



3 ANNUAL AWARDS:
FIVE FACULTY NAMED

NEZ PERCE STAFFER SPEAKS
AT TUTU CONFERENCE **4**



8 FINGER GRIPS
TESTED
FOR BUSINESS

WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY

WSU TODAY

February 2, 2007

Washington State University Faculty, Staff and Graduate Student News

www.wsutoday.wsu.edu

Diet/gene breakthrough



John McNamara and Jennifer Sumner in WSU Pullman's Knott Dairy Center. (Photo by Becky Phillips)

Finding that nutrients alter gene expression will impact dairy production and human health

BY BECKY PHILLIPS
WSU TODAY

In the first study to show that a specific nutrient could alter the expression of genes in the body fat of dairy cattle, **John McNamara** and **Jennifer Sumner** have raised the bar for animal production standards while adding to the greater understanding of human health issues.

McNamara, professor in the Department of Animal Sciences and (intercollegiate, multidisciplinary) Nutrition Program, and Sumner, his doctoral student and postdoctoral research associate, have demonstrated that chromium in the diet changes the metabolism of body fat in dairy cattle by stimulating the

New world of nutrition

Is it nutrigenomics ... or nutrigenetics? Either way, the goal of these emerging fields of nutrition is to optimize health — for both people and animals — through personally tailored diets. With the availability of biotechnologies developed in the genomic era, nutritionists can take the study of the relationship between genes, diet and health to a new level.

(See "Name," page 6)

expression of certain genes while simultaneously decreasing the expression of others.

Though it had long been known that the mineral chromium is

required in the diet for good health in both animals and humans, the specific role it played in fat metabolism and milk production had not been described.

Adipose tissue is key

For more than 20 years, McNamara and his team have been working to identify genetic factors related to efficient milk production in dairy cattle. Knowing that adipose (fat) tissue plays an active role in successful reproduction and lactation, they centered their studies on identifying the metabolic functions of body fat. One of their main goals was to identify cows that gained neither too much nor too little weight during

(See "Nutrition," page 6)



Kim Vincent, above, has worked to introduce math-type skills into all disciplines. (Photo by Shelly Hanks, WSU Photo Services)

Flexing those math muscles

Faculty are making some inroads introducing quantitative literacy

Quantitative literacy — the ability to use elementary math tools to interpret and manipulate data and ideas.

BY HOPE BELLI TINNEY
WSU TODAY

Quick! Name a profession that doesn't require quantitative literacy.

Trick question. There isn't one.

According to **Kimberly Vincent**, clinical assistant professor of mathematics, naming a profession that doesn't require quantitative reasoning is as impossible as naming one that doesn't require verbal reasoning.

"It's not just doing math," Vincent said. "It's thinking about what it means. It's a habit of mind."

In fact, the ability to use quantitative and symbolic reasoning is one of the Six Learning Goals of the Baccalaureate that were articulated by the President's Teaching Academy and then approved by the Faculty Senate in April 2005.

Vincent and colleague **Carolyn Smith** began working in 2005 to lay the groundwork for a quantitative literacy program similar to WSU's Writing Across the Curriculum. A handful of faculty members — including **Beth Buyserie** in English and **Carol Anelli** in entomology — attended a week-long workshop and created quantitative literacy projects to embed in their course curricula.

Math skills recalled

Anelli, whose Entomology 150 is a Tier 1 general education course, said she always taught quantitative literacy, along with the other learning goals, but the workshop encouraged her to do more.

"I use insects only as a means to get them to think about other things," she said, so with coaching from Vincent she beefed up a section

(See "Math," page 8)

Floyd to visit campuses

The campus communities are invited as **Elson S. Floyd**, recently selected to be WSU's 10th president, participates in campus receptions in the coming weeks:

Pullman: 3:30-5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, Lighty first-floor atrium.

Spokane: 10:30 a.m.-noon Monday, Feb. 12, Academic Center first-floor atrium.

Tri-Cities: 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, Consolidated Information Center 120.

Vancouver: 10:30 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Feb. 13, Student Services/Administration Building 129.



Art and insight

Work by **Gaylen Hansen**, professor emeritus, can be seen in Pullman, Spokane and Seattle in a show curated by the Museum of Art/WSU.

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WSU NEWS BRIEFS

Volunteers sought for brain science fair

Volunteers are needed for the annual Palouse Kids Judge! science fair 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, in Beasley Coliseum, hosted by the WSU Neuroscience Program.

Volunteers are needed to set up, guide the kids through the exhibits and tear down. No science background is necessary.

Contact **Bobbi Sauer**, 335-7675 or bsauer@vetmed.wsu.edu, or stop by Wegner 205 for more information or to sign up.

Teaching academy seeks nominations

The President's Teaching Academy is expanding its membership by 12. Nominees are sought who have a record of innovation and leadership in teaching excellence and educational scholarship.

WSU faculty and administrators are invited to submit faculty member applications by Feb. 15. Nomination instructions have been distributed to deans, chancellors, department chairs and directors.

Questions may be directed to **Denny Davis**, chair of the Teaching Academy, 335-7993 or davis@wsu.edu.

President's, provost's dialogues relocate

Dates and locations have been determined for the spring semester dialogues for President **V. Lane Rawlins** and Provost and Executive Vice President **Robert Bates**. All dialogues are for WSU faculty, staff and students.

The provost's dialogue will be at noon Tuesday, Feb. 20, at the Museum of Art. The president's dialogue will be at noon Thursday, March 22, in Todd Hall 268.

The calendar of dialogues and videostream link can be found **ONLINE @** www.wsu.edu/dialogues-forums.



David R. Cillay

Cillay assistant dean of CDPE

David R. Cillay, director of instructional development and technology for the Center for Distance and Professional Education, has been named assistant dean of CDPE.

He will serve as a liaison with colleges and lead CDPE efforts in new academic program development. He also will have a large role in setting pedagogical and instructional standards.

Nominate graduate women by Feb. 16

Nominations for the Harriett B. Rigas Award for a woman doctoral student and the Association for Faculty Women Founders Award for a woman master's student are due Feb. 16. Winners will be announced in April.

Nomination forms are available **ONLINE @** www.wsu.edu/afw. Send them electronically to **Tracy L. Skaer**, tskaer@wsu.edu, by Friday, Feb. 16. Contact her for more information.

Alumnus award nominations due Feb. 28

Nominations will be accepted until Feb. 28 for the Regents Distinguished Alumnus Award. First presented in 1962, the award is the highest honor bestowed upon a WSU alumnus.

Visit **ONLINE @** www.regents.wsu.edu/distinguished-alumni for more information and the nomination form.

