

CEPS NEWS

December 20, 2001

CWU RECEIVES GLOWING NCATE REPORT

Fully accredited, no weaknesses. That is the finding of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) in regard to a review of Central Washington University's Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL). University officials received the NCATE report Nov. 15.

"I am extraordinarily proud of the faculty and students in our professional education preparation programs," Dr. Rebecca Bowers, dean of the CWU College of Education and Professional Studies, says. "A very, very small percentage of universities receive 100 percent on their evaluations. Usually, from two to six weaknesses are identified. We have come through this rigorous evaluation assessment process without blemish." That places the university's teacher preparation programs among the nation's elite.

In January 2000, Central's CTL received formal notice that its accreditation by NCATE, a national voluntary accrediting board, was confirmed, with probation, for two years. Because of the probationary status, NCATE officials conducted a follow-up visit to Central last April, reviewing all aspects of the university's teacher education programs, including the principal/administrator, school counseling and school psychology tracks, and the design and delivery of its professional education curriculum. In all, CWU was judged to have met 20 different NCATE standards "without weakness," according to the new report.

The "initial accreditation" visit was a much more thorough evaluation of CTL than would typically happen during a routine accreditation check, Bowers notes. Even so, members of the NCATE team determined that CWU had more than met all areas noted for improvement in the 2000 report, including portfolio development in subject areas; student teacher supervision; a plan for attracting and retaining a diversity of students; and documentation of faculty scholarly activity and teaching loads.

"This action by the United Accreditation Board removes the probation status from Central Washington University and returns the institution to a regular five-year accreditation cycle," Arthur E. Wise, NCATE president, noted in a letter to CWU President Jerilyn S. McIntyre.

In its new strategic plan, CWU has established a goal of strengthening its leadership position in the field of education. In this regard, the levels of enthusiasm and visible support from McIntyre and the university's board of trustees have been extraordinary, Bowers adds.

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The university's CTL is also approved by the state Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. NCATE's next on-site evaluation at CWU won't take place until 2006.

Students and Graduates Receive Accolades

MCKINNEY SELECTED

Betty McKinney was one of eight teachers from across the country recognized by the Council for Learning Disabilities at the group's annual conference in Charlotte, NC. McKinney was nominated for the award by Debra Prigge, Professor of Teacher Education Programs.

"It was an honor," McKinney said. "I go about my day just doing what I can do...My primary goal is to help these kids and make sure they can shine just like anybody else."

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MITCHELL AND WHEATLEY OUTSTANDING

Jennifer Mitchell and Cindy Wheatley were awarded distinction as Outstanding Nutrition Students in the Washington by the Washington State Dietetic Association for 2001. Mitchell was awarded Outstanding Dietetic Intern and Wheatley was awarded Outstanding Didactic Program Student.

FORSTER JEWELRY DESIGN WINNER

Prisha Forster, a student in Apparel Design, won the \$5000 International Jewelry Design Award for 2001.

YOUNGBLOOD DARE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Misty Youngblood, currently a Special Education Teacher in Camas, Washington, won the 2000 Oregon DARE officers Educator of the Year Award.

LAGOE AND ST. HILAIRE RECOGNIZED

Tracey Lagoe and Kenneth St. Hilaire, IET students, were recognized for installing a solar panel for D&M Coffee Shop in Ellensburg.

Faculty Recognition

JEFFERIES DOES GREAT STUFF

Stephen Jefferies, Professor of Physical Education, is the coordinator and co-developer of the first Central Washington University Master of Science on-line program, in Physical Education. In addition Dr. Jefferies developed and maintains one of the most popular websites for Physical Education teachers in the world. You can find it at <http://pelinks4u.org>. Other faculty, Andrew Jenkins, Kirk Mathias, and Bob McGowan, assist in the coordination of the site. Dr. Jefferies is also the Chair of the Ellensburg School District School Board.

\$1.23 PT3 GRANT AWARDED

Osman Alawiye, Jan Bowers, Jim DePaepe, and Rick Unruh collaborated to write and receive a \$1.23 million grant from the US Department of Education. The Preparing Teachers Through Technology (PT3) was received by the Center for Teaching and Learning, to enhance teacher use of technology.

JURENKA AUTHORS BOOKS

Nancy Jurenka, Professor of Reading Education, has published numerous books over her career. Most recently, she has published *Hobbies Through Children's Books and Activities*, and, *Cultivating a Child's Imagination Through Gardening*.

