Dear Colleagues,

Well, this is another “last” this semester. Last intro to the Faculty Achievement Newsletter! This may take another form in the future, but it has always given me great pleasure to read about your accomplishments. Such a broad range of topics, experiences, and honors. I am very proud to be joining your ranks and hope to have a few things to add to the newsletter on my return from sabbatical.

Best wishes,

Lenka Konopasek’s artwork was on display at the main branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library, Jan. 26, 2013 – March 8, 2013. A reception and artist’s talk were held opening night for Closing In, paintings and 3D works by Lenka.

Kay Kuzminski held her final pottery sale before her retirement this year. Proceeds benefited Salt Lake County Animal Services.

Hikmet Sidney Loe has presented talks at Snow College (“The Spiral Jetty and Sun Tunnels: Utah’s Earthworks”), Utah Valley University (“Land Art in the Flesh: Phenomenological Explorations at the Spiral Jetty, Sun Tunnels, and The City”), and The Leonardo (Cognitive/Perceptual Psychology and Art Panel) during the past few months. A recent publication is the catalog essay for artist Frank McEntire’s retrospective at Snow College (“An Alchemical State of Being: Plurality and the Art of Frank McEntire”). Her photographs have been exhibited at Art Access and the Utah Cultural Celebration Center.

BIOLOGY

Betsy Kleba and her students, Natalie Batty and Laura Wolf, shared the results of their work at the Intermountain Branch of the American Society of Microbiology’s annual meeting held in Pocatello, ID, on Saturday March 9th. March 10th, Betsy shared the broader implications of the research she and her students engage in by giving a talk at the downtown Salt Lake City public library to the Forum for Questioning Minds. The title of her talk was “Pushing the Limits: Looking for Life in Extreme Environments.”

In December, Glen Warchol wrote an article on Bonnie Baxter in the Salt Lake Magazine, “Faces: A Love for Utah’s Sea.” Bonnie was also quoted by several different sources on why our Great Salt Lake turns pink!

COMMUNICATION/MPC

Curtis Newbold presented “Digital Media and the Global Perspective: Embracing Creativity, Ambiguity, and Engagement in 21st Century Technical Communication” at the Rocky ART
Mountain Modern Language Association conference in October. The conference was held in Boulder, CO.

**Kim Zarkin** was on two panels at the Broadcast Education Association conference in Las Vegas:

*Jack/Jane of All Trades: From Specialist to Generalist*
With retirees, strained budgets and media convergence, many of us are being moved from a specialty in either audio, radio, TV, video, journalism and film to teach production courses away from our specialties. What are some programs doing so survive this new paradigm and are we moving from media specialists to generalists?
Moderator: Evan C. Wirig, Grossmont College
Panelist: Kim A. Zarkin, Westminster College; Troy L. Hunt, College of Eastern Utah; Gary Martin, Cosumnes River College

**Telcom Update 2013**
The FCC continues to look for spectrum to meet growing demands. Fights over retransmission rights, net neutrality and ad-skipping continue unabated and with more than 45% of internet users posting on social media, issues of privacy and currency become more important. Anti-religious postings, copyright and twitter legal battles all point to another jam-packed Telcom Update.
Moderator: Fritz J. Messere, SUNY - Oswego
Panelist: Dom Caristi, Ball State University; Kim A. Zarkin, Westminster College; Laurie Thomas Lee, University of Nebraska @ Lincoln; Paul MacArthur, Utica College

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**Greg Gagne** announced that the 9th edition of *Operating System Concepts* was published in December 2012. It is the best-selling textbook in the field of operating systems and is used in both undergraduate as well as graduate courses worldwide. Recent language translations include Greek, Turkish, and Italian.

**Helen Hu** attended the 2013 Computing Education for the 21st Century conference on January 15-16, where she presented a poster on her NSF project, “The Utah Exploring Computer Science Initiative”. She also ran a workshop on “Using POGIL to Help Student Discover CS Concepts and Develop Process” at the ACM Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education Technical Symposium (SIGCSE) on March 9, 2013. Since August 2012, Helen has served on the Utah Affiliate Award Committee for the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing, which recognized 20 Utah high school girls for their achievements in computer science this year. At the Utah award ceremony on March 23, 2013, Helen spoke of her experience as a computer science student before introducing winners, while computer science major Elena Giere represented Westminster College on the undergraduate student panel.