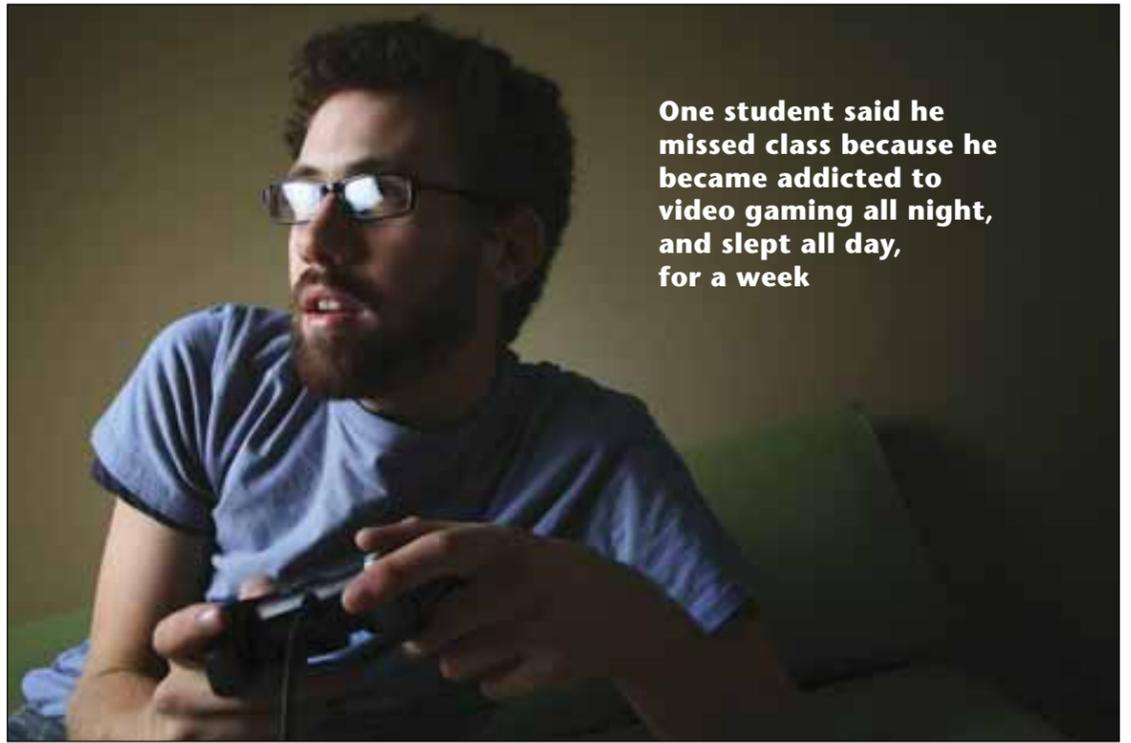
Undergrad nominations due March 2

Nominations are due March 2 for Undergraduate Scholar Awards sponsored by the Faculty Association for Scholarship and Research and the WSU Chapter of the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society. Winners will be announced in April.

Applications should include: A letter of nomination from the faculty project adviser and an original research paper, project report or portfolio. Submit them to **Tom Brigham**, campus zip 1048, by March 2. Contact him for more information at 335-6676 or brigham@wsu.edu.

Grad student conservation grants

The deadline is April 2 for graduate students to apply for awards through WSU's Natural Resource Conservation Endowment Fund. Guidelines can be found **ONLINE @** www.ogrd.wsu.edu, or by contacting **Rita Whitcomb** at rwhitcomb@wsu.edu or 335-9661. Interdisciplinary and collaborative proposals are encouraged. Research should be oriented to practical application rather than theory.



One student said he missed class because he became addicted to video gaming all night, and slept all day, for a week

iStock photo

Excuses, excuses

Creative, and sometimes true, tales that students tell their profs

BY KELLY PETERSON
WSU TODAY INTERN

"Sorry I missed class, professor, but I had to stay with my girlfriend while she was getting her hair cut." That is just one of many pathetic student excuses collected in a recent article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Other excuses in the article include missing class to remake 50 gallons of Jell-O for a wrestling competition (the first batch spoiled) and mislaying a paper inside a tiger mascot costume. As wild as the excuses are, students are at least being creative to explain or cover up their unlikely circumstances.

The best excuse **Rachel Halverson**, WSU associate professor of German, ever heard was from a student who missed a week of class and returned with the explanation that he had mixed up night and day. An addiction to computer games was the culprit.

"He had started playing one night, played through the night, went to bed the next morning and slept though my class," she said. "This pattern repeated itself for a week before he was finally able to break the cycle, sleep at night and attend

And a few more ...

- My father is coming and I have to clean my room.
- I won't be in class next week since I have made arrangements with the county to be in jail that week.
- I had my tattoo filled in yesterday and it hurts so much I cannot think.
- The copy I sent you was actually a rough draft and was not supposed to be sent. You have made me extremely nervous all semester and thus I sent you the wrong copy.

my class during the day."

Clay Mosher, associate professor of sociology at WSU Vancouver, also has heard excuses about students getting the days mixed up. One student's e-mail to him said, "So, I will cut to the chase. My test is late. I thought the test was due Friday, today, but like the space-cadet I have been lately I had all my dates screwed up and missed the cutoff."

Blaming the dog for missing homework is not new, but **Michelle Freeman**, coordinator of environmental health and safety, once had a student miss

a midterm because he recently had his dog spayed. The dog ripped open stitches and had to be taken back to the clinic. The student even brought a note from his veterinarian, she said.

For some students, honesty is the best policy even when it comes to excuses. In the *Chronicle*, one student said, "I'm not interested in the subject of this seminar, and therefore unlikely to answer an essay or exam question on it. I didn't really see the point in bothering to prepare for it."

Karin Clifford, administrative assistant at the University of Idaho, has been collecting and categorizing excuses for a few years in hopes of publishing them in the future.

One excuse in Clifford's collection is from a student who said, "I'll be too sick to attend class Wednesday. My 21st birthday is Tuesday and my frat brothers are taking me out that night — so I'll be very sick on Wednesday."

For more unique student excuses — he was bitten by a shark, she had to donate her eggs to an aunt — see the article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* **ONLINE @** <http://chronicle.com/weekly/v53/i20/20a00401.htm>.

Carnegie selects WSU in effort to strengthen education doctorate

For a second time, the WSU College of Education has been chosen to help strengthen doctoral education in the country's leading research universities.

As part of the Carnegie Initiative on the Professional Practice Doctorate, the college will work alongside representatives of 19 other universities to create and improve Ed.D. programs. Those programs are designed to help school administrators combine scholarly research with the practical demands of their jobs.

The college participated in the similar Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate, which led to sweeping changes in its Ph.D. program.

WSU TODAY

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WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY

World Class. Face to Face.

SHOWCASE 2007

Five faculty honorees announced

Five faculty members have been named recipients of awards given out each spring by Washington State University in recognition of excellence in academic achievement. They will be honored publicly on Friday, March 23, as part of the annual World Class. Face to Face. Showcase, a day-long celebration of the achievements of faculty and staff.

Kimberlee Kidwell, professor and scientist in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, earned the 2006 Marian E. Smith Faculty Achievement Award. The \$5,000 award recognizes unusually significant and meritorious achievement in teaching during the academic year, including successful and innovative performance in instruction. Kidwell conducts basic and biotechnology research in wheat genetics and since 1998 has introduced eight spring wheat varieties that have had a major impact on Washington's agriculture. Her talents have also shown in another realm as she has volunteered to



Kim Kidwell

Abstract deadline Feb. 9

Creative and scientific projects are being sought for display at the 2007 Academic Showcase 9 a.m.-noon Friday, March 23, in Bohler Gym — part of WSU's annual World Class. Face to Face. Showcase celebration of scholarship, research and the arts.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is Friday, Feb. 9. Submission guidelines and sample abstracts can be found **ONLINE** @ www.showcase.wsu.edu.

Showcase reservations open Feb. 9

Reservations for Showcase events, including the Celebrating Excellence recognition banquet and the Distinguished Faculty Address luncheon, may be made beginning Friday, Feb. 9, at the Showcase website.

Prices, other information and instructions for making reservations can be found **ONLINE** @ www.showcase.wsu.edu.

teach a course in the Department of Human Development (HD 205) called Communication in Human Relations.

The course has soared in popularity, climbing from 93 students to more than 400 students in two years.

Three faculty members earned 2006-07 Sahlin Faculty Excellence Awards, which recognize excellence in instruction, public service, and research, scholarship and arts. Each will receive \$3,000.

Duane W. DeTemple, professor in the Department of Mathematics, received the Sahlin Faculty Excellence Award for Instruction for 36 years of sharing his time and love of problem-solving with his students.



Duane DeTemple

He has been eager to enhance learning by presenting mathematics in ways that engage students who have been "turned off" or told they could not succeed in understanding mathematics. His efforts to present concepts in new and interesting ways have reached a wide audience in the form of many scholarly papers, presentations at symposia, handbooks and textbooks.

His contribution is richly reflected by the enthusiasm of many current and former students who attribute their own successes as teachers to his inspiration.

J. Daniel Dolan, professor of structural engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and director of codes and standards for the Wood Materials & Engineering Laboratory, earned the Sahlin Faculty Excellence Award for Public Service for leading WSU's efforts to improve building codes and design standards to make low-rise buildings safer for the public.



Dan Dolan

He helped write the U.S. residential building code and has been one of nine voting members of the technical update committee for this code since 2000. This code sets the performance standards for all single-family houses, duplexes and townhouses in the United States.

The extensive scope and excellence of his program is enhanced by his active work with Engineers Without Borders. He advised student teams as they designed replacements for two school buildings destroyed by the tsunami in Sri Lanka, a well as a water supply system in a remote area of the Yakama Nation and a hospital building in Sudan.

Lai-Sheng Wang, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and the Program in Materials Science, WSU Tri-Cities, received the Sahlin Faculty Excellence Award for Research, Scholarship and Arts.



Lai-Sheng Wang

He is a world leader in nanoclusters research. With his graduate students and colleagues, Wang created hollow nanoscale cages of gold atoms, the first known metallic equivalent of the buckyball.

He showed that the most stable form of gold clusters undergoes shape transformations, a finding that addresses a key issue in fundamental cluster science: understanding the structural evolution of clusters from a single atom/molecule towards the bulk solid. This work also has potential applications in energy science.

During his 20 years in research, Wang has written or co-written more than 250 publications. His work has been featured in top journals, including *Science* and *Nature*, and has been recognized with several important awards.

Environmental risk focus of address

Eugene A. Rosa, presenter of the 2007 Distinguished Faculty Address, will present "Characterizing Risk to Tame Uncertainty" at the Distinguished Faculty Address luncheon at 12:15 p.m. Friday, March 23, in the Kimbrough concert hall.

Rosa, a professor in the Department of Sociology, teaches courses on technology, risk and environment, and conducts research on environmental topics, particularly energy, technology, risk issues and global environmental change.

Eugene A. Rosa, professor in the Department of Sociology, has been selected to deliver the 2007 Distinguished Faculty Address during the March 23 Showcase luncheon. The honor carries a \$2,500 award and recognizes the work of a faculty member whose achievements in research, scholarship and teaching place that person in the front ranks of his or her discipline.

Rosa is a world-renowned environmental scholar and international leader in multidisciplinary work assessing how the U.S. and other countries contribute to environmen-

tal impacts and how they attempt to resolve social risk associated with environmental change.



Eugene Rosa

Through his research, policy work and teaching, he has changed how people everywhere view environmental impacts and their consequences. His work warns of the risks emanating from various societal concerns ranging from nuclear power to global warming.

AWARDS & HONORS

• **David Bahr**, associate professor in the School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, is the 2007 recipient of the Robert Lansing Hardy Award from the Minerals, Metals & Materials Society (TMS). The national award each year recognizes a metallurgist with "outstanding promise for a successful career" in the field of metallurgy and materials science and engineering.



David Bahr

• **Linda Schoepflin**, WSU summer session director, won the 2006 Distinguished Service Award from the Western Association of Summer Session Administrators. The group's highest honor, the award recognizes her years of service to WASSA, its national organization and the WSU summer session.



Linda Schoepflin

• A team including WSU faculty and graduate student researchers has won the 2007 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team Award from the Entomological Foundation, a national nonprofit educational organization that encourages an interest in science and entomology. The Pacific Northwest Hybrid Poplar IPM Team, which includes **John Brown, Douglas Walsh, Eugene Hannon and Neal Kittelson**, was formed after poplar producers requested help with pest management; the team's solution of pheromone application is proving successful.

WEB SPOTLIGHT



Site welcomes ideas for AP staff spotlight

The Administrative Professional Advisory Council website provides administrative professionals with information and tools to help them succeed, such as: easy access to the AP handbook, answers to frequently asked questions about AP positions, and a link to sign up for the AP listserv. The site also offers a place to "submit a question" or suggestion.

Meeting notes, current agendas, news and announcements are posted online and can be accessed from the homepage of the site, **ONLINE** @ www.apac.wsu.edu. There is also a listing of job openings and information on how to become a member of APAC.

The site displays an AP spotlight that focuses on a particular professional at WSU. People interested in suggesting a professional to showcase can e-mail apac@wsu.edu.

Rotations to make your head spin

Pharmacy experience a boon for students, but practical organization a challenge

BY BECKY PHILLIPS
WSU TODAY

"Take 94 senior pharmacy students times seven six-week internships apiece ... that's about 658 rotations to be assigned, monitored, coordinated ... and then there's the geographical tweaking to make it all work."



So begins **Luke Rice**, the exceptionally organized coordinator for the Advanced Practice Experience Program (APE) in the College of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacotherapy, at WSU Spokane.

Required for all pharmacy students in their final year of study, the APE provides the students with experiential, hands-on learning.

"It is a transition from the didactic classroom learning into the real world of clinical experience," said **Danial Baker**, associate dean for clinical programs

and professor of pharmacotherapy in the College of Pharmacy, WSU Spokane, who oversees the program.

APE — which grew out of a small pilot program initiated in 1970 by **Keith Campbell**, professor in the College of Pharmacy — is a statewide collaboration built on relationships with pharmacists throughout many regions.

"We are actively recruiting new faculty and clinics to partner with us all the time," said Rice.

At each rotation site, students are mentored by preceptors in either shared faculty or adjunct faculty positions. Shared faculty are employed half time by the College of Pharmacy and half time by a local pharmacy or clinic. Adjunct faculty volunteer their time to precept students while working full-time in the community.

"We are relying on many community pharmacists to teach our students the applied knowledge they will need to succeed in practice," Rice said. "This is when the light bulb



Terri Levien, center, WSU faculty member/preceptor, talks with students in the Drug Information Center at WSU Spokane. (Photo by Luke Rice)

goes on and students often learn the most."

Most students complete their internships in Spokane or Yakima. Others are assigned to the Vancouver-Portland area, Tri-Cities or Pullman. Rotation selections are done by Rice using a lottery-based computer system that randomly assign students to internship sites.

"We do consider student preferences," he said, "but this adds

a fairness piece to it. In the end, most students get most of the internships they want."

Popular rotation sites near Spokane include Eastern State Hospital, Elder Services-Spokane Mental Health, Holy Family and Sacred Heart hospitals, and the Drug Information Center at WSU Spokane.

During the year, students complete core rotations in acute care, ambulatory care, community care and institu-

tional care settings. They also choose three elective rotations where it is hoped they will explore new areas of interest — helping them become well-rounded, as well as tapping into network and career leads.

"By the end of senior year, students should have a pretty good idea of which direction they want to go career-wise," said Rice. "There are many practice areas and good opportunities for pharmacists right now."

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Sharing stories to heal humanity

WSU staff member presents work on her Nez Perce history at conference for Tutu

BY MICHELLE GALEY
COLLEGE OF NURSING

How does telling its story help a family — or country — heal the wounds of generations? WSU staff member **Roberta "Robbie" Paul**, whose doctoral dissertation attempts to answer that question, recently explored the issue alongside someone who would know — South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Paul, Native American recruitment and retention coordinator at the WSU Intercollegiate College of Nursing, was asked to present her dissertation in Cape Town at a conference titled "Memory, Narrative and Forgiveness — Reflecting on 10 Years of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission." The conference was in honor of Tutu's 75th birthday.

"I was feeling, 'Hmmm, do I even belong here, a little girl from the reservation ... and what do I have to say?' " Paul recalled. But in retrospect, "It was really helpful to be there and learn from one another and share in the hope."

She also got to share a few minutes one-on-one with Tutu, a rare honor even at the conference.

"When I explained the gifts I brought him, he was really listening and looking," Paul said. "I just wanted to honor him and thank him. And I invited him to come to our country, to the Nez Perce."

A descendent of the Wallowa bands of the Nez Perce, who were led by Chief Joseph, Paul is pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership at Gonzaga and plans to graduate in May. Her thesis tells the story of five generations of her family — the upheaval in their way of life



Robbie Paul explains gifts from her Nez Perce heritage to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, whom she met when she spoke at a conference on memory, story and forgiveness in Cape Town, South Africa. (Photo courtesy of the College of Nursing)

and subsequent trauma and tragedy, as well as her own struggle to find healing through reflection and forgiveness.

Her doctoral dissertation interlinks two conceptual frameworks: the six phases of historical unresolved grief and the process of healing that begins with self and moves outward into family, culture and the world.

Tutu won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his work against South Africa's apartheid system of segregation and toward his objective of "a democratic and just society without racial divisions." He is former chairman of his country's post-apartheid Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

"We are not the only ones who have suffered," Paul said, reflecting on her family and people and on what she learned at the conference. "This was a process of hearing others' stories."

"I still believe that as we share our stories across continents, we can heal as a humanity."

Tuition cap welcomed with global challenge target

BY ROBERT FRANK
WSU TODAY

Gov. Chris Gregoire in her January State of the State address proposed a tuition cap for WSU and the University of Washington of 7 percent per year. She also proposed a 5 percent per year cap for other four-year state universities and a tuition freeze at the community colleges for the next two years.

WSU and the UW have embraced the proposal, which ties the cap on tuition increases to sustainable increases in state funding.

The tuition plan is part of the governor's 2007-09 budget proposal. Gregoire's budget would fund the WWAMI program, expansion of the nursing program, increases in high-demand enrollment and initiatives in agriculture and bio-products.

Karl Boehmke, WSU's executive budget director, said the university is "very much in favor" of Gregoire's proposal in that it aims to increase state funding levels over the long term. Her plan, Boehmke said, is based on the Washington Learns report, which compares Washington to seven other "global challenge states."

Global challenge states are those in which international trade plays a dominant economic role and where higher education and research have been identified as critical factors to growth and vitality. Those states include Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maryland, Colorado, Virginia, New Jersey and California, as well as Washington.

The 2006 Washington Learns report recommends that state funding of higher education be increased over the next 10 years to a point where Washington ranks in the 60th percentile compared to other "global challenge states."

Boehmke noted that Washington's funding levels are currently near the bottom among that group. Also of concern is the fact that Washington ranks last in terms of advanced degrees earned per capita and sixth in terms of bachelor's degrees earned per capita.

Boehmke described Gregoire's proposal as "realistic" in that the "state's economy is currently strong and operating with a surplus."

Whether or not proposals by Gregoire and Washington Learns will be enacted will be determined by the state Legislature over the next several weeks or months.

For more information on the Washington Learns report, see **ONLINE @** www.washingtonlearns.wa.gov/FinalReport.pdf

Environment & Imagery



Professor's exhibit travels to Pullman, Spokane, Seattle

BY ROBERT STRENGE
WSU NEWS SERVICE

Simultaneous Pullman and Spokane exhibits of work by WSU Fine Arts professor emeritus and Palouse painter **Gaylen Hansen** will open Friday, Feb. 16. "Gaylen Hansen: Three Decades of Paintings," will run through April 8 at the Museum of Art/WSU and through Aug. 5 at the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture in Spokane. From Spokane, it will travel to the Seattle Art Museum for a fall showing.

A public walkthrough of the Pullman exhibit with the artist will begin at noon on Feb. 16. A free public reception and lecture by Hansen, 85, will begin at 6 p.m. that day in the Fine Arts auditorium.

The exhibit, organized by Museum of Art Curator **Keith Wells**, is a 30-year retrospective of the work of Hansen, who has exhibited his paintings in New York, Berlin, Singapore, Beijing, Los Angeles, Seattle and other cities across the United States. He is the recipient of the 1989 Governor's Award from the State of Washington and the 2001 Flintridge Foundation Visual Arts Award.

Wells said the WSU exhibit will include more than 70 works that trace Hansen's evolution as an artist.

"From his tenderly rendered narrative paintings of the 1970s to his bolder canvases in which his palette has become more vibrant, the compositions more complex, and the imagery more iconic — it's all represented in the exhibit," Wells said.

