

the Reporter

News for the Faculty and Staff of Western Carolina University



University Presents Top Awards for Teaching, Research and Service

WCU presented its top faculty and staff awards for teaching, research and service for the 2005-06 academic year Friday, April 21, at its annual spring General Faculty Meeting and Awards Convocation.

James Scifers, associate professor of health sciences and director of WCU's athletic training program, won the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award. The Paul A. Reid Service Award for faculty went to Scott Philyaw, associate professor of history, while the Paul A. Reid Service Award for administrative staff went to Fred Hinson, senior associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.



James Scifers

Mimi Fenton, associate professor of English, received the University Scholar Award, while the Academic Program of Excellence Award went to the Kimmel School of Construction Management, Engineering and Technology, and the Integration of Learning Award was given to "Adventure Sports in the Mountains," a project that will explore adventure sports from several academic perspectives.



Mimi Fenton

The honors were announced by Western Chancellor John W. Bardo; Kyle Carter, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; and Robert Caruso, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Other major awards recognized at the convocation include the University of North Carolina Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching, also won by Scott Philyaw (see related story); the Excellence in Teaching Liberal Studies Award; and the Scholarly Development Assignment Program awards.

The Excellence in Teaching Liberal Studies Award is designed to recognize a faculty member for excellence in promoting significant student learning while teaching liberal studies courses on a regular basis, Carter said.

The winner, Leah Hampton, instructor in the English department, "incorporates the ideals of community, responsibility and diversity into her classroom everyday by insisting on mutual respect," Carter said. "She invests an immense amount of time and self in our students and their futures as she seeks to transform them into citizens of the world, representing the best and highest outcomes of our Liberal Studies Program and of Western Carolina University. She is a teacher in the most profound sense of the word, and she is

most deserving of this award."

Recipients in the Scholarly Development Assignment Program, announced by Carter, are Joan Byrd, acting head and professor in WCU's department of art; and Hal Herzog, professor of psychology. The Scholarly Development Assignment Program provides leave from usual work commitments to full-time tenured faculty so they may pursue concentrated scholarly work. Recipients are chosen on a competitive basis by a faculty committee.

Scifers, winner of the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award, is completing his third year on the health sciences department faculty.

"Dr. Scifers' teaching philosophy is quite simple: 'Demand the same excellence from myself as I do from my students,'" Bardo said in announcing the award. "Words such as passionate, energetic and knowledgeable are compliments that bring him great pride and serve as

rewards for the time and energy dedicated to helping students achieve their career goals. Jay challenges his students to understand and apply the material they learn in class, rather than to simply memorize and regurgitate what they have heard in assignments and on exams."

Philyaw, winner of the Reid faculty award and a WCU faculty member for 10 years, has been described as "a scholarly expert, a gifted teacher, an insightful adviser and an inspiring role model," Bardo said.

Philyaw, who was recently named director of the Mountain Heritage Center, the university's museum of Southern Appalachian history and culture, "emphasizes critical thinking and its constant companion, clear communication, in his courses," Bardo said. "He also makes his classes relevant by stressing the advantages of collaborative learning in the workplace and he strives to give his students real-world experience."



Scott Philyaw

Hinson, recipient of the Reid staff award, joined WCU's faculty in 1966 as a professor of microbiology. As senior associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, he oversees both graduate and undergraduate admissions and offices of the registrar, financial aid, student support services, OneStop Student Service Center and the

advising center. Hinson also serves on an average of 20 committees and task forces each year, many of which he chairs, Bardo said.

"He has won numerous awards for outstanding teaching, and he is an excellent administrator, as well," Bardo said. "He leads by example – beginning each day before dawn and continuing well into the evening. Fred Hinson has consistently looked for ways to serve this university and its people. He is committed to excellence in all things and leads his team toward this goal by being the first to serve and the last to complain."

Fenton, who won the University Scholar Award, "embodies the

Scott Philyaw Named One Of UNC System's Top Professors

Scott Philyaw, associate professor of history, has been named one of the best teachers in the University of North Carolina system, earning praise from students and faculty colleagues for a collaborative teaching style that provides his students with real-world experience to supplement classroom learning.

Philyaw is among 16 recipients of the UNC Board of Governors Awards for Excellence in Teaching. The award will be presented at a recognition luncheon May 12 in Chapel Hill. Winners receive a commemorative bronze medallion and \$7,500 cash prize. Philyaw also is recipient of the Paul A. Reid Service Award for Faculty (see related story).

A faculty member at Western since 1996, Philyaw teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in U.S. history, including Colonial America, the American West and the American Revolution.

"Scott emphasizes critical thinking and its constant companion, clear communication, in his courses," WCU Chancellor John W. Bardo said. "He also makes his classes relevant by stressing the advantages of collaborative learning in the workplace, and he strives to give his students real-world experience. His students have produced publications for the National Park Service, and recently they prepared a case study of the Dillsboro Dam controversy for publication in the New York Times on-line college edition."

In addition to his teaching duties, Philyaw was appointed earlier this year to serve as director of the Mountain Heritage Center, Western's regional museum that studies, documents and interprets



Scott Philyaw

the culture and history of Southern Appalachia. In accepting the appointment, he returns to lead a museum where he once worked as an intern while a WCU undergraduate history major.

After graduating from WCU in 1983, Philyaw went on to earn his master's degree in history from the College of William and Mary, and his doctorate in history from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. While at William and Mary, he worked at Colonial Williamsburg and at an archaeological site at Yorktown Battlefield. At UNC, he worked with the Southern Historical Collection.

Philyaw has served as scholar-in-residence at Old Salem's Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts and as an exhibit consultant with The Orchard at Altapass in McDowell County. Working with WCU students, he co-authored two pamphlets for the Blue Ridge Parkway, including "The Natural Diversity of Linville Falls," which won the 2002 Excellence in Interpretation Award for Trail Guides from the National Park Service Cooperating Association.

Philyaw and the 15 other award recipients, representing an array of academic disciplines, were nominated by special committees on their home campuses and selected by the Board of Governors Committee on Personnel and Tenure. The awards will be presented by UNC President Erskine Bowles and Board of Governors Chairman J. Bradley Wilson of Cary.

Established by the Board of Governors in April 1994 to underscore the importance of teaching and to reward good teaching across the university, the awards are given annually to a tenured faculty member from each UNC campus. Winners must have taught at their present institutions at least seven years. No one may receive the award more than once.

— by Bill Studenc

CONGRESSMAN TO RECEIVE HONORARY DOCTORATE AT WESTERN'S SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Western will bestow an honorary doctorate upon Charles H. Taylor, District 11's representative in the U.S. House of Representatives, and give out a major alumni award as the university holds spring commencement exercises at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the Ramsey Regional Activity Center.

Taylor, a member of the U.S. House since 1990, will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Frances Owl-Smith, pathologist and laboratory medical director at Haywood Regional Medical Center in Clyde, will receive the Alumni Award for Academic and Professional Achievement. A 1983 graduate of WCU, Owl-Smith is the first female member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to become a physician.

Commencement is open to everyone and no tickets are required for admission. Approximately 920 students are candidates for undergraduate and graduate degrees, pending final examinations and review.

Western Chancellor John W. Bardo will preside over commencement and deliver the charge to the degree candidates.

A required rehearsal for the students will be at 9:30 a.m. the day of commencement in the main arena of the Ramsey Center. Students will line up for the processional at 1:15 p.m. in the auxiliary gymnasium on the lower level, west side of the Ramsey Center. The processional will begin at 2 p.m.

Receptions for the degree candidates and their families and friends will be held in the Ramsey Center following commencement. Receptions for undergraduate students will be held on the Ramsey Center concourse in a designated area for each college, while a reception for graduate students will be held in the auxiliary gymnasium.

Spectators should enter the Ramsey Center through one of four upper concourse doors. Those with physical disabilities should use the northeastern upper entrance, adjacent to the stands of E.J. Whitmire Stadium.

—by Randall Holcombe



Charles H. Taylor



Frances Owl-Smith

John LeBaron Earns Fulbright Award

John LeBaron, the Jay M. Robinson Distinguished Professor in Educational Technologies, is recipient of a prestigious Fulbright Senior Specialist Award to teach and conduct research at the University of Helsinki this May and June.