**ENGLISH**

**Georgiana Donavin** has been busy with her digital humanities endeavor, The Gower Project. At the Modern Language Association Convention in January, the Project sponsored a session entitled “Enabling Access: Gower and Premodern Disability Studies.” The session was praised by MLA President Michael Berube as an example of a cutting edge effort to make literary studies accessible to everyone. Georgi and her assistant Jordyn Page are updating a wiki for the Project with side-by-side pages of Gower’s poems in French, Latin, and Middle English and a space for translating these poems. She has just learned that she won the John Hurt Fisher Prize, an international award for work on John
Gower’s poems.

Christopher LeCluyse presented at the International Writing Centers Association, the University of Texas Undergraduate Writing Center Symposium, and the Utah Community Literacy and Writing Consortium Tutor Symposium. His article “The Categories We Keep: Writing Center Forms and the Topoi of Writing Instruction” was accepted for publication in *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*. He also appeared as a soloist with the Salt Lake Choral Artists in a performance of Handel’s *Israel in Egypt* and sang in three concerts with his group Utopia Early Music.

Fatima Mujcinovic presented a paper at the 44th annual conference of the College English Association held on April 4-6, 2013, in Savannah, GA. Her presentation was entitled “Reworking Nature and Culture: Ethnographic Parody in Latino Literature.”

Natasha Sajé should have two books out in 2014, a book of poems from Tupelo Press and a book of criticism from the U of Michigan Press. An interview with her appears in the spring 2013 issue of the *Crab Creek Review*. Also this spring, she served as one of three judges for the Sterling Scholars in English, and gave a talk on teaching ethics in creative writing at the Associated Writing Programs Conference in Boston.

Daniel Shank Cruz presented his paper “The Liberating Role of Nudity in Samuel R. Delany’s Non-Fiction” at the Modern Language Association Annual Convention in Boston in January. He has just had two articles published: “Failed Thirdspaces and the Search for Home in Michael Cunningham’s *A Home at the End of the World*” in the *Journal of Contemporary Thought* and “Narrative Ethics in Miriam Toews’s *Summer of My Amazing Luck*” in the *Journal of the Center for Mennonite Writing*.

*ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES*

Christy Clay presented the seminar “A River Runs Through It” to the Great Salt Lake Institute. This is a study of stream ecology touching on the Salt Lake Valley and our campus, and rooted in research pursued with undergraduates.


Jeff McCarthy was invited to contribute a chapter on WWI and images of rural life to the forthcoming volume *Modernists in the Shadow of the War* and promises to write it this summer. He gave the lecture “The Alpine Road to Environmentalism” at the Stegner Center, University of Utah School of Law in February (and was glad to see ENVI grads who are now in law school or about to go to law school in attendance). He presented “The New Environmental Criticism and D.H. Lawrence” at the Modern Language Association conference in January. He is taking ENVI students to Paris for May term to study “Nature in the City.” And speaking of global learning, ENVI has formalized a relationship with the Round River School of Conservation Studies, and our students will now be able to study in Patagonia, Namibia and British Columbia.

Brent Olson was invited to submit a chapter on the development of Black Butte Ranch in Central Oregon for the forthcoming book *The Political Ecology of Exurbia*. He’ll need to find some time this summer to write it. Together with Lance Newman, Brent will bring 12
students to the Dixie National Forest in a collaborative project with the Forest Service and the Grand Canyon Trust. Students will work to restore habitat and close unauthorized roads while they learn about the political and ecological history of the region. A camping trip with Environmental Studies students this fall inspired an essay about the need for a new discussion of the geography of the American West. That essay was published on BlogWest.org.

**FILM**

Sean Desilets’s article “Pedal Pushers: Spielberg, De Sica, and Dismemberment,” appeared in the fall 2012 issue of *Film Criticism*. He presented his essay ‘The Limits of Urban Penitence: Carlos Reygadas’s *Battle in Heaven*’ at the Northeast Modern Language Association Convention in March.

**HISTORY**

Bill Martin, an adjunct instructor in American history, has just recently signed a contract as a consulting historical researcher with a Salt Lake City film production company. Vineyard Productions has a strong reputation in the Utah film industry and is known nationally. The work on which Bill will be immediately consulting is the company’s current fifty-three episode educational series *American Ride* - a chronological treatment from colonial America to the present. As Bill has said, “Since the History Channel lost sight of its mission statement in the last decade, this is a niche crying out to be filled.” As enjoyable and rewarding as this work will be, along with finishing up his dissertation at the University of Utah, he’s looking forward to coming back to Westminster College in the next school year.