"Hansen has lived in rural eastern Washington since 1957 when he joined the faculty of Washington State College, and yet his paintings have been seen all over the world," said **Chris Bruce**, museum director.

Hansen said he chronicles what amuses and interests him most — fly fishing, the surrounding rural land and the animals that populate it, and his environmental concerns.

A review by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said Hansen "paints the human comedy as



Kernal Riding Grasshopper, 1999, above, and Palouse Landscape, 1982, top left.



Horseman & Buffalo, 1976

WSU produces trade book for exhibit

There will be a full-color trade book produced for this exhibit by Marquand Books of Seattle. The 120-page publication contains more than 100 color plates and includes an introduction and acknowledgements by Museum Director Bruce; text by Wells; and Hansen's own commentaries on more than 20 individual paintings. The artist also pays tribute to cartoonist, WSU alumnus and fellow artist Gary Larson and provides a chronology highlighting important events and persons in his life.

if it's coming to a close." Gallery hours for the Museum of Art/WSU are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday; Thurs-

day until 7 p.m. For more information, contact the museum at 335-1910 or **ONLINE @** www.wsu.edu/artmuse.



Bison, Fish & Tulip, 1994



Fish Swimming through Tulips, 1990



Blue Fish, 2006

INNOVATOR SERIES**Human, animal emotions linked**

WSU researcher **Jaak Panksepp** (Yock Pank-sep), know for his discoveries in



Panksepp

ffective neuroscience, will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 8 Innovator Series presentation in Seattle. Panksepp believes that understanding animal behavior could one day bring relief to millions of people around the globe who suffer from psychological disorders such as depression, schizophrenia and autism.

He will discuss his research in "Achieving Psychological Well-being: Neurochemistry May Hold the Key" from noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Rainier Club, 840 4th Ave., Seattle. Tickets are \$30 and include lunch; registration begins at 11:30 a.m. For reservations, see **ONLINE @** www.wsu.edu/the-innovators.

Music festival WSU's largest

The 2007 Festival of Contemporary Art Music, Feb. 8-10 at WSU, will be



Corigliano

the largest event of its kind ever produced by the School of Music and Theatre Arts. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Corigliano will be the featured composer.

"By nearly universal acclaim among the professional community, John Corigliano is judged to be the dean of American composers in the 21st century," said **Charles Argersinger**, director and creator of the festival.

See the What's Happening calendar for festival performance times and locations. For more information, see **ONLINE @** <http://libarts.wsu.edu/artmusic>.

'Golden Age' opens Feb. 8

"The Golden Age," a play of diversity by Australian playwright and film writer Louis Nowra, will be performed by the WSU Theatre Program at 8 p.m. Feb. 8-10 and 15-17 in Daggy Hall. Ticket range is \$10 to free. Reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Based on a real-life incident, this haunting drama depicts the tragic cultural misunderstandings that result when two Australian hikers discover an isolated community of outcasts in the wilds of Tasmania and decide to bring them back to "civilization," where they become the focus of both patronizing discrimination and destructive obsessions.

Nowra will be on campus for a series of lectures, workshops and panel discussions. See the What's Happening calendar for times and locations.

What's Happening

PERFORMANCES/LECTURES/ART/MUSIC/EVENTS/CLASSES

February 2 - February 17**Exhibits**

Video and photography from Western Bridge, a nonprofit space in Seattle for contemporary art. Museum of Art/WSU, Part 2 through Feb. 11. Hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; open until 7 p.m. Thursday.

Paintings by WSU Vancouver student Jaelyn Humphrey, Student Services gallery through Feb. 22. Hours 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday.

"Identity" paintings by Ake Lianga of the Solomon Islands, Fine Arts Gallery II through Feb. 23. Hours 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. See **ONLINE @** www.akelianga.com.

Works by women of Ghana, WSU Vancouver Library gallery through March 10. Hours 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday.

Acrylics on canvas by Portland artist Mark Werner, WSU Vancouver Engineering Life Sciences gallery through March 16. Hours 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. See **ONLINE @** www.markwernerart.com.

30 years of paintings by professor emeritus Gaylen Hansen, Museum of Art/WSU, Feb. 16-April 8. Hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; open until 7 p.m. Thursday.

Conferences

Sponsored program administrators statewide conference and awards lunch, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, University Inn, Moscow, \$40. Sponsored by Office of Grant and Research Development. For more information and to register,

see **ONLINE @** www.ogrd.wsu.edu/spa_conf.asp.

Friday, Feb. 2

McDonald's Collegiate Invitational, track and field, all day, UI Kibbie dome.

Biology behind the controversy over genetically engineered food, by Toby Bradshaw, University of Washington, 7:30 a.m., Spokane Club, part of Spokane Science and Technology Discovery Series, sponsored in part by WSU. Membership \$225 **ONLINE @** www.technology-alliance.com/strt/spokane.html.

Women's tennis vs. Portland, 1 p.m., Hollingbery fieldhouse.

Crimson Revue, student song/dance group, 8 p.m., Kimbrough concert hall.

Saturday, Feb. 3

McDonald's Collegiate Invitational, track and field, all day, UI Kibbie dome.

Women's tennis vs. Nevada, 11 a.m., Hollingbery fieldhouse.

Women's basketball vs. Arizona State, 2 p.m., Friel Court, Beasley Coliseum, tickets 800-GO-COUGS.

Women's tennis vs. Idaho, 5 p.m., Hollingbery fieldhouse.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Film "The Seventh Seal," by Ingmar Bergman, Sweden, 1957, 7 p.m., CUE 202, free, part of 16th annual international film and lecture series by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Nurses in business, first of three-part series, 4-6 p.m., College of Nursing, Spokane, \$30 for series, RSVP to Karen Malone, (509) 324-7339 or malone@wsu.edu.

FirstWednesday social hour, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Museum of Art.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Students compositions, Festival of Contemporary Art Music, 11:10 a.m., Kimbrough concert hall.

Talks by WSU Vancouver faculty, part of social and environmental research series, noon, Multimedia Classroom Building 1. **ONLINE @** www.vancouver.wsu.edu/programs/csejustice

Discussion of "The Golden Age," play by Louis Nowra, 12:10 p.m., Bundy Reading Room, Avery Hall, Art a la Carte series.

Faculty Senate meeting, 3:30 p.m., FSHN-T101.

Men's basketball vs. Stanford, 7 p.m., Friel Court, Beasley Coliseum, tickets 800-GO-COUGS.

Faculty compositions, Festival of Contemporary Art Music, 8 p.m., Bryan theater.

"The Golden Age," play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Friday, Feb. 9

Electroacoustic music, Festival of Contemporary Art Music, 3 p.m., Kimbrough concert hall.

Elson S. Floyd Pullman reception, 3:30-5 p.m., Lighty first-floor atrium.

The Golden Age," play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Women's tennis vs. Sacramento State, 10 a.m., Hollingbery fieldhouse.

Piano students recital, Festival of Contemporary Art Music, 11 a.m., Kimbrough concert hall.

