Faculty News:

Jim Cook was a participant in a successful grant proposal of over $400,000 to the National Science Foundation for three summers of environmental research in China.

Roxanne Easley was awarded the Distinguished Professor of Teaching prize in spring 2009.

Jason Knirck organized the regional conference of Phi Alpha Theta on the CWU campus on April 16-18, 2009. Participating were 115 students and 25 professors from distant campuses as well as students and profs from our history department.


Graduate Student News:

Students who participated in the spring Phi Alpha Theta conference were Rob Zakula, Andy Wilden, Greg Hinze, McKayla Sutton, Derek Robson, and Paul Baker.

The winner of the Robert and Terry Topmiller Prize for MA Thesis was McKayla Sutton.

The author of the History MA Thesis nomination for the CWU campus prize was Ian Stacy.

Undergraduate Student News:

Randall Ward won the Corinne Farrell Merit award for his local history research project.

Syd Gaertner was the history student representative to Dean Morgan’s advisory council for the College of Arts and Humanities.

Students who participated in the spring Phi Alpha Theta conference were Erik Carlson.

The winner of the Barto Scholarship was David Reynolds.

The winner of the Clareta Smith Olmstead Scholarship was Randall Ward.

Winner of the College of Arts and Humanities prize for distinguished research paper for 2008-09 was Michael Rivera.

Alumni News:

Lori Bone returned to campus in May 2009 to accept a recognition at Dean Morgan’s annual banquet. Lori met with students to discuss careers for history majors. Lori joined the College of Arts and Humanities Advisory Board.

Michael La Freniere (BA 2007) is working as a loan officer for a mortgage company and is applying to law school.

Patricia Laurent (MA) has a tenure-track position in history at Montgomery County Community College in X, CA

Kirsten Erickson (MA): is a librarian at North Bend public library.

Ramirose Attebury (MA): is a librarian at University of Idaho, Moscow and is working on Ph.D. in organizational management.

Rachael Birks (BA): teaches German and social studies at Hanford High School, WA

Jody Bell (BA, MA): teaches social studies at Kittitas High School, WA

Mckayla Sutton (MA): is working on her Ph.D. at Marquette University

Katie Pittner (MA) is a history instructor at Pima Community College and is working on her MA in Library Science at the University of Arizona

Alyson Roy (BA): is working on a Ph.D. at the University of Washington

Al Miller (MA) is working on a Ph.D. at the University of Washington

William Frank (MA) is working on a Ph.D. at the University of Washington.

Christopher Topmiller (BA) is an attorney in Boise, ID and is teaching law and justice courses at Boise State University.

Good News since June 2009

Faculty News:


Stephen Moore served as the humanities advisor for a successful grant application to Humanities Washington for an exhibit of the Dean Hall Museum for Culture and Environment on “First Contact: Pre-Journeys” exhibit exploring the relations between Native American and Early Fur Traders in the Pacific Northwest.

Jim Cook escorted a dozen undergraduate students, including three from CWU, for the study of water power in northwest China, from July 19-August 3, 2009.

Mike Ervin and Megan McLean had a new baby, Iris, born August 3, 2009.

Dan Herman was offered a book contract from the University of Arizona press for his manuscript, “Rim Country Exodus: Conquest, Removal, and Return in Arizona.” Publication date is fall 2011. Herman’s book, To the Last Man, will be published in fall 2010.

Dan Herman will film a television interview with Dean Morgan on November 16.

Mike Ervin will welcome the consul of Michoacan, Mexico to campus on November 16.

Mike Ervin helped coordinate a year-long celebration of the centennial of the Mexican Revolution.

A few history profs have proposed study abroad trips for spring break, March 2010, and are awaiting review and approval to invite student participants.

Karen Blair is co-chair of the Women’s Studies Committee for the celebration of the Washington state woman suffrage centennial. She has published a walking tour of women’s buildings on campus and has presented a lecture to the League of Women Voters’ reception to honor elected women from Kittitas County, past and present.

Graduate Student News:
Robert Zakula is the history dept senator to the Student Academic Senate.

Undergraduate Student News: