Dear Colleagues,

It is hard for me to believe that this is my final fall semester at Westminster as your dean. I count myself as very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be associated with the terrific faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences and this newsletter is a reaffirmation of the many accomplishments of a very talented group. We also have some impressive new additions to the faculty for you to welcome this year. I am confident that they will add their own vitality and achievements to our School. Have a fabulous rest of the semester!

David Baddley had two solo art exhibits this summer. The first, NOT HOME, was an exhibit of photographs from road trips in the American West at the Gallery at Library Square, May 5 - June 15. The second was a video installation incorporating slowed images of light and sound from the Seine, in Paris, in an immersive space at the Finch Lane Gallery, August 10 - September 28.

Lenka Konopasek’s paper sculpture was included in the exhibition “Papercuts” which featured seven international artists working with paper. The exhibition traveled to several venues including Columbus State University, Norman & Emmy Lou P. Illges Gallery, Columbus, GA; Mar 22nd-Apr 24th and Herron School of Art and Design/IUPUI, Herron Galleries, Indianapolis. IN, Sep 26th-Nov 10th.

In May, Hikmet Loe exhibited her photography in the 300 Plates Fundraiser & Exhibition at Art Access Gallery in Salt Lake City. In June she presented her talk “To be Conscious of the Actualities of Perception: Local/Global Attention and Perception Regarding Robert Smithson’s Earthwork, the Spiral Jetty,” at the international, interdisciplinary conference, Staging the Land, in Avignon, France, (with Russ Costa, Honors/Neuroscience.) Later the same month she collaborated on artist Régis Perray’s transatlantic piece 340t / 340g déplacés, an action that took place in Nantes, France to coincide with the installation of Michael Heizer’s piece Levitated Mass at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Bonnie Baxter was listed in Utah Business as one of the “30 Women to Watch.”

In May, Betsy Kleba was invited by National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Intramural Training and Education to participate in the annual NIH-Trainee Career Fair in Bethesda, MD, where she served as a panelist discussing how to successfully make the transition into an academic position. Later in the month she was invited to Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, MT, (NIH, National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases) to give two talks; one to the broader scientific community.
titled “Going to Extremes: Looking for Life in Salt,” and one aimed specifically at post-doctoral fellows called “From RML to a PUI: Life as a College Professor”.

**CHEMISTRY**

Christine Stracey (Biology) and Frank Black (Chemistry) were awarded a grant from the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands to conduct undergraduate lead research on the transfer and bioaccumulation of mercury in terrestrial ecosystems surrounding the Great Salt Lake.

Robyn Hyde attended an NSF-sponsored CCWCS (Chemistry Collaborations, Workshops & Communities of Scholars) Workshop on food chemistry. The one week workshop was held at Clarke University in Dubuque, IA in July.

The research paper “Identification, Extraction and Quantification of the Synthetic Cannabinoid JWH-018 from Commercially Available Herbal Marijuana Alternatives” authored by Paul Hooker, Robyn Hyde and student Sage Dunham was accepted for publication in Forensic Science International.

Tricia Shepherd with undergraduate student Matthew Koc and collaborator Valeria Molinero published their research titled “The Quasi-Liquid Layer of Ice under Conditions of Methane Clathrate Formation” in The Journal of Physical Chemistry C. Tricia is part of a group of computational chemistry faculty that received a $200,000 grant from the National Science Foundation’s Major Research Instrumentation (NSF-MRI) program titled, “Acquisition of a High Performance Computer for the Molecular Education and Research Consortium in Undergraduate Computational Chemistry (MERCURY).” She was invited to present on Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL) in physical chemistry at the Canadian Chemistry Conference. She also presented at the National POGIL meeting (poster: Using student authored POGIL activities as assessment) and at the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (talk: Incorporating computational chemistry in undergraduate research and education). Tricia also organized and co-facilitated the 2012 POGIL Southwest Regional Workshop at Westminster.

**COMMUNICATION/MPM**

While training for certification as Master Gardeners, Helen Hodgson and her daughter, Emily Hodgson-Soule (’02, MPC ’07), have co-authored seven articles on various aspects of gardening for The Salt Lake Tribune. The first was published in late March, and the most recent appeared in late September. Over the summer, Helen taught medical writing workshops for three pharmaceutical companies: Bristol-Myers Squibb in Plainsboro, NJ; Gilead in San Francisco, CA; and Xcenda in Tampa, FL.

In October, Christy Seifert’s book The Predicteds was a finalist for the Utah Book Awards.