Men's basketball vs. California, 2 p.m., Friel Court, Beasley Coliseum, tickets 800-GO-COUGS.

Women's tennis vs. Montana State, 4 p.m., Hollingbery fieldhouse.

Guest compositions, Festival of Contemporary Art Music, 8 p.m., Bryan theater.

"The Golden Age," play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Sunday, Feb. 11

St. Petersburg Classic Ballet, 3 p.m., Beasley Coliseum, tickets \$28-\$16, phone 335-3525.

Monday, Feb. 12

Elson S. Floyd Spokane reception, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Academic Center first-floor atrium.

Valentine's Day plant sale, Horticulture Club, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., greenhouse east of Lighty. Pots of hyacinths with primroses, pots of tulips, and pots of daffodils.

Elson S. Floyd Tri-Cities reception, 3:30-5 p.m., Consolidated Information Center 120.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Elson S. Floyd Vancouver reception, 10:30-noon, Student Services/Administration Building 129.

Valentine's Day plant sale,

(See "Calendar," page 7)

Nutrition ...

(Continued from page 1)

pregnancy and lactation.

"When cows store too much body fat, energy is diverted away from milk production and instead goes toward storing more fat," McNamara said. "Yet if a cow does not store enough fat — or loses it too quickly — her immunity is impaired, causing inefficient production and leading to diseases like ketosis, milk fever and mastitis. Adipose tissue, in addition to being a major energy storage organ, is also a source of several powerful hormones that control food intake, inflammation and immunity."

Chromium supplementation

In 2003, McNamara expanded his focus to include how cows vary in their use of specific nutrients — particularly in the time just before and after giving birth. His research showed that chromium supplementation increased feed intake and milk production in dairy cows.

"The unique part of this work was showing that chromium changed the body fat metabolism. It actually caused the cows to gain a little fat, which allowed them to make more milk but also prevented them from losing too much fat — it's a very fine balance."

The work had been funded by Kemin Industries, Inc., a nutritional ingredient manufacturer in Iowa. The company, in-

Name ...

(Continued from page 1)

- **In nutrigenomics**, the basic goal is to discover how diet affects metabolic pathways in the body and how this regulation may be disturbed in diet-related disease — i.e., humans with a certain mutated gene absorb higher levels of fat from the intestine, leading to elevated cholesterol and possible atherosclerosis.

- **In nutrigenetics**, the aim is to understand how genetic makeup determines response to diet and susceptibility to diet-related disease — i.e., a number of genetic variations have been shown to increase the susceptibility to Type 2 diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases and some autoimmune diseases and cancers.

trigued with the results, wanted to know if chromium was affecting gene expression in fat metabolism. Using adipose samples from their previous studies, McNamara, Sumner and the Kemin team extracted the RNA and ran microchip array analyses to determine gene function. The study convincingly showed that chromium supplementation "upregulated" a number of genes — causing them to become more active — while others were "downregulated."

This is the first study to document

nutrigenomic activity in the body fat of dairy cattle. A provisional patent application for the discovery has been filed by McNamara and Kemin Industries.

Basic mammalian biology

At the same time, Sumner was conducting a companion study to measure gene activity in the adipose "lipolysis pathway" — which follows the breakdown and mobilization of fat tissue — a major contributor to milk production. Her work proved — also for the first time — that the point of highest gene activity coincided with the point of greatest lipolysis.

In essence, she confirmed that five major genes were upregulated during lactation, allowing the cow to utilize stored body fat for milk production.

"This is a novel finding for any mammalian species," said McNamara.

These breakthroughs won McNamara and Sumner an invitation to the International Symposium on Energy and Protein to be held in Paris in September. They also garnered McNamara a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Research Initiative to continue his work.

"Now that we've confirmed one application of nutrigenomics in dairy cattle, we plan to study it in more depth," he said. "We can start to define exactly how genes in adipose tissue respond to different diets. It all comes back to the goal of breeding the most efficient animals for milk production."

POSITIONS & NOTICES

Classified staff

These listings are current as of Friday, Jan. 26. For listings that are updated daily, please see www.wsujobs.com and click on "search postings" in the navigation bar at the left.

Program coordinator. Development/alumni relations, Vancouver. Closes Feb. 2.

Research technologist 1, part time. Entomology, Pullman. Open until filled.

Research technologist 1, part time. Food Science and Human Nutrition, Pullman. Closes Feb. 4.

Research technologist 3. Environmental research, Pullman. Closes Feb. 4.

Specimen processing technician. Animal disease lab, Pullman. Closes Feb. 5.

Veterinary specialist 2, three positions. Vet Clinical Sciences, Pullman. Open until filled.

Veterinary specialist 3. Vet Clinical Sciences, Pullman. Open until filled.

Exempt staff

See www.hrs.wsu.edu/employment/FAPvacancies.asp

Principal assistant. Enrollment Services. Contact Andrea Goates, 335-6200. Closes Feb. 13. (4614)

Assistant director. Chemistry. Contact Nikki Clark, 335-1516. Closes Feb. 8. (4621)

Principal assistant. Extension Administration. Contact Lisa Clyde, 335-2822. Closes Feb. 5. (4627)

Manager. Gear-Up, Tri-Cities. Contact Silvia Clark, 372-7302. Closes Feb. 2. (4628)

Development director. WSU Spokane. Contact Debbie Reeves, 358-7550. Closes Feb. 12. (4630)

Web coordinator. Marketing Communications. Contact Charlene Burroughs, 335-2540. Closes Feb. 2. (4636)

Manager, two positions. University Recreation. Contact Cande Hasenoehrl, 335-6639. Closes Feb. 22. (4638, 4639)

Faculty

See www.hrs.wsu.edu/employment/FAPvacancies.asp

Assistant professor. College of Business, Tri-Cities. Contact Wanda Walters, 37207360. Closes March 19. (4513)

Extension educator. Snohomish/Skagit counties. Contact Lisa Clyde, 335-2822. Closes Feb. 12. (4551)

Extension educator E-2. Whatcom County. Contact Lisa Clyde, 335-2822. Closes Feb. 12. (4565)

Assistant/associate professor. Veterinary Clinical Sciences. Contact Connie Sakamoto, 335-0779. Closes March 15. (4567)

Dean. Libraries. Contact Mike Long, 335-5454. Closes March 19. (4640)

HRS courses

Human Resource Services offers on-line professional development courses to WSU employees and students at no cost. Visit www.hrs.wsu.edu/skillssoft to access your personal training account.

Live instructor-led courses are available. To enroll in any of the live classes listed below click on the "Training" link at www.hrs.wsu.edu.

Training workshops for department chairs and directors **ONLINE @** www.hrs.wsu.edu/Chairs

Research administration series, ONLINE @ www.hrs.wsu.edu/RAS

Administration professional supervisory workshops, ONLINE @ www.hrs.wsu.edu/APS

Cash Handling, 9-11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 2, French Ad 240Q. No fee.

