What an amazing spring semester. It seems to have flown by and here we are in April again. I know we are all looking forward to welcoming the newest member of the Arts and Sciences faculty, Dr Brian Levin-Stankovich, the new president of Westminster College. Once again we have a newsletter filed with great achievements of our faculty. Thank you to everyone who shared and congratulations to all.

**ART**


Kandace Steadman was recently appointed to the State Art Collection Acquisition Board.

**BIOLOGY**

On February 2nd, Christine Stracey and Bonnie Baxter were quoted in the Salt Lake Tribune regarding the $250,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation to study the Orb Weaver population at the Great Salt Lake.


Christine Stracey’s paper “Are Urban Habitats Ecological Traps for a Native Songbird? Season-long Productivity, Apparent Survival, and Site Fidelity in Urban and Rural Habitats” was recently published in the Journal of Avian Biology.

**CHEMISTRY**

In November, Robyn Hyde was quoted in the Standard Examiner on her students and students of Davis High learning chemistry through a viscous-based project.

**COMMUNICATION/MPC**

In November, Christy Seifert was quoted in the Salt