickelli said. ‘It doesn’t require any extra mowing or maintenance,’” he said. ‘We didn’t have to alter any of the landscape. The expense to construct the course is low, but the student response has been overwhelming.”

Debby Schwartz, director of intramural sports, said she expects Catamount Links will be very popular. The baskets were not all in the ground before she saw students such as Dante Hill playing.

“I just walked around, figured out the course and went ahead and played,” said Hill, a junior from Durham majoring in business administration and law. “My buddies and I, last year, used to drive an hour to Asheville and Seneca (S.C.) every other weekend to disc golf courses. Catamount Links is fairly tough for a par-3 course. I just wish we had another nine holes.”

Check out www.ceap.wcu.edu/ menickelli/CATAMOUNT_LINKS.htm for more information or call Justin Menickelli at (828) 227-3555.
WCU Board Welcomes George Little as Trustee, Filling Late Wife’s Seat

Southern Pines businessman George W. Little, former secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural and Economic Resources and a 2004 candidate for N.C. governor, is filling a vacant seat on the Western Carolina University board of trustees created by the death earlier this year of his wife, Teena S. Little.

Appointed by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors to serve the remaining three years of his spouse’s term, Little was sworn in as a member of Western’s board as part of its quarterly meeting Friday, Sept. 1.

Steve Warren, chairman of the board, officially welcomed Little as the university’s newest trustee.

“We want to, first and foremost, let you know that we share in your sense of loss at the passing of Teena, and we are very grateful that you have accepted our invitation to join us,” Warren said. “There is no one else who could bring an equal amount of enthusiasm and dedication to the quality of education for our students at Western, which is the reason we all are here.”

Upon taking the oath of office, Little said he would work hard to live up to the standards set by his wife. Teena Little, a former state senator and retired public school teacher, died in May after a lengthy battle with cancer.

“I get a little emotional when I talk about Teena,” he said. “She loved this university, and she loved education. She made so many significant contributions to education in this state over her adult life. I will try to fill her shoes as best I can.”

Warren, an Asheville attorney, was unanimously re-elected to a second term as board chair. The board also re-elected Joan MacNeill, a community leader and entrepreneur from Webster, to serve as vice chair of the board, and Mars Hill entrepreneur Genevieve Whitmire Burda to another term as secretary.

William Frady Elected Staff Forum Chair

The Western Carolina University Staff Forum recently elected a new slate of officers for the 2006-07 term.

William Frady, instructional technology consultant with the Office of Information Technology Service, is the new chair of Staff Forum, taking over the gavel from Terry Riouff, preventive maintenance coordinator in the Office of Facilities Management.

Dawne Coward, executive assistant to the vice chancellor for administration and finance, was re-elected as secretary, and Mike Stewart, assistant to the vice chancellor for administration and finance, was re-elected vice chair.

The Staff Forum also appointed new committee chairs for the coming year. They are Sue Grider (Educational Technologies), human resources committee; Jed Tate (Web Services), public relations committee; Elizabeth Frazier (Research and Graduate Studies), scholarship committee; Nancy Carden (Provost’s Office), governance committee; and Jeff Gunter (Facilities Management), resources and environment committee.

The Staff Forum meets at 8:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of the month. The meetings are open to all WCU SPA and non-faculty EPA employees. For more information, visit the Web site at http://www.wcu.edu/stforum/
Monday, Sept. 11
Presentation—“America Faces the World: The ‘Myth’ of Security,” Glenn Palmer, author. $ 7:30 p.m. RH. (227-7494)

Tuesday, Sept. 12
Catamount Concert Series—Eldred Spell, flute. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Wednesday, Sept. 13
Meeting—Faculty Senate Planning Team. Noon—2 p.m. Mary Will Mitchell Room, Brown Cafeteria. (227-7495)
Presentation—“9-11:01; Remembering the Aftermath,” John Williams. 2:30 p.m. Theater, UC. (227-2093)
Fall barbecue—for untended faculty, spouses and tenured faculty, sponsored by Untenured Faculty Organization. 5:30–7:30 p.m. University Club. (227-2093)