JOBX Training, 10 a.m.-noon Monday, Feb. 5, Lighty 260. No fee.

New Employee Orientation, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 5, Smith CUE 518. No fee.

Employee Benefits Orientation, 1-4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, Smith CUE 518. No fee.

Optika Web Training, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, Lighty 403. No fee.

Computer and Network Security Awareness, 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, Information Technology Building 2025. No fee.

State Ethics Law, 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, Lighty 405 and WECN. No fee.

Public Records and Records Requests, 3:45-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, Hulbert 3 and WECN. No fee.

Policies, Procedures, Records Retention and Forms Orientation, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, Hulbert 3. No fee.

Search Process: Technical Aspects, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, Lighty 403. No fee.

Mission and Goals of WSU, 8:30-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, Lighty 405. No fee.

Developing and Reconciling Your Unit Budget, 1:30-4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, Smith CUE 512. No fee.

Coaching the Van Driver II, 1:30-4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, Lighty 403. No fee.

TEMPS Training, 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, French Ad 139 and WECN. No fee.

Award Administration: How to Administer an Award (Part 3 of 4), 1:10-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, Murrow West 55 and AMS. No fee. (See **ONLINE @** www.hrs.wsu.edu/RAS)

Corrective Action and Discipline, Noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, French Ad 139. No fee. (See **ONLINE @** www.hrs.wsu.edu/APS)

Business Policies and Procedures: The Manual, Contracts, Records Retention and Public Records Requests, 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, Murrow West 53 and AMS. No fee. (See **ONLINE @** www.hrs.wsu.edu/Chairs)

Student Data Warehouse: An Introductory Lecture, 1:15-4:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, Information Technology Building 2025. No fee.

Safety and You at WSU, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, Lighty 403. No fee.

Student Data Warehouse: Introductory Lab, 9 a.m.-noon Friday, Feb. 16, Thompson 1. \$20.

Notice of DOL filings

The following notices are provided as a result of WSU's intent to file applications for permanent employment certification with the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, Division of Foreign Labor Certification. To view full notice of filings, contact the persons listed below or e-mail the Office of International Students and Scholars at oiss@wsu.edu. Any person may provide documentary evidence bearing on any of the following applications to: Certifying Officer, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Admin., Chicago Nat'l Processing Center, 844 N. Rush St., 12th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611.



Three new Vancouver exhibits

Three new art exhibits have opened at WSU Vancouver, including paintings (above) by WSU Vancouver student Jaelyn Humphrey. See Exhibits in the What's Happening calendar for more information.

New TV ads highlight life-changing research

WSU recently began a series of television ads featuring the far-reaching impact of the university's research. The ads are being aired on cable and major stations in Seattle and Spokane. They will run during prime-time viewing hours in three-week segments throughout the spring. Topics include:

- Taxol cancer treatment
- Bone replacement
- Biomediation of water resources
- Economies of developing countries

In addition, the College of Veterinary Medicine has produced a new television commercial featuring a range of cutting-edge services offered by the college's teaching hospital.

Preview the ads **ONLINE @** www.wsu.edu/IntegratedMarketing/campaign/video.html. For more, see **ONLINE @** www.wsutoday.wsu.edu.

Series helps faculty land and manage grants

The Faculty Development Series to help faculty with all aspects of successful proposal development and award management continues Thursday, Feb. 8, with presentations from faculty who've been on a Mission to DC.

For more information on this event and others in the series, and to register, go **ONLINE @** www.ogrd.wsu.edu/fds/calendar.asp.

Assistant professor. Mechanical and Materials Eng./Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Gayle Landeen, 335-8655.

Assistant professor. Civil and Env. Eng./Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Vicki Ruddick, 335-9578.

Assistant professor. Pharmaceutical Sciences/Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Paula Marley, 335-5545.

Assistant professor. Electrical Eng. and Computer Science/Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Joy Robbins, 335-6602.

Associate professor. School of Biological Sciences/Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Carmen Hall, 335-1801.

Assistant professor. Management and Operations/College of Business and Economics/Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Janet Reid, 335-7580.

Assistant professor. Foreign Lang and Cultures/Pullman. To view full notice of filing, contact Lisa McMullen, 335-4132.

Assistant professor. Mechanical and Materials Eng./Pullman. To

view full notice of filing, contact Gayle Landeen, 335-8655.

Assistant professor. Human Development/Vancouver. To view full notice of filing, contact Linda Dezelle, (360) 546-9721.

Shared leave

The following employees have been approved for shared leave:

Thad Hathaway, Athletics
Kevin Ekstedt-Pearson, Facilities Operations

Malenna Palmer, Housing & Conference Services

Cindy Martin, Housing & Conference Services

Jason Martin, Housing & Conference Services

For more information, contact Sally Wickizer, wickizer@wsu.edu.

Deaths

Richard Massey, graphic artist retired from KWSU public television in 1990, died Dec. 26.

Calendar ...

(Continued from page 6)

Horticulture Club, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., greenhouse east of Lighty. Pots of hyacinths with primroses, pots of tulips, and pots of daffodils.

Film "A King and His Movie," by Carlos Sorin, Argentina, 1986, 7 p.m., CUE 202, free, part of 16th annual international film and lecture series by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

Jazz concert, 8 p.m., Kimbrough concert hall.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Business policies and procedures, training series for department chairs/directors, 7:30 a.m., Holland and Terrell Libraries 24, **ONLINE @** www.hrs2.wsu.edu/utills/showpage.asp?page=577.

African Americans in the U.S. military, lecture by George Tambllyn, University of Washington, noon, Murrow 53 & 55.

Corrective action and discipline, noon, French Ad 139, part of administrative professional supervisory workshops series, enroll **ONLINE @** www.hrs2.wsu.edu/utills/showpage.asp?page=573.

Nurses in business, second of three-part series, 4-6 p.m., College of Nursing, Spokane, \$30 for series, RSVP to Karen Malone, (509) 324-7339 or malone@wsu.edu.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Playwright lecture, Louis Nowra and "The Golden Age," 6:30 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theater.

"**The Golden Age,**" play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Friday, Feb. 16

Online auction begins in support of Northwest Public Radio. Concludes Feb. 22. See **ONLINE @** <http://auction.nwpr.org>.

Vandal Indoor, track and field, all day, UI Kibbie dome.

Power breakfast, College of Business, 7:30 a.m., Seattle Sheraton Hotel and Towers, speaker Sally Jewell, CEO of REI, see **ONLINE @** www.go.wsu.edu/powerbreakfast

Walkthrough with artist Gaylen Hansen, noon, Museum of Art/WSU.

Lecture/reception with artist Gaylen Hansen, 6 p.m., Museum of Art/WSU.

"**The Golden Age,**" play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Saturday, Feb. 17

McDonald's Open, track and field, all day, UI Kibbie dome.

Women's basketball vs. Washington, 5 p.m., Friel Court, Beasley Coliseum, tickets 800-GO-COUGS.