**HONORS**

In November, Richard Badenhausen traveled to Boston with four students for the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), where he presented on grading standards in Honors at the opening “Developing in Honors” plenary event, chaired a session on how to produce successful newsletters, served in the consultants lounge, and co-chaired the Student Interdisciplinary Research strand. In February, he served as an external program reviewer for the Honors Program at Western Colorado State University and in March participated in a EuroScholars site visit with a dozen or so other Honors directors in Germany, Sweden, and Belgium. In his non-Honors life, his essay “Double Take: The Theory and Practice of Collaboration in W. H. Auden,” was just published by Cambridge University Press in Tony Sharpe’s edited collection *W. H. Auden in Context*. Richard was also honored to receive the Westminster Student Advocate award at this year’s Employee Recognition Gala.

**MATH**

Bill Bynum won this year’s Distinguished Teaching Award in the Intermountain Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Math faculty members Carolyn Connell, Richard Wellman, Sean Raleigh, Jonas D’Andrea and Janine Wittwer attended the Joint Meetings of the Mathematical Association of America and the American Mathematical Society in San Diego in January 2013. Janine Wittwer participated in a focus group for directors of undergraduate mathematics programs as well as attended a course on teaching game theory.
**MUSIC**

The Westminster Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of **Brandon Derfle**, presented the Utah premiere of John Cage’s *Atlas Eclipticalis* on December 5, 2012, in the Vieve Gore Concert Hall. The premiere was part of Westminster’s celebration of the 100th anniversary of Cage’s birth. The performance was accompanied by a slideshow presentation of NASA imagery curated by Professor Chris Cline of the Westminster physics department. Video of the performance can be found on YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6r3cqASxGE.

**NEUROSCIENCE**

In January, **Lesa Ellis** presented on her research “Individual Contributions of Temperamental Negative Affect, Negative Life Events, and BDNF Val(66)Met Polymorphism to Rumination” at the Occasional Temperament Conference, a national conference hosted at Westminster College. Lesa conducted this research with colleagues Jennifer Simonds and Brian Avery, along with current student Jaiya Choles (PSYC), and former students Emilee Naylor (University of Oregon, PSYC) and Benson Stevens (Georgetown University, NEURO). In February, Lesa presented as part of the International Psychotherapy Institute's Master Speakers Series. Her presentation, “Adolescent Brain Development: New Explanations for Old Observations” was telecast to several national sites. In April, Lesa, along with faculty colleague **Russ Costa**, traveled with students Jaiya Choles, Marlayna Townsend (NEURO), Chrono Nu (NEURO), and Leslie Brown (PSYC) to the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Conference in San Francisco. The group had two presentations, “Differential Neural Processing of Negative Stimuli in Individuals Experiencing Facilitation vs Interference in an Emotional Stroop Task,” and “Individual Differences in Orienting Sensitivity Moderate Event Related Potentials and Reaction Times in a Modified Attention Network Task.” Both projects were completed in conjunction with faculty members Jen Simonds and Brian Avery, the current Westminster students listed above, and current student Stephen Rutishauser (PSYC), and former students Emilee Naylor, Nick Halper (NEURO), and Danielle Green (PSYC).

**PHILOSOPHY**

**Jason Goltz** and Steve Maranville presented their paper titled "Business Leadership and the Relevance of the Tenth Commandment: Management May not Really Exist!" at the December 15th virtual conference on business leadership at Regent University.

**Jeff Nielson** attended a conference hosted by the Kettering Foundation in February in Dayton, OH. Jeff participated in training attendees from colleges and universities around the country in organizing centers for public life and in convening and moderating public forums as part of the national network of National Issue Forums Centers. He taught sessions in networking, public meeting facilitation, and communication.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Leonardo Figueroa-Helland’s doctoral dissertation, for which he obtained a Distinction in June 2012, has now been endorsed for publication by the editors of the Routledge Interventions book series. The manuscript titled *Indigenous Philosophy and Global Politics* is now being reviewed and edited for publication. Earlier this year, Leonardo presented some of his research on the intersections between global socio-ecological justice and intercontinental indigenous philosophy at the American Indian Studies Association Conference in Phoenix, AZ. His paper was titled “Transcontinental Indigenous Philosophy: Abya-Yalan and Aotearoan Wisdom for a Global Era.” Leonardo also gave a talk on the intersection between ecological and Indigenous politics at a grassroots workshop organized by the Salt Lake City based non-governmental organization Peaceful Uprising. In June, he will present advances on his upcoming article “Until the Last Bit of Ice…: A Critical Analysis of the ‘Scramble for the Arctic’” at the Global Studies Association Conference in Palos Verdes, CA. In September he will present at the Critical Ethnic Studies Conference in Chicago a paper titled “Decolonizing Philosophy and Political Theory in a Global Era: Indigenous Abya-Yalan Contributions”. Finally, Leonardo will form part of the Latin American Studies Association awarding committee for the best 2012 book in the social sciences.

