

**Council of Department Chairs
College of the Sciences, Central Washington University
Regular Meeting, April 5, 2007
10:30 a.m., Science 301**

Attending:

Barlow, Kathleen - Anthropology	Johnson, Kirk – Sociology & Associate Dean
Benesh, Gina, Development Officer	Launius, Michael - Political Science
Boersma, Stuart F. - Mathematics	Miller, M. Meghan, Dean
Darda, David - Biology	Reimund, Mary Ellen - Law and Justice
Ely, Lisa L. - Geology	Schwing, James L. - Computer Science
Johnson, Kirk A. – Sociology Chair and Associate Dean	Stein, Stephanie - Psychology
Kuhlken, Robert T. - Geography	

Department Reports:

Anthropology

- Pat Lubinski will be giving the Natural Science Seminar on Friday, April 5, 2007 on "Results of Two Seasons of Excavation at the Wenas Creek Mammoth Site Near Selah, Washington."
- The next Supplemental Agreement with Suncadia under Steve Hackenberger has been signed for \$135,898.
- Lene Pedersen has had an article accepted in The Asia Pacific journal of Anthropology. "Responding to Indonesian Decentralization: A Perspective from a Balinese Princedom."
- Penglin Wang presented a paper at the Thirteenth Asian Studies Development Program National Conference in Seattle, Washington on "The Deictic Origin of the Ethnonyms Kitan and Hi."
- Dr. Birute Galdikas, world expert on the Orangutan and Conservation of the Species and its Habitat, gave a campus-wide lecture on March 29th, titled "Orangutan Odyssey: The Plight of the Orangutan in Indonesia." She did a book signing, and spent time with students and faculty in the Primate, Behavior and Ecology Program, CHCI, Friends of Washoe, Anthropology, Biological Sciences and Psychology and the College of the Sciences.
- Four faculty, the NAGPRA Director and four resource management graduate students gave presentations at the Northwest Anthropological Conference in Pullman during spring break. The Conference was also attended by a group of students from the Anthropology Student Association (ASA).
- Lene Pedersen participated in an NSF review panel for dissertation grants in Anthropology.
- Sadie Thayer, a combined Anthropology, History major with Museum Studies minor was accepted to the Museum Studies program at George Washington University.
- Stephanie Simmons was accepted to three graduate programs in archaeology and museum studies at regional universities.
- Faith Haney, resource management graduate student, has designed a new program for KCWU, Field Notes, which aired recently with an interview with Tim DeBoer of Shovelbums, and Dr. Karl Heider, Dean and AVP of U. South Carolina, and renowned visual anthropologist.
- Kathleen Barlow co-chaired a session and presented a paper at the Mar. 9-11 meetings of the Society for Psychological Anthropology in Manhattan Beach, California titled "Food Shortages, Coping Strategies and Multiple Mothering."

Biology

- Dr. Gabrielle Stryker has accepted our offer to join the Biology Department this coming fall. This is the final of three hires in the general area of cell and molecular biology. Dr. Stryker's areas of expertise are microbiology, immunology, and parasitology. Some of her research has concerned the human parasitic condition known as Chaga's Disease.
- CWU had a strong showing with the second most talks given at the Society for Northwest Vertebrate Biology meetings in Victoria, B.C. in late February. Undergraduate student Susan Belmont with advisors Jim Johnson, Tim Englund (Math), and Steve Wagner presented a talk entitled "Teasing Apart Death and Pestilence: Incidence of Chytridiomycosis at Engelhorn Pond".
 - Christopher Gaulke, undergraduate, with Drs. Jason Irwin, Jim Johnson and Steve Wagner presented a talk entitled, "Pathophysiology of Chytridiomycosis in Amphibians".
 - Michelle Lester, undergraduate with advisors Lori Sheeran (Anthropology), Megan Matheson (Psych), and Steve Wagner presented a talk entitled, "Demography of Pachytriton brevipes in Huangshan China".