John LeBaron

It marks the second Fulbright award for LeBaron, who teaches in WCU's department of educational leadership and foundations. He previously served as a Fulbright senior scholar to the University of Oulu, also in Finland, during the 1998-99 academic year.

LeBaron will assist the University of Helsinki, which recently established a teacher education program that takes advantage of developments in distance education and in the use of educational technology to explore increasingly flexible ways to prepare teachers for certification. The university is trying to boost the credentials of unlicensed teachers currently working provisionally in schools and unable to fulfill campus-based classroom study.

Starting in 2007, learning via computer networks will be utilized in all teacher education classes at the University of Helsinki, which is seeking LeBaron's help with development of an implementation plan for the program. He will work in cooperation with a Helsinki faculty team investigating how education using a variety of media, including distance education, supports teacher preparation.

"Based on the university's previous work, research and existing curriculum, I will be negotiating with teachers, students and administrators as they plan new technology-driven strategies for teacher education programs," he said. "We want to seek a broader use of the technological tools available to teacher education throughout the entire faculty at the University of Helsinki."

LeBaron is the second WCU faculty member to be awarded a Fulbright in the past year. Jeanne Dorle, assistant professor in the department of management and international business, was named the Fulbright Research Chair in Project Management at the University of Quebec last summer.

LeBaron came to WCU from the Graduate School of Education at the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2004.

The Jay M. Robinson Distinguished Professorship in Educational Technologies was endowed at more than \$500,000 in 1997 through \$355,000 in gifts from then-retiring University of North Carolina system president C.D. Spangler, along with \$167,000 in state matching funds. It is named in honor of the late Jay Robinson, who served as president of the N.C. State Board of Education from 1994 to 1997. The brother of former Western Chancellor H.F. "Cotton" Robinson, he died in 2000.

— by Bill Studenc

Faculty Awards *continued from page 1*

definition of a scholar," Bardo said in presenting the award. "She has studied, interpreted and expounded upon the works and meanings of John Milton for well over a decade and has risen to a level of prominence in her field. Dr. Fenton is held in high regard by her students, her colleagues both on- and off-campus, and the literary elite."

Fenton has published many articles in top academic journals and has delivered papers at national and international venues. Her book, "Milton's Places of Hope: Spiritual and Political Connections of Hope with Land" will be published this fall by Ashgate, one of the world's most prestigious academic presses.

The Academic Program of Excellence Award provides \$10,000 to an academic unit or department to use in enhancing program services. In presenting the award to the Kimmel School of Construction Management, Engineering and Technology, Bardo said the school "provides innovative solutions in construction management, engineering, technology, economic development, professional development, and engagement to businesses and industries in the Western North Carolina community."

Since 2001, enrollment in the school has increased from 135 to 650, while new programs have been added in construction management, engineering technology and electrical engineering, Bardo said. Also, the school's Center for Integrated Technologies has established relationships with more than 80 regional companies in less than two years, a \$10.4 million endowment established through a gift from the Kimmel family of Asheville has made possible six endowed professorships in construction management, and the school has obtained almost \$8 million in external grants to support innovation and technology-based development, he said.

"The Kimmel School is known for its contagious 'can-do' spirit. The reputation of our campus has been enhanced by their engagement in the

entire Western North Carolina community," Bardo said.

The Integration of Learning Award recognizes faculty members who work directly with Division of Student Affairs staff members to promote the integration of teaching with activities within the division. The winning proposal, "Adventure Sports in the Mountains," will bring together Base Camp Cullowhee; the Mountain Heritage Center; and faculty in English, sociology and history, Caruso



said in announcing the honor.

"The purpose of the winning proposal is to enable students to explore adventure sports as an integral part of the outdoor culture pervasive at Western," Caruso said. "The proposal also seeks to promote wellness, provide opportunities for involvement on campus and in the local community, and help fuel the regional economy."

Based in a three-course learning community, the project will examine the development of regional activities such as whitewater kayaking, cycling, rock climbing, trail running and hiking. In a sociology class, students will learn how subcultures have evolved around those sports, while a University Studies-Interdisciplinary class will allow students to investigate options and participate in an adventure sport subculture. Students will write stories about their experiences in an English class," Caruso said.

Accepting the award were Kathleen Brennan, assistant professor of sociology; Michael Despeaux, career services coordinator; Jubal Tiner, assistant professor of English; and Scott Philyaw. The four faculty members wrote the proposal in cooperation with Josh Whitmore, assistant director for outdoor programs.

The \$2,000 award will be used in carrying out the project, Caruso said.

— by Randall Holcombe

Faculty Awards, Retirements Highlight Spring Recognition Programs

In addition to the major university awards presented at the spring General Faculty Meeting and Awards Convocation, numerous other faculty awards are presented at the end of the semester. Here is a list of recipients.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Provost's Instructional Improvement Awards:

Lisa Bloom and **Sharon Dole**, human services,
Carmen Huffman, chemistry and physics,
Judy Mallory, nursing, and
Niall Michelsen, political science and public affairs

MICROGRANT RECIPIENTS:

Arledge Armenaki, communication, theatre and dance
Debra Burke, marketing and business law
Russell Cheadle, health sciences
Marie Cochran, art
Cynthia Deale, management and international business
Ruby Drew, human services
Bonnie Garner, nursing
Marianne Hollis, health sciences
Michael Hubble, health sciences
Marie Huff, social work
Beverly Jacobs, human services
Cheryl Johnston, anthropology
Cathy Litty, human services
David McCord, psychology
Erin McNelis, mathematics and computer science
Niall Michelsen, political science and public affairs
Larry Myers, applied criminology
Peter Savage, communication, theatre and dance
David Shapiro, human services
Elizabeth Simmons-Rowland, nursing
Sandra Tonnsen, educational leadership and foundations
James Ullmer, economics
Alessia Zanin-Yost, Hunter Library

COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Board of Governors – Innovation in Teaching Award:

Marie Huff, social work and **Mary Teslow**, health sciences

Donald C. Morgan Faculty Scholar Award: **Burton Ogle**, health sciences

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Board of Governors – College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Award:

Sean O'Connell, biology

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

College of Business Professor of Excellence Award:

Hollye Moss, management and international business

Board of Governors – Creative and Innovative Teaching Award:

Grace Allen, accountancy, finance and entrepreneurship and **Debra Burke**, marketing and business law

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS

Botner Superior Teaching Award:

Hal Herzog, psychology

Board of Governors Awards for Superior Teaching:

Jacque Jacobs, educational leadership and foundations,

Terry Rose, birth through kindergarten, elementary and middle grades education

John Sherlock, human services and

Debby Singleton, health and human performance

CEAP Dean's Research Award:

Dixie McGinty, educational leadership and foundations

Exemplary Service Award:

Ruth McCreary, School-University Teacher Education Partnership

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Summer Research Grant Recipients:

Shawn Acheson, psychology, **Paul Heckert**, chemistry and physics, **Sean O'Connell**, biology and **Steve Yurkovich**, geosciences and natural resources management

Summer Research Fellowship

Recipient: **Chris Cooper**, political science and public affairs

Faculty Research Grant Recipient:

Ben Tanner, geosciences and natural resources management

Hunter Scholar Award Recipient:

Andrew Denson, history

Teaching-Research Award:

Chris Cooper, political science and public affairs

2006 STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION AWARDS

New Employee Professional Award:

Sara Stoltenburg, Women's Center

New Employee – Support Award:

Lisa Carter, Counseling and Psychological Services

New Employee – Housekeeping Award:

Wade Conner, Residential Living

Star – Professional Award:

Julie Walters-Steele, A.K. Hinds University Center

Star – Support Award: **Dianne Harris**,

A.K. Hinds University Center

Star – Housekeeping Award:

Mary W. Brown, Residential Living

Collaboration Award:

Brian Boyer and **Janina Dehart**, Residential Living

Western Ambassador Award:

Jill Lindsay, A.K. Hinds University Center

Student Program Award:

Love Your Body Day, Counseling and Psychological Services

Student Organization of the Year Award:

C.L.A.W., Counseling and Psychological Services

Enhancing Diversity Award:

Tanisha Jenkins, Multicultural Affairs

Program of the Year Award:

Safe Ride, Health Center

John Fry Excellence in Advising Award:

Yashica Martin, Advising Center

Faculty/Administrator of the Year Award:

Elizabeth McRae, History

Bright Idea Award:

Lauren Ray, Residential Living

Advising Award:

Teresa Crum, Residential Living

Research and/or Publications Award:

Glenn Bowen, Service Learning

Community Service Award:

Kathleen Prindiville, Residential Living

Energizer Award:

Karen White, Health Center

Members of the Western Carolina University community came together at a special luncheon earlier this spring to recognize several EPA employees who are retiring or entering phased retirement this year. Meeting with Chancellor John Bardo and Provost Kyle Carter are (from left to right) Noelle Kehrberg, dean of the College of Applied Sciences (phased); Harold Williford, associate professor of mathematics and computer science (phased); Christine Stevens, head of the department of health sciences (phased); Bardo; Ruby Drew, associate professor of human services (phased); Roger Bacon, professor of chemistry (retiree); Troy Barksdale, director of university planning (retiree); and Carter. Not pictured are retirees John McCreary, professor of business computer information systems and economics, and Valerie Nybo, assistant professor of health and human performance.



WCU Faculty Declared “A Compelling, Living Resource”

When the Western community recently gathered to honor faculty members at the annual Faculty Appreciation Banquet, the university celebrated a group the Jackson County Board of Commissioners declared “a compelling, living resource for Western North Carolina and beyond.”

In a recently issued proclamation, the commissioners set aside April 18 as Western Carolina University Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day. The banquet, sponsored by the Coulter Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, this year celebrated not only the faculty, but the expansion and re-organization of the Coulter Faculty Center.

In spring of 2005, Provost Kyle Carter called for a study to reorganize the center to better serve faculty in their efforts to enhance student learning. In response to faculty requests from surveys, interviews and special events, the Coulter Center is now undergoing an expansion and restructuring.

Combining the resources of the center and the divisions of Educational Technologies, and Distance and Continuing Education, the center entered a new phase of faculty support on Jan. 1. Building upon current activities that include the scholarship of teaching and learning, faculty services, sponsored activities and publications, center staff are working to integrate professional development activities, instructional design and technology support into a single point of service in Hunter Library.

Interim Director Anna McFadden moved from her position as chair of the department of educational leadership and foundations to lead the effort. McFadden, a faculty member for 10 years at WCU, said she is excited about the change. “When I came on board, I spent

three months studying in-depth the needs of faculty,” she said. “The message is clear. Faculty want a seamless solution to enhancing their instruction, whether pedagogically or technically. We are now engaged in strategic planning to clarify the vision, mission and strategic directions of the Coulter Faculty Center.”

In the expanded center, faculty will find assistance in designing curricula, integrating technology to augment student learning, training to use technologies, and exploring the scholarship of teaching and learning, as well as new ways of addressing teaching and learning issues. For those faculty who are engaged or soon will be engaged in distance education, the center will have instructional developers with expertise not only in course design but also in dealing specifically with successful pedagogy in a variety of distance formats. Faculty wanting to incorporate geographic information systems, audio or video integration, or research functions such as SPSS or SAS into their courses will find assistance for those efforts as well.

The reorganization builds on the strong foundation established by previous director Alan Altany, who led WCU to a national reputation for the scholarship of teaching and learning with the establishment of the international peer-reviewed electronic journal MountainRise.

The reorganization effort has drawn interest and inquires from institutions such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Appalachian State University. For more information, contact Anna McFadden at (828) 227-2093 or amcfadden@email.wcu.edu.

Nursing

Nursing Accreditation Body Seeks Comments

Western’s department of nursing will undergo an accreditation review by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education in September. CCNE is seeking written, third-party comments from the department’s constituents concerning its qualifications for accreditation status.

Written comments will be received by CCNE until 30 days before the scheduled visit Sept. 25-27. Written comments should be mailed to: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education; One DuPont Circle, NW, Suite 530; Washington, DC 20036-1120.