Thursday, Sept. 14
Staff Forum—8:30–10:30 a.m. Cardinal Room, UC. (227-2412)

Friday, Sept. 15
Lady Catamount volleyball—vs. High Point, 2 p.m.; vs. Kent State, 7 p.m. Catamount Clash V Tournament. $ RRAC. (227-7338)
Catamount cross country—Western Carolina Open. 5 p.m. CAC. (227-7338)
Hispanic Heritage Month—kick-off activity: Mexican Independence Day celebration. 7–11:30 p.m. Grandroom, UC. (227-7495)
Lady Catamount soccer—vs. Wofford. Southern Conference game. Parents’ Weekend. $. 2 p.m. RRAC. (227-7338)

Saturday, Sept. 16
Lady Catamount volleyball—vs. Valparaiso, 9:30 a.m.; vs. Kennesaw State, 2:30 p.m. Catamount Clash V Tournament. $ RRAC. (227-7338)
Catamount football—vs. Eastern Kentucky. Hall of Fame Weekend. $. 2 p.m. WS/BW. (227-7338)

Sunday, Sept. 17
Lady Catamount soccer—vs. Gardner-Webb. Parents’ Weekend. $. 2 p.m. CAC. (227-7338)
Legends on Stage—“Let’s Put On a Show!” Mickey Rooney and Jan Rooney. $ 3 p.m. FAPAC. (227-2479 or www.wcu.edu/fapac)

Monday, Sept. 18
Hispanic Heritage Month—“Anthropology and Mexico,” Anne F. Rogers, WCU professor of anthropology. 7–8 p.m. Catamount Room, UC. (227-3761)
Chancellor’s Distinguished Speaker Series—Gen. Richard B. Myers, former chair of Joint Chiefs of Staff: “World War ‘X’—What’s at Stake in the Global War on Terror” 7:30 p.m. FAPAC. (227-2479)

Tuesday, Sept. 19
Meeting—Faculty Senate. 3–5 p.m. Room 104, Killian Building. (227-7495)
Hispanic Heritage Month—International Day of Peace, open forum and update on the national immigration debate. 7–8 p.m. Grandroom, UC. (227-3761)
Catamount Concert Series—faculty showcase. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Wednesday, Sept. 20
Hispanic Heritage Month—“¡Bienvenidos: Welcome, Newest Tar Heels: Twentieth-Century Federal and State Policies as Causes in the Influx of Mexican Immigrants to North Carolina during the Period 1990–2006,” WCU student Anne Powell. 12:30–1:30 p.m. Room 104, Killian Building. (227-3761)
Lady Catamount volleyball—vs. Chattanooga. $. 7 p.m. RRAC. (227-7338)

Saturday, Sept. 23
Lady Catamount volleyball—vs. Elon. Southern Conference game. $. 2 p.m. RRAC. (227-7338)
Exhibit preview—“Art That Works: Kimmel Collection of Art and Design” (Roy Clark ticket holders only). 6:30 p.m. Fine Art Museum, FAPAC. (227-3591)
Concert—Roy Clark, one of the nation’s most versatile and well-known country musicians, performs for the opening of the Joe and Cynthia Kimmel Collection. Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet, opening act. $. 7:30 p.m. FAPAC. (227-2479)

Sunday, Sept. 24
Lady Catamount volleyball—vs. UNC Greensboro. Southern Conference game. $. 2 p.m. RRAC. (227-7338)
Reception and gallery talk—“Kimmel Collection: Tracing Modernism,” Martin DeWitt, director, Fine Art Museum. 2 p.m. FAPAC. (227-3591)

Exhibits

Mountain Heritage Center

Gallery A: “Migration of the Scotch-Irish People.” Includes text panels, illustrations, artifacts and vibrant murals that trace the Scotch-Irish Appalachian settlers from Ulster to Pennsylvania, through the Shenandoah Valley, and into Western North Carolina. Permanent exhibit.