- Steve Wagner and Jim Johnson presented a talk entitled, "Synergistic interactions among an herbicide and pathogen: a potential evolutionary arms race".
- Tara Chestnut (Washington Dept. of Transportation), Jim Johnson, and Steve Wagner presented a talk entitled, "Detecting a deadly amphibian disease: are park visitors inadvertent vectors?"
- Dan Beck and his graduate student, Patrick Emblidge, attended the Desert Tortoise Council meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada Feb. 23 and 24. Dan was invited by the Council to talk about Gila monster biology and sign copies of his Gila monster book. His invited talk was entitled, "History, Humans, and Heloderma: Why Monsters Matter", followed by a reception/book signing. He also organized a session (7 talks, 2 posters) on Gila Monster biology and gave another talk entitled, "Introduction and Overview of Bumpy Lizard Biology". Following the meetings, Dan and Patrick conducted field trips to Gila Monster habitat in Nevada and Utah, where Patrick will conduct his thesis research.
- Linda Raubeson and Rhiannon Peery taught a two-day basic botany workshop to the Kittitas County Master Gardeners. About 30 master gardeners attended Feb 22nd and 27th. The workshops were hosted in the biology department here at CWU so the attendees were able to benefit from our prepared slide collection, microscopes, and greenhouse (which they enjoy very much). The Department has hosted such workshops for many years.
- Linda Raubeson has learned that the two requests that she made to NSF for REU Supplements have been funded. These provide supplemental funds to existing grants to support undergraduate researchers over the summer. She has been recommended to receive a \$7,000 supplement to the Chloroplast Genomics grant to support student Skip McCoy this coming summer and a \$6,000 supplement to the Gymnosperm Tree of Life grant to support student Ashley Dutton.
- Dave Darda was very pleased with the response from faculty interested in potential involvement with the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East Project - 16 people associated with 7 departments proposed 29 ideas for potential projects! He has prepared a document summarizing these proposals and has forwarded copies to Dean Miller, Jason Smith (WSDOT), and Tony Clevenger (Western Transportation Institute). Jason and Tony were impressed and excited about the interest shown by CWU. Dave and Meghan will be discussing the next steps in this partnering process.
- This week's Natural Science Seminar (Friday, April 6): Pat Lubinski, CWU Department of Anthropology on "Results of Two Seasons of Excavation at the Wenas Creek Mammoth Site Near Selah, Washington".

Computer Science

- Boris Kovalerchuk had two publications in February. First one was in SPIE - Medical Imaging and the second was in the conference proceedings of EUROCAST - Computer Aided Systems Theory.
- Razvan Andonie presented joint work of our research group (Razvan, Jim Schwing and three students - Sarah Abdul-Wahid, Joseph Lemley, and Jonathan Widger) at International Parallel & Distributed Processing Symposium last week (March 30, 2007).

Geography and Land Studies

- Cameron McCormick will again be taking a group of students to study geography in Zambia this summer.
- Morris Uebelacker, assisted by Craig Revels and Gina Bloodworth, led a weeklong spring break fieldtrip to the depths of Hells Canyon, where twenty students mapped archaeological and historic settlement sites. One sidelight was a three-day excursion by REM graduate students Todd Snider, Gretchen Volker, and Casey Dombert, and Eric Beckley to trace the route taken by Sgt Ordway of the Lewis and Clark expedition from the highlands on the Idaho side of the river to the bottom of the canyon.
- Jen Lipton has become involved with the Presidential Speaker series by organizing an informal question and answer forum for small groups of students to meet with the speaker beforehand: yesterday a group of students met with Jean Michael Cousteau.
- Allen Sullivan, along with REM graduate student Gretchen Volker, is preparing to present research in the form of an interactive poster at the upcoming 4th annual Freshwater Mussels of the Pacific Northwest conference in Vancouver.
- Gina Bloodworth has been invited by Huxley College at WWU to be a speaker at the upcoming joint U.S.-Canada conference on the Columbia River.
- Robert Kuhlken was honored by a request by his students to be on the program for the recent "Banned and Censored" books component of the university's First Amendment festival, which specifically asked him to read excerpts from Thoreau's essay on Civil Disobedience.