Kim Zarkin was a judge for the Job’s Daughters pageant. She also presented on media effects at the Girl Scout’s Healthy Media Day.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

In July, Greg Gagne attended the workshop Illinois-Intel Parallelism Center Summer School on Multicore Programming and is hoping to integrate materials on parallel programming in several different computer science classes.
Helen Hu’s project, The Utah Exploring Computer Science Initiative, was funded by the NSF (National Science Foundation.) She is working with the State Office of Education to introduce a new computer science course to Utah high schools. The project will train 100 Utah computer science teachers over the next three years. Helen Hu and Tricia Shepherd’s paper, “Using POGIL to Help Students Learn to Program”, was accepted in the ACM journal, Transactions on Computing Education. The paper will appear in the 2013 special issue on Alternatives to Lecture.

ENGLISH

Gail Avendano attended the Aviation Accreditation Board, International (AABI) Conference in Montreal this past July where Westminster--and Julie Paasch in particular--received special recognition for its participation in the national Pilot Source Study.


As co-director of The Gower Project, an international network of scholars working to offer online resources on fourteenth-century poetry, Georgi Donavin has been supervising some exciting new work, including the revamping of the project home page, the creation of a Wiki for translations of Gower’s poetry, and the organization of conference sessions at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo. Of all of this work, she is most enthusiastic about having started a new journal with Eve Salisbury at Western Michigan University. Accessus: A Journal of Premodern Literature and New Media will debut in March, 2013. Over the summer, Georgi also worked on a crowdsourcing transcription project, transcribing lesser-known medieval manuscripts online. She also completed an essay for a festschrift that will be published in 2014.

Christopher LeCluyse presented “A Classical Approach to the Writing Consultation as Translation: You Say Metaphora, and I Say Translatio” at the International Writing Centers Association Conference October 25-28 in San Diego. He received a merit leave this semester to begin work on a book project, Tropes of Translation: Metaphor, Language, and Learning in Rhetoric and Writing Pedagogy. Also in late October, his early music ensemble Utopia joined the nationally touring group Ostraka to perform music from seventeenth-century France for the Westminster Concert Series.

This summer Fatima Mujcinovic spent a week at the University of Oxford, attending an international conference organized by the UK Society for Caribbean Studies. With two colleagues, she put together a panel and presented a paper on images of violence in contemporary Caribbean literature. Her talk was entitled “Racial Geopolitics and Violence in Michelle Cliff’s No Telephone to Heaven.”

October 5th, Lance Newman was the invited plenary speaker at the Utah Society for Environmental Education Annual Conference. His talk was called, “Getting into Grand Canyon through Stories.”

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

This summer, Environmental Studies faculty and students hosted Representative Jim Matheson who came to Westminster to celebrate the college’s inclusion in the Princeton
Guide to Green Colleges. Jeff McCarthy also organized a symposium, “The Future of Ecocriticism” for the annual meeting of the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences. He rode his motorcycle to San Francisco (and back!) for the meeting. His article “Reading Green” appeared in *The Edinburgh University Journal* and his review essay “Beyond Romantic Ecocriticism” was published in the *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences. Brent Olson*’s paper “Subdivisions and Deer Uses: Conflicts between Nature and Private Property on the Urban Fringe” appeared in the journal *Landscape Research*. The article examines land use planning and governance as they relate to migratory deer and changing understandings of the public good.

**FILM**

Sean Desilets’s article “Cocteau’s Female Orpheus” will appear in *Literature/Film Quarterly* in October. He will be giving a paper called “Messianic Duration: Au Hasard Balthazar” at the Modern Language Association Convention in January. He will use a Gore Course Release Grant for the spring to begin work on a book project, *Anti-Transcendent Style in Christian Cinema*.

**HISTORY**

Gary Marquardt submitted an essay, “Not Like a Wave or a Flood Through the Bursting Dam...”: Individual Agency and Rinderpest Epidemiology in Southern Bechuanaland, 1896”, for consideration in *The Journal of Southern African Studies* in September and a book review for *The Journal of Namibian Studies* in August. In addition to piloting his first online course in Modern World History over the summer, he also recently participated in an online course review on African History to 1890 for Saylor.org.

Bill Martin, who joined our History Department as an adjunct at the beginning of 2011-12, has been awarded the Graduate Research Fellowship with the Tanner Humanities Center at the University of Utah for the 2012-2013 academic year. He enjoyed his experience at Westminster College so much that he asked and received special permission from the Center’s director to continue teaching here at the college this fall term despite the fellowship restrictions. His research study is “Cartography as an Expression of Empire: Mapping Colonial North American and the Early American Republic.”

In September, the book that Jeff Nichols edited with Will Bagley and Polly Aird, *Playing With Shadows: Voices of Dissent in the Mormon West*, won the 2012 Smith Petit Foundation prize for Best Documentary Book in Utah History at the Utah State Historical Society annual conference. He is also chairing a roundtable discussion on October 6th at the Western History Association Conference in Denver, CO, about the Utah state history textbook that he is editing with three others for Utah State University Press.