KAMINSKI AND IET RECEIVE BOEING AWARD

Under the leadership of Walter Kaminski, the Department of Industrial Engineering Technology received \$80,000 in grants from Boeing. The award was specified to provide \$50,000 to support the MS in Engineering Technology program. An additional \$20,000 was credited for technical equipment for the department. Over \$9000 in grants were awarded for student scholarships and senior project support in the department.

ENDOWED CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT POSITION

David Carns and William Bender, Construction Management Professors, provided the leadership necessary to receive a \$250,000 state grant towards establishing an endowed faculty position in Construction Management. Carns and Bender are now working with

construction industry officials to obtain the matching \$250,000 required to establish a \$500,000 endowment required to establish the new position.

JOHNSON RECEIVES AWARD

Craig H. Johnson, IET, received \$10,000 from the Foundry Education Association. The money is to be used to improve the foundry, located in the Hogue Technology Building, and to help fund research.

Program Highlights: MS in Engineering Technology

As a way to allow for program expansion, Central Washington University's two-year-old Master of Science in Engineering Technology (MSET) will relocate from The Boeing Co.'s Auburn facility to Highline Community College beginning winter quarter. As a way to help make the move "seamless," The Boeing Charitable Trust Organization recently approved a grant request of \$70,000 to fund the procurement of much needed laboratory equipment, according to Dr. Gerard Woodlief, Boeing's Engineering Focal to CWU, who authored the grant request and also serves as an adjunct professor in the MSET program.

"The beauty of this program is that it started out at Boeing and now it's going strong," he adds. "Now we can move it off-site and get some diversification among the MSET student population. That's important, since we have to keep in mind that this is not Boeing's degree program; it's Central's. We were happy to play a major role in launching it, and we are definitely deriving a tremendous amount of benefit from it. However, it's important that everything be done to ensure that it is capable to stand on its own financial base, which I'm sure that it will."

Dr. Walt Kaminski, CWU industrial and engineering professor and program coordinator, points out, at present, just one of the students enrolled in the program is not a Boeing employee. "We haven't even tabbed any other companies, or the general public yet," he says. "This program has tremendous potential. It's a high-quality program and the only master's degree program of its kind in the state."

Central's multi-disciplinary MSET program is designed to broaden the technological backgrounds of persons holding bachelor's degrees in the engineering technology, industrial technology, or related engineering disciplines.

Dean's Message

During the most recent months, many of you accomplished some extra-ordinary things. Space considerations limit my discussing each achievement; however, some examples of excellence in CEPS include the following:

The faculty members of the department formerly known as AMBE changed its name to Information Technology and Administrative Management to more appropriately reflect their focus and alignment with their students and business/industry needs. These program revisions positions the department as a leader in the state.

Robert Lupton, Assistant Professor in ITAM, taught a course in International Retail. Last summer Bob and his students went on a “study abroad” program that included travel to the Slovak Republic, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and Poland. Bob is planning another study abroad program for summer 2002.

Stephen Jefferies, Professor in PEHLS, serves as Chair of the Ellensburg School Board. As a result of Steve’s leadership, the new Ellensburg High School initiative was passed. Another PEHLS faculty member, Tim Burnham, who is in his second year at Central, received a \$65,000 grant for cancer research.

F &CS Chair, Jan Bowers, has received funding for the Infant and Toddler Care program. Jan, along with Jim Pappas and Osman Alawiye, are leaders in CWU’s Academic Service Learning Project, which is part of a national consortium.

Craig Hughes, Assistant Professor in Teacher Education Programs, received a 3/4 million-dollar grant for bilingual education. Craig will work with teachers in the Kittitas Valley, as well as CTL faculty, to infuse bilingual strategies into their instruction.

As you know, Linda Beath, Professor in C & S, is CWU’s Interim Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies. Linda and Andrea Sledge co-coordinate the CWU Gender Equity project with help from CEPS faculty Andrea Bowman and Melody Madlem.

Mark Souza and Kirk Taft continue their good work in the Army and Air Force ROTC programs. The cadets stood vigil during the recent exhibition of the moveable Vietnam War Memorial Wall during CWU’s homecoming week activities.

In November, we received the official NCATE letter from Arthur Wise, President of NCATE. I am pleased to report, once again, that we met all NCATE standards without weaknesses.

I am proud of the faculty and staff of the College of Education and Professional Studies. Your work is outstanding as demonstrated by your many accomplishments, as well as your day-to-day interactions with our students, your colleagues, and others. For year 2002, I wish you the best of everything.

Rebecca Bowers, Dean
College of Education and Professional Studies

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Information for articles in this newsletter are from Department reports, or CWU’s website, <http://www.cwu.edu/bulletin> unless otherwise noted. Please send information for subsequent newsletters to bergmane@cwu.edu.

Have A Great New Year!!