Geological Sciences

- Wendy Bohrsen: Traveled to Washington, D.C. to serve on an NSF proposal review panel for the Petrology Division in March.
- Lisa Ely: Science Honors student Tabitha Trosper (mentor Lisa Ely) had an abstract accepted for presentation at the American Geophysical Joint Assembly in Acapulco, Mexico, May 22-25.

- Trostler, T.A., Ely, L.L., Newton, A.J., Gabany-Guerrero, T., and Hackenberger, S., "Implications of Climate Change and Tephra Accumulation on the Lacustrine Environment at an Archaeological Site in Michoacan, Mexico"
- Carey Gazis: \$2.8 million NSF GK-12 Yakima Watershed Activities to Enhance Research in Schools (WATERS) Project received final approval for funding. PI: Carey Gazis, co-PIs: Martha Kurtz, Beth Pratt-Sitaula, Ian Quitadamo, Steve Wagner. Duration: five years. Graduate Programs: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, and Resource Management
- The Yakima WATERS project will engage students from rural central Washington in authentic research on watershed science. Eight teams, each consisting of a graduate Fellow, a CWU faculty mentor, and a lead K-12 teacher, will work to develop a science research project that is aligned with state and national standards and integrate it into the curriculum at a given grade level. The goal is that K-12 students encounter the common theme of "Watershed Science of the Yakima River" at different grade levels and in different subjects so that they can draw from previous learning experiences as they build new knowledge. Through these experiences, they will also see the relevance of science to their lives and communities. The program will begin with a Summer Institute that lays the groundwork for Fellow-mentor-teacher teams to begin their project. A fall course on pedagogy and watershed science will help Fellows as they start working in the K-12 classroom. Quarterly meetings and Blackboard discussions will be held so teams can share technologies, curriculum integration ideas, and discuss ways to collaborate among projects. The academic year will culminate in a conference where participants present the results of their research and discuss dissemination plans and future directions for scientific research.
- Tim Melbourne: Attended and presented research from the CWU PANGA lab at the Earthscope meeting in Monterey, California, March, 2007.
- Beth Pratt-Sitaula: Paper in press in Quaternary Research "Bedload-to-suspended load ratio and rapid bedrock incision from Himalayan landslide-dam lake record".

Law and Justice

- An invitation to everyone to join Dr. Sarah Britto in a book signing for her book, In the Shadow of Death: Restorative Justice and Death Row Families on April 12th at the Wildcat Shop.
- Rodrigo Murataya has paper published in the Police Forum, "An Examination of the Leadership of the Chief of Police of a Small Town in Central Washington."

Mathematics

- The search for a tenure-track faculty member was successfully concluded when we hired James Bisgard. His Ph.D. degree is from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and he is currently teaching full time at CWU. He has already demonstrated himself as a great teacher and just had a research article appear in print. We are all looking forward to having him join our faculty in this tenure-track position.
- Mike Lundin's had an article on "Optimal Soaring" recently accepted by Math Horizons.
- This year's MCM team received an Honorable Mention. This ranking is not as high as last year, but still pretty good for this international competition (16% of the teams received a higher ranking, ~60% received a lower ranking).
- Last December about 14 CWU students participated in the world's toughest and most grueling individual mathematics competition. The good news is that all of our students were ranked at or above the median score. The bad news is that only one student had a positive score. Brian Sherson received a 12/120. This was a ranking of 600.5 out of 3640. Very respectable.
- Terri Willard and Timothy Sorey (Chemistry/Science Education) recently led a workshop at the National Council Teacher's of Mathematics (NCVTM) meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Nancy Budner also ran a workshop at this same meeting. Attendance at both workshops was very good.
- Several students and faculty are attending and presenting at the annual meeting of the PNW section of the Mathematical Association of America in McMinnville, Oregon. Details next time.