**HONORS**

Richard Badenhausen’s “Costs and Benefits in the Economy of Honors” appeared as the lead forum essay in the most recent issue of *JNCHC: The Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council* (13.1).

**JUSTICE STUDIES**

Giancarlo Panagia received multiple offers to have his upcoming book *Trading the Public’s Lands: Policy, Choice, and Practice* published. He has chosen to go with the University of Utah Press.
MATH

Jonas D’Andrea attended the Mathematical Association of America’s (MAA) MathFest in Madison, WI, at the beginning of August. He presented his talk, “pwnage,” in the session on “Inquiry-Based Learning Best Practices.”

MUSIC

Michael Chipman performed a Handel aria with the Fry Street Quartet at the Utah Chamber Artists concert in September.

In November, our tenor applied faculty member, Brian Stucki, will be singing the role of Romeo in Arizona Opera’s production of Gounod’s “Roméo et Juliette.”

NEUROSCIENCE

In May, Jason Cooperrider gave a talk on his research on the functional neuroimaging of reading and word choice in individuals with an autism spectrum condition at the 2012 International Meeting for Autism Research in Toronto, Canada. In August, Jason was notified by the Society for Neuroscience that the talk he will give at Neuroscience 2012 in New Orleans this October has been selected as one of 200 “hot topics” to be advertised to the press before and during the conference. This talk will be on the multimodal neuroimaging and neuropsychological case study he helped perform on famous autistic savant, Dr. Temple Grandin. In July, Jason was granted funding from The Ohio State University’s Center for Cognitive and Behavioral Brain Imaging to perform pilot multimodal neuroimaging on a sample of child prodigies/savants collected by OSU Psychology Professor Joanne Ruthsatz, to form the beginning of a larger project investigating the brain and cognitive basis of exceptional abilities in prodigies and savants.

Russ Costa published portions of his dissertation work in a Psychonomic Bulletin & Review article entitled “Inhibition, Interference and Conflict in Task Switching,” and presented a poster on his newer work on switching attention between auditory and visual tasks (with Westminster students Lindsay Helm, Nick Halper, and Emilee Naylor) at the annual meeting of the Vision Science Society in Naples, Florida in May. Russ also gave a paper on attention, perception, and aesthetics (with Hikmet Loe, Art) at Staging the Land: Contemporary Site-Specific Creation and the Issue of Perception in Avignon, France in June.

PHILOSOPHY

Nicholas More received a merit leave for 2012-13. He’s beginning work on a book about the relationship of philosophy to humor.

PSYCHOLOGY/MSCP

Ellen Behrens was elected to the Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Therapeutic Schools and Programs. She is also an invited member of the Standing Committee on Research for the National Association of Therapeutic Schools and Programs which meets regularly to develop a national research and evaluation initiative. Ellen is also a research scientist for the Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare Research Cooperative which administers and delivers an active, comprehensive research program on outdoor behavioral healthcare programs operating in North America http://www.obhrc.org/research-scientists/ellen-behrens

Laura Bennett-Murphy began as MSPC (soon
to be MMHC) program director in July. She presented a paper at the International Conference for Child and Adolescent Psychopathology, London, UK (July 2012). She presented a training seminar for the Utah Foster Care Foundation (Aug., 2012) and delivered a national webinar for the Center for Victims of Torture (Sept., 2012). She will be speaking at the Lt. Governor’s Conference on Community Violence next month (Nov., 2012).


Colleen Sandor had a chapter on group supervision accepted into a book about clinical supervision. She also gave a brown bag talk and a clinical presentation at the conference for the International Psychotherapy Institute in April.

**SOCIOLGY**

Mark Rubinfeld published an article, “Lights, Camera, Theory: Picturing Hollywood through Multiple Sociological Lenses,” last spring in Jean-Anne Sutherland and Kathryn Feltey’s Cinematic Sociology: Social Life in Film. Additionally, he presented and chaired numerous panels at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference in Boston in April, as well as participated in the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Denver in August. On a lighter note, he was quoted over the summer in a Wall Street Journal article on Justin Bieber.

**SPANISH**

Deyanira Ariza-Velasco has been working to send Ray Reymond, a Spanish & Latin American Studies student, to work in Colombia. He will work on sustainable tourism and hopes to open a business in the Andean Region called “Zona Cafetera”. In October, Deyanira organized the fourth Latino Event on campus, “The Global Dimension of Latino Utah.” This event had both domestic and international dimensions regarding global issues related to migrant/immigrant labor in Utah and the history of religion in the globalized world. She is also on the final revision of her book, Sermonarios de Alcaníz 1814-1815, which will be published in Zaragoza, Spain by El Trovador Editorial. During the summer, she finished the editorial revision for the book Derecho y la mujer (The Law and the woman) which will be published by Editorial Norma, Colombia. It will be the third edition of this book. Deyanira together with Inaki Pradanos, Jeff Nichols and David Stokes are coordinating a seminar at the University of Piura, Peru, on topics related to environmental and globalization issues.