► **Patricia Bricker**, assistant professor of elementary and middle grades education, is recipient of the Helen B. Watson Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award presented by the College of Education, Health and Human Services at the University of Tennessee. Bricker’s dissertation, titled “Children’s Books and The Nature of Science: A Multi-site Naturalistic Case Study of Three Elementary Teachers in the Rural Southeast,” describes the efforts of three elementary teachers to use children’s books in support of inquiry-based science and specifically addresses issues related to the nature of science.

► **Sharon Metcalfe**, assistant professor of nursing, has been permanently inducted into the 2006-07 Manchester Who’s Who Registry of Executives and Professionals in recognition of her achievements in the nursing and education professions. The international registry recognizes the achievements of professionals and executives from around the world.

► **Jim Manring**, director of planned giving and chairman of the WestCare Health System board of trustees, received a state trustee service award at the North Carolina Hospital Association’s Annual N.C. Hospital Leaders Institute, held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., in April. Manring was appointed as a trustee of Sylva’s Harris Regional Hospital in January 1996 and supported the merger of Harris Regional and Swain County hospitals and the establishment of WestCare Health System. He was elected chairman of the WestCare board of trustees in 2005, and he served as the first chair of the newly created WestCare joint advisory and mediation committee. NCHA created the trustee service awards in 1992 to recognize hospital trustees who, through their leadership, have made significant and unique contributions to their hospitals and communities they serve.

► Ten faculty members from the department of psychology and one from the department of

Undergraduate student Dorothy Keane received the Psi Chi Regional Research Award for her poster “Influence of Navigational Experience on Cognitive Mapping Skills,” while faculty member **Windy Gordon** and graduate student Nicholas Mescia took runner-up honors in the graduate student awards competition for the poster “Does Cognitive Dissonance Mediate Growth in Challenge Activities?”

► **Lonnie Speer**, a well-known independent scholar and historian in the field of Civil War prisons and military history who retired after 30 years of law enforcement and is now working in Housekeeping at WCU, just published his fifth book, “The 110th AAA: Driving Hitler’s Crawlin’ Coffin.” Two of Speer’s previous works, “Portals to Hell, The Military Prisons of the Civil War” and “War of Vengeance: Acts of Retaliation on Civil War POWs,” were chosen as alternate choices in the nationally known History Book Club. His most recent book is



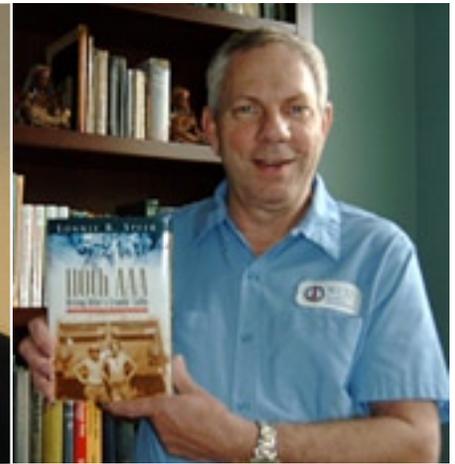
Sharon Metcalfe



Craig Capano



Jim Manring



Lonnie Speer

► **Craig Capano**, associate professor of construction management, will join experts from around the world in May as an instructor in Beijing. The Association of Equipment Manufacturers organized an event, CONEXPO Asia 2006, to bring together leading construction industry suppliers and Chinese and Asia-Pacific consumers to discuss the latest equipment and innovations to improve, safety, efficiency and productivity. With PowerPoint slides translated into Chinese and the help of an interpreter, Capano will lead sessions on topics from best practices in construction project management to the latest and greatest construction software and tools. He also will moderate a panel discussion titled “Smart Machines and Automated Operators: Is It the Future?”

human services participated in the Southeastern Psychological Association meeting in Atlanta earlier this spring, presenting at paper and poster sessions and taking part in symposia. A paper by **Scott Minor**, “Traumatic Experiences in a Sample of Jamaican Students,” was nominated for the Outstanding Professional Paper Award. Also participating from the psychology department were **Millie Abel, Lydia Aydlett, Jim Goodwin, Windy Gordon, Bruce Henderson, Alvin Malesky, David McCord, Ashley Owens and Will Poynter**. Participating from the human services department was **Cathy Litty**. Seven graduate students and 12 undergraduate students also took part in the association’s meeting, marking the largest number of WCU undergraduate students ever to participate in the event.

the WWII history of the 110th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion that landed on Omaha Beach during the D-Day invasion of Europe and became the first 90mm gun battalion to shoot down a German plane on French soil and the first American anti-aircraft unit to enter Paris, and went on to distinction during the Battle of the Bulge and in the protection of the bridge at Remagen, Germany.

Speer spent seven years researching for the book, going over military daily reports and National Archive records, interviewing many of the veterans of the unit and studying their diaries, journals and contemporary letters home, as well as attending their yearly reunions around the nation.

WCU May 1 – 2006 June 18 Calendar

Monday, May 1

Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony—honoring deceased Western Carolina University students. 3:30 p.m. Brown Cafeteria Plaza. (227-7234)

Tuesday, May 2

Daylong class—“Learning for Fun: One-day Web Design” \$. (227-7397 or <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu/community>)

Wednesday, May 3

Meeting—Faculty Senate. 3–5 p.m. Room 104, Killian Building. (227-3966)

Late-night exam breakfast. 8–10 p.m. Dodson Cafeteria. (227-7396)

Friday, May 5–Sunday, May 7

Catamount baseball—vs. Southern Conference games. Game times vary. HS/CF. (227-7338)

Saturday, May 6

Spring Commencement. 2 p.m. RRAC. (227-7495)

Thursday, May 11–Sunday, May 14

Softball—Southern Conference Softball Championship. Chattanooga, Tenn. (227-7338)

Thursday, May 11

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

Friday, May 12–Sunday, May 14

Catamount baseball—vs. Kennesaw State. Game times vary. HS/CF. (227-7338)

Monday, May 15–Thursday, May 18

Seminar—Fourth Annual Summer Institute for Teaching and Learning. (227-2093)

Monday, May 15

State Health Plan meeting—information about three new PPO options available October 1. Registration required. 9–11 a.m. Auditorium, MHC. (<http://www.wcu.edu/hr/training/personal.asp>)

Friday, May 19–Sunday, May 21

Catamount baseball—vs. Furman. Southern Conference games. Game times vary. HS/CF. (227-7338)

Wednesday, May 24–Sunday, May 28

Baseball—Southern Conference Championship. Riley Park, Charleston, S.C. (227-7338)

Wednesday, May 24

State Health Plan meeting—information about three new PPO options available October 1. Registration required. Noon–2 p.m. Auditorium, MHC. (<http://www.wcu.edu/hr/training/personal.asp>)

Sunday, May 28

Sunday Sizzlin’ Summer Shorts Series—“A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline” \$. 3 p.m. FAPAC. (227-2479)

June

Friday, June 2

Meeting—board of trustees. 9:30 a.m. Room 510, HFR. (227-7100)

Sunday, June 4–Saturday, June 10

TransAtlantic Horn Quartet Summer Seminar. (227-7397 or <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu>)

Sunday, June 4–Friday, June 23

Atlanta Ballet Summer Program—for students age 12 and up., (227-7397 or <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu>)

Thursday, June 8

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

Second Annual Service Learning

Symposium—“Promoting Significant Student Learning and Civic Engagement: Principles, Procedures, and Practices.” 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (227-7234)

Sunday, June 11–Saturday, June 17

Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) Summer Careers Health Camp—for middle-school students with possible career interest in health care. (227-7397 or <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu>)

Thursday, June 15

State Health Plan meeting—information about three new PPO options available October 1. Registration required. 9–11 a.m. Auditorium, MHC., <http://www.wcu.edu/hr/training/personal.asp>)

Saturday, June 17

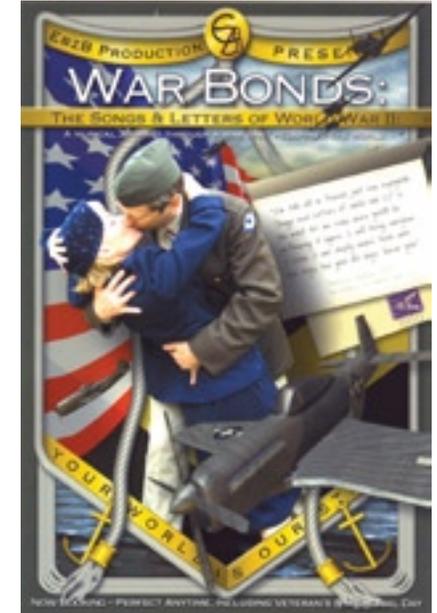
Catamount Scholarship Auction—Renaissance Hotel, Charlotte. (828) 254-4290 or jonathan.jorstad@carolinafirst.com)

Sunday, June 18–Friday, June 23

Mountain Dulcimer Week—seventh annual event. Evening concerts Monday–Wednesday, \$, 7 p.m., HA. (227-7397 or <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu>)

Sunday, June 18

Sunday Sizzlin’ Summer Shorts Series—“War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of World War II, Musical Cabaret”) \$. 3 p.m. FAPAC. (227-2479)



EXHIBITS

Fine Art Museum, FAPAC

Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (227-3591 or <http://fapac.wcu.edu>)

Mountain Heritage Center

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (227-7129 or www.wcu.edu/mhc)

Slideshow Spotlight, MHC

MAY: “After the War: Conflict and Domestic Change in the North Carolina Mountains.” A ten-minute video introduction to how World War I and II and their aftermath have shaped the lives of people and communities in Western North Carolina.

Key: \$—Admission fee; BB—Belk Building; CAC—Catamount Athletic Center; CAT—Center for Applied Technology; CSC—Catamount Softball Complex; FAPAC—Fine and Performing Arts Center; HA—Hoey Auditorium; HFR—H.F. Robinson Administration Building; HS/CF—Hennon Stadium/Childress Field; MHC—Mountain Heritage Center; NSA—Natural Sciences Auditorium; RH—Recital Hall, Coulter Building; RRAC—Ramsey Regional Activity Center; UC—A.K. Hinds University Center; UOC—University Outreach Center; WS/BW—Whitmire Stadium/Bob Waters Field.

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

SACS Update

Quality Enhancement Plan Fosters Intentional Learning at WCU

With the September 2006 deadline for submitting the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Compliance Certification quickly approaching, a four-member “tech and edit” subcommittee of the Compliance Committee is meeting weekly to complete the document.

Institutional responses to the 75 principles of accreditation required for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of SACS were drafted by members of the Compliance Committee during the summer and fall of 2005. During the current semester, subcommittee members are putting the finishing touches on the reports that represent the collective findings and institutional perspective of Western’s standing relative to those principles. Subcommittee members are Noelle Kehrberg, dean of the College of Applied Sciences and co-chair of the Compliance Committee; Brian Gastle, editor of the SACS reports and associate professor of English; Ann Hallyburton, research librarian in Hunter Library; and Carol Burton, director of the SACS review.

Two new electronic media have been designed to manage the compliance aspect of the SACS review. First, an application program and accompanying comprehensive Web site housing information on all 663 full- and part-time instructional faculty are being developed by Paul Dyer and Jeff Tatham of the applications development team in the Office of Information Technology. The sites rely on the

capabilities of the new Banner system to house faculty data such as academic qualifications and credentials, teaching assignments, rank, academic affiliation and status, and to facilitate the creation of reports that contribute to institutional effectiveness. Donna Watson of the Office of Human Resources has the responsibility for entering, tracking and maintaining faculty credentials according to the SACS principles.

Second, the new SACS portal, developed by Jed Tate of Web Services, houses the comprehensive audit conducted on major institutional functions and processes, such as curriculum development, learning resources, faculty and administrator evaluation, student life, governance, and financial and physical resources. Western’s draft responses to the Principles may be viewed at: <http://bannerportal/sites/SACS/default.aspx>. Click on compliance certification. For additional assistance on accessing the SACS portal, contact IT Services at 227-7487. Currently, the SACS portal can be accessed only from on campus.