Mike Zarkin was on KSL prior to the elections and talked about the political conventions.

**SOCIOLOGY**

Mark Rubinfeld and Kristjane Nordmeyer co-presented a paper, “Opportunities and Challenges: Advising the Popular Culture/Social Science Senior Thesis,” at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference in Washington, D.C. Mark organized and coordinated the Undergraduate Sessions for this year’s PCA/ACA National Conference which, with 15 sessions and 75 students, represented the largest undergraduate contingent in the 42-year-history of the Association.

**SPANISH**

Deyanira Ariza-Velasco’s book *Sermones de Alcalí 1814-1815* has been published by Editorial La Fragua del Trovador in Zaragoza, Spain and will be released in May. Deyanira, along with colleagues from both History and Spanish & Latin American Studies, have organized a seminar at Piura University in Perú. Jeff Nichols and Luis Pradanos will travel the first week of June to Piura, Perú, to teach a seminar on globalization topics. In April, she helped facilitate an event with the Colombian community of Utah in conjunction with the Colombia Consul in San Francisco, CA, to provide comprehensive services for locals. The event was held on the Westminster campus. She was also recognized by the Civic Engagement Center as one of the civically engaged scholars on campus. Lastly, Deyanira has been mentoring alumnus, Raymond Warner, on sustainable rural tourism in Colombia as well as on community services at an elementary school in the same area. He has been able to expand his projects on rural tourism to the Island of Mallorca in Spain.

Ellen Behrens was named Co-Editor of the Journal of Therapeutic Schools and Programs. http://natsap.org/research/journal-of-therapeutic-schools-and-programs/

**PSYCHOLOGY/MSPC**

Mike Zarkin was on KSL prior to the elections and talked about the political conventions.

**THEATRE**

Ashley Mott, Adjunct Faculty in Dance, choreographed works for two professional shows this spring. Ashley was selected to create a new work for a 4’ x 8’ stage space for inclusion in Dance Theatre Coalition’s production, MicroDance, at the Rose Wagner Theatre on March 22nd and 23rd. The small duet, titled “Impact,” received strong reviews from City Weekly and Love Dance More, a local dance blog site. Mott’s second new work, “Clara Mace,” was a solo based on the struggles and triumphs of her great-grandmother, a pioneer of the late 1800s. This piece was shown in Artist, Interrupted’s spring performance, Artisgram, at the main library on March 23rd.

Jim Svendson was recently awarded the 2012 Outreach Prize from the American Philological Association for his work with Westminster College’s Classical Greek Theatre Festival of Utah.

**STAFF**

Ashley Seitz Kramer won the 2012 Utah Writers’ Contest in Poetry and is currently a finalist for the Tusculum Review Poetry Prize. In 2012, her manuscript was a finalist for the 42 Miles Press Book Award and the Brittingham/Pollak Prizes. Her poems are forthcoming in Tusculum Review, Colorado Review, Western Humanities Review, Thrush, and Burnside Review. Other poems have recently appeared in Connotation Press, Parcel, Anti-, and Citron Review.

Rebecca Valverde was the recipient of the 2012 Heart and Hands Award given to her by UNA and Planned Parenthood Association of Utah. She was also recognized by Utah’s Lieutenant Governor Greg Bell for her volunteer efforts in her community. She was invited to attend the Bill Clinton Global Initiative conference in St. Louis April 5th-7th for her work with the Latin@ trans* immigrant community in Salt Lake City, which is also the topic of her thesis. She will be graduating from the MACL program this May.

**FUTURE WESTMINSTERITES…..**

Chloe Savannah Newbold joined the Newbold household on Sunday, February 10th. She was born at a convenient 3:30pm at St. Mark’s Hospital and weighed in at a whopping 6 lbs, 9 oz, and 21” long (long, skinny little thing). She’s happy and healthy and Mom is recovering slowly but smoothly. Little Chloe enjoys taking warm baths in the sink, reposing in her vibrating bouncy chair, and swinging to the sound of cliche baby tunes under bad speakers. She eats and poops on a frequent and predictable schedule. Sleeping is another story. They feel blessed and thrilled to have her join her two older sisters, Macie and Madison.