In September, Alan Davison co-authored (with Joseph Bottum) an article titled, “Numbering the Days” which was published in The Weekly Standard.

Brenda Romero-Lake will give a lecture “Cuauhtemoc’s Glorious Death: Literary and Pictorial Depictions” on Nov. 7th at Weber State University. This presentation will be part of Nexus, a series of interdisciplinary lectures organized by the Department of Foreign Languages for their faculty and students.

THEATRE

Through contacts Michael Vought made this summer while studying in Washington DC, Harvard University’s Center for Hellenic Studies a proposed partnering with the Westminster Theatre Program on The Classical Greek Theatre Festival has come about. They will work on corresponding training for local high school students in Athenian Culture and Drama. This collaboration will greatly enhance the scope, scholarship, and visibility of Westminster’s Classical Theatre Festival and provide expanded opportunities for our students.

WELCOME

Jonathan Amburgey was recently appointed as a one year Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology. Jonathan studied experimental social psychology, with specializations in environmental and quantitative psychology at the University of Utah, where he received his PhD. For the past year, he has taught for the Department of Psychology at the University of Utah and the Department of Psychology here at Westminster College, and worked as a statistics and research consultant. Prior to those appointments, he taught at Western New Mexico University as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology. He received his BA in psychology (cum laude) from the University of Kentucky, with Departmental Honors, and a minor in sociology.

Jason Goltz is a long-time adjunct instructor in the Philosophy department and is now on his second go-round as a fill-in Assistant Professor. Jason has lived his entire life in the western US, getting degrees BA in philosophy at Northern Arizona University, his MA at the University of Wyoming, and his PhD at the University of Utah. In addition to the teaching that he does at Westminster, Jason also currently serves as part of an ethics discussion group at Community Nursing Services.

Leonardo E. Figueroa Helland has been recently appointed Assistant Professor of Political Studies. He specializes in global politics, international relations, political theory/philosophy, and indigenous studies. In June 2012 he successfully defended his dissertation titled “Indigenous Philosophy and World Politics”, a work for which his doctoral committee granted a Distinction and which he is currently transforming into a book manuscript. Leonardo taught at Arizona State University from 2010 to 2012 where he undertook his masters and doctoral studies at the School of Politics and Global Studies. He also taught at the Universidad de las Américas--México, where he previously obtained his BA in International Relations with the Highest Honors in 2005. He also studied philosophy at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México. Leonardo conducts trans-disciplinary research across several fields relevant to political and global studies, focusing on themes of global justice, environmental sustainability, indigenous cosmopolitics, critical international theory, transnationalism, migrations, diversity and global education. Leonardo’s work has appeared or is forthcoming in scholarly journals such as UNESCO’s Journal of Higher Education and Society/Educacion Superior y Sociedad (co-authored with D. Abigail Pérez Aguílera), Journal

Curtis Newbold earned his PhD in a multi-disciplinary program at Clemson University that spanned the fields of rhetoric, communication, and information design. At Clemson he taught courses in Communications, English, and Biology departments, including Intro to Human Communication, Business Writing, Scientific Writing, and Popular Science Journalism. His dissertation, “Ambiguous Science and the Visual Representation of the Real,” addresses visual literacy in scientific communication. His research and interests intersect at the confluence of professional communication, visual rhetoric, culture, creativity, and information design.

Brent Olson was recently appointed Assistant Professor in the Environmental Studies Program at Westminster. He completed his PhD in Geography at Syracuse University. Prior to coming to Westminster he taught in the Geography and Environmental Studies Department at The George Washington University.

Kristy Philippi taught physics and several education courses as an adjunct at Westminster last year and has recently been appointed as a post-doctoral fellow in physics. She has been nationally recognized for innovation in education in her previous role as the founding principal of a mathematics, science & technology public school (grades 6 - 12) outside of New Orleans. The school was the first in the state to educate students in a 1-to-1 laptop environment and employed project-based learning and school-wide learning outcomes to achieve a high level of student achievement. Her interests are in physics education research, project-based learning, and educating students in a 21st century environment.

Tamara N. Stevenson joins Westminster College as the new postdoctoral fellow in Speech. Tamara received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Journalism and Speech/Organizational Communication, respectively, from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. She earned her Specialist of Arts in Educational Leadership, a Community College Leadership Certificate, and this summer, her doctorate in education, all from Eastern Michigan University, with a higher education concentration. She has taught courses in speech communication and educational leadership in a variety of institutional contexts, including both public and private, two- and four-year colleges and universities. Prior to Westminster, Tamara completed a visiting assistant professorship in educational leadership at Miami University in Oxford, OH.