Political Science

- Mike Launius reported that the outside evaluators had just completed their review of the Political Science Department's programs, and the department is in the process of interviewing candidates for the Latino-American studies tenure-track position.

Psychology

- Meško, G., Fallshore, M., Rep, M., & Huisman, A. (in press). Police efforts in the reduction of fear of crime in local communities - Big expectations and questionable effects. Lithuanian Journal of Sociology.
- The psychology department was successful in filling its tenure-track vacancy in experimental psychology. Kara Gabriel, from Hayward, will be joining our faculty in September.

Sociology

- Kirk Johnson reported that he attended a Children's Justice Conference in Seattle in March.

Minutes of March 8, 2007

Review of the minutes of March 8, 2007, was deferred until April 19.

Chair Election Results

Meghan announced the results of recent department chair elections:

- o Anthropology – Kathleen Barlow
- o Biological Sciences – Paul James
- o Geological Sciences – Wendy Bohrson

Negotiations are underway as a result of the search for a Physics Department Chair, and the Sociology Department will be holding an election soon.

Institutional Commitment to Climate

Meghan distributed documents from the President's Office regarding CWU's commitment to climate (in the geographical sense).

Scholarship Assessed Feedback

The chairs gave their feedback on the Scholarship Assessed presentation.

Development Report

- Gina Benesh handed out a list of people she had contacted as part of development activities and noted that five small gifts are in progress.
- She noted that the dean's office has hired Branon Beck to assist departments with updating their websites to a more effective format and asked the chairs for comments on a sample sidebar she distributed. Kathleen Barlow and Mary Ellen Reimund agreed to let Branon work on their department websites. Some effort is underway to develop a net community similar to My Space and they're in the process of determining how this is working.
- Gina asked the chairs to let her know of development contacts made so she can forward the information to University Relations where they're trying to track such activities.

Comments about COTS Faculty Day (March 12)

It was the general consensus that the speakers for faculty day provided information of more interest to science education than other disciplines. The workload presentation by the dean was generally useful to department faculty.

Workloads

Meghan advised the chairs that she would be consulting historical patterns of individual studies units when reviewing 2007-08 faculty workloads.

Institutional Research Reports

The chairs reviewed a 2006 fall quarter Institutional Research report on majors by department, enrollments, and student credit hours broken down by site.

Recruiting Lecturers for 2007-08

Meghan noted that Steve Sarchet had been asked to make a few changes to the generic template for the university's website on available lecturer positions.

Performance Adjustment Process and Deadlines

The dean distributed a document signed by representatives of Central Washington University and the United Faculty of Central on the faculty performance adjustment process. She noted the following deadlines:

1. April 23 – Candidate supporting documentation due to department
2. May 7 – Supporting documentation to dean
3. May 24 – Documentation to Provost

After the chair and personnel committee review applications for performance adjustments they may forward as many or as few to the dean. However, the dean can forward applications from only 15% (approximately 19) of the college faculty, so common sense would suggest that some paring be done at the department level. Approximately 10 applications will be selected by the Provost to receive higher merit increases.

Spring Quarter Meeting Dates

The regular meetings for spring are:

April 19
May 3
May 17
May 31

A special meeting will be held April 26 with guests Sheryl Grunden, Registrar Services, and Mike Horne, Human Resources

Other Calendar Items

NCATE visit May 5-9, 2007
NWCCU self-study complete 2008-09; Visit October 2009

Off campus days for Meghan

April 26-27

May 21-25 (approx)

Attachments

Performance Adjustment Process

Climate Commitment

Scholarship Assessed Comments

Majors & SCH

Fulbright Announcement

Assessment Committee Format