Gallery B: “Transformations: Cherokee Baskets in the Twentieth Century.” How the processes, materials and styles have evolved during this time period. Through Oct. 20.

Gallery C: “After the War: Conflict and Domestic Change in the North Carolina Mountains.” Portrays how wars and their aftermath have shaped the lives of people and communities in Western North Carolina. Through May 2007.

Lobby: “People of the Land.” Continuing exhibit.

Slideshow Spotlight

FOR SEPTEMBER: Bells in the Valley, a centennial history of Western Carolina University.

Mountain Heritage Center hours:
8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday; and 2–5 p.m. Sunday. (227-7129 or www.wcu.edu/mhc)

Fine Art Museum
Fine and Performing Arts Center

“Hazel Larsen Archer: Black Mountain College Photographer.” In-depth look at Archer’s photographs from her nine years at the college as both a student and a teacher. Through Sept. 23.


Fine Art Museum hours:
Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (227-3591 or www.wcu.edu/fapac)
PROFESSOR SHARES MEMORIES OF WORKING AT GROUND ZERO

A Western Carolina University professor who spent two weeks at “ground zero” of the collapsed World Trade Center will share his recollections as the nation pauses for the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

In a program set for 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13, John Williams, director of WCU’s forensic anthropology program, will discuss his work as a member of a federal team dispatched to New York City five years ago to assist with the identification of victims of the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers.

The presentation, “9-11-01: Remembering the Aftermath,” will be held in the theater of A.K. Hinds University Center. It is open to the public free of charge.

Williams is a member of a team of specialists called “DMORT” (Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team), a federal agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that activates forensic anthropologists, pathologists, fingerprint experts, funeral home directors and other specialists to deal with mass fatality disasters.

The program at WCU is sponsored by the Coulter Faculty Center. For more information, call (828) 227-7196.

Outreach Center Named in Honor of Cordelia Camp

A Western building now bears the name of a beloved community leader in public education as the board of trustees unanimously approved a resolution renaming the University Outreach Center as the Cordelia Camp Building.

The board voted during its quarterly meeting Friday, Sept. 1, to officially attach Camp’s name to the building that once housed the Camp Laboratory School. The action came in response to numerous requests by alumni and friends of the university.

After reviewing the situation, university officials said that the official board of trustees’ action more than 40 years ago resulted in the naming of the school, but not the building in which it was located. Given the strong feelings by many friends of the university, Chancellor John W. Bardo decided it would be appropriate to ask the trustees to officially name the building in honor of Camp.

“In reviewing the record, it became clear that there was confusion between the board’s official action and how people interpreted that action,” Bardo said.

The Camp Laboratory School, dedicated in May 1965, was designed to provide training opportunities to Western students who were studying to become school teachers. It operated as a public school for children in grades one through 12 until it was vacated in 1994 when the Jackson County School System opened the Cullowhee Valley School. The building was then named the University Outreach Center, a step designed to reflect different activities taking place in the building as the university’s distance education, economic development and external engagement divisions moved into the facility.

With Friday’s vote by the board of trustees, the building is now the Cordelia Camp Building. The trustees also directed that a suitable likeness of Camp be appropriately displayed in a prominent location in the building.

“The name Cordelia Camp has long been synonymous at Western Carolina University and in North Carolina with excellence in public education. Miss Camp served on the staff of Western Carolina University, then known as Western Carolina Teachers College, for a period of 23 years as professor of educational methods, social studies for elementary grades and North Carolina history, and as director of student teaching,” Bardo said.

The naming of the building in honor of Camp is in recognition of “her untiring devotion to the profession of teaching, her high standard of personal and professional ethics, and her service to the university, the state of North Carolina, and residents of the state,” Bardo said.