"**The Golden Age,**" play for mature audiences, 8 p.m., Daggy Hall, Jones Theatre, ticket range \$10 to free, reservations 335-7236 or reservations@wsu.edu.

Strategic Update:

Look for this special insert coming in the Feb. 16 WSU Today.



Kip Findley and Cory Overman demonstrate colorful finger grips that they're testing for a Washington entrepreneur. (Photo by Shelly Hanks, WSU Photo Services)

SMALL GRANTS, BIG IMPACT

Get a grip

Funds let researchers test entrepreneur's 'bright' idea

BY BILL LONDON
WSU TODAY

The traditional paper handling aid is that tan rubbery gizmo that accountants or postal workers place on their fingertips to easily shuffle pages. But, with help from WSU researchers, the Washington entrepreneurs selling Tippi Fingertip Grip (**ONLINE @ www.tippibrand.com**) hope paper-shufflers will replace those gizmos with their brightly-colored "grippier" grips.

The Tippi Grip was created by a new company, VWP, Inc., that recognized the need for documentation of its claims of product durability and effectiveness.

Philip Lorenzo, VWP's owner, turned to WSU for assistance and was linked to **Kip Findley**. Findley, undergraduate research professor in the School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, is experienced in studying

the mechanical properties of materials.

To fund the project, Findley and Lorenzo turned to the Washington Technology Center. A statewide economic development agency, it channels state, federal and private resources to help Washington companies develop and commercialize products.

To complete the research, Findley turned to Cory Overman, a senior in mechanical engineering. Bringing students into the lab is the focus of Findley's position; he was hired in May 2005 to involve undergraduate students in meaningful research.

The Tippi Grip project, testing primarily for durability, began in November 2006 and is expected to end in March or April.

"Cory will really benefit from this project," Findley said. "This experience will help him understand the research process, which will help him decide about his

own career options of graduate school or industry.

"He'll have an opportunity for hands-on research to build his ability to think critically. And, of course, he will earn money."

Findley noted that if the product is proven superior, the company will more effectively enter the market and ultimately hire more employees and boost the economy.

Projects like this provide training and skills for students, Findley said. They also can lead to further funding support for similar research efforts, and they continue to build productive research collaborations with industry that can result in publication and presentation of the results.

"The most important result of projects like this is the personal and professional satisfaction," Findley said. "For me, it is very satisfying to work with students and get results."

MONEY WATCH

Medical insurance plans don't cover everything

BY JESSICA FITTS
WSU TODAY INTERN

WSU employees have various medical plans available to choose from, but plan subscribers may be surprised by some of the services that are not covered.

The state requires that medical insurance providers cover some aspects of care. Certain procedures, such as prostate cancer screening and mammograms, are required to be covered if recommended by a physician, according to the Revised Code of Washington, Chapter 41.05. To learn more about coverage requirements in Washington, visit **ONLINE @ <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=41.05>**.

But other coverage is at the discretion of the insurance provider, according to the Washington State Legislature website. For example, there are more than 20 exclusions — items not covered — listed online for Group Health Classic and Group Health Value's managed-care plans, and there are 55 exclusions under the Uniform Medical Plan. View these **ONLINE @ www.pebb.hca.wa.gov/benefits/medexclusion.shtml**.

Because of these exceptions, it is often a good idea to contact your provider or look at their list of services covered — in print or online — before you go to a physician for services. This is particularly true if you are being referred to a specialist or seeking services that are a bit out of the ordinary.

Below are some of the exceptions outlined by Group Health and Uniform Medical Plan, two of the major WSU insurance providers offered through the state Public Employees Benefits Board. Employees who use a different medical plan should contact the provider for a complete and accurate list of exclusions.

Group Health plans do not cover:

- Additional portions of a physical exam beyond a routine physical that is specifically required for the purpose of employment, travel, immigration, licensing or insurance and related reports.
- Testing or treatment of infertility and sterility, including artificial insemination and in-vitro fertilization.
- Evaluation and treatment of learning disabilities, including dyslexia, except as provided for neurodevelopmental therapies.
- Drugs and medicines not prescribed by a plan-designated provider, except for emergency treatment.
- Experimental or investigational services, supplies and drugs.

Uniform Medical does not cover:

- Dietary program designed for weight control and weight loss.
- Immunizations for the purpose of travel or employment, or required because of where you reside, or any others not listed (under preventive care in the Certificate of Coverage).
- Prescription drug charges over the Uniform Medical Plan allowed charge, regardless of where purchased.
- Eye surgery to alter the refractive character of the cornea, such as radial keratotomy, photokeratectomy or LASIK surgery.
- Court-ordered care, unless determined by the insurer to be medically necessary and otherwise covered.

Inside this issue:

- **Strange, funny excuses profs have heard from students — page 2**
- **Organizing 600+ pharmacy rotations — page 4**
- **WSU ads tout life-changing research — page 7**

Math ...

(Continued from page 1)

of her course involving revised USDA food guidelines.

After looking at how insects fit into dietary requirements in other parts of the world, students looked at their own diets. In one project they calculated how many calories they typically consume, determined their energy expenditure, looked at the guidelines and then calculated how much they would have to increase or decrease their food intake to be in line with the Recommended Daily Amounts.

Students realized they weren't eating as well as they should, Anelli said. "They also realized there were math-type problems that they had forgotten how to do."

Need surprises students

Thomas Rotolo, associate professor and co-director of graduate studies in the sociology department, also took the workshop, even though he was a math major before he became a sociologist and teaches the introduction to statistics class for sociology majors.

"It was sort of preaching to the choir for me," he

College competency lacking

In January, the American Institutes for Research, a behavioral and social science research organization, released a study of literacy on college campuses, reporting that about 20 percent of students pursuing four-year degrees had only basic quantitative skills. For example, the students could not compare credit card offers or estimate if their car had enough gas to get to the service station.

said, but the workshop has inspired him to include more quantitative literacy in other classes. Students are often surprised, and disappointed, to learn that they need to understand numbers and symbolic reasoning to be sociologists, he said, particularly if they plan to attend graduate school.

"With students, I use the analogy of a math muscle," he said. "It's painful if you haven't used it in a while."

Faculty interest welcome

Vincent, who is chair-elect of the quantitative lit-

eracy special interest subgroup for the Mathematical Association of America, said the quantitative literacy movement is gaining momentum across the country, at both the college and K-12 levels.

Many of the leaders in the field are private, liberal arts colleges, including Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., and Hollins University in Roanoke, Va. But Vincent said large public research universities also are taking note.

Vincent's exploratory work, including bringing speakers to campus and organizing the summer workshop, was funded by an Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Improvement Initiative Grant from the Office of Undergraduate Education.

Now, she said, she is trying to gauge if there is institutional support for a campus-wide emphasis on quantitative literacy across the curriculum. In the meantime, Vincent and Smith, a senior instructor in the math department, are happy to talk with faculty who want suggestions for how to develop quantitative literacy in their courses.

"We're here to help," Smith said. "We just want folks to recognize the importance of bringing math into their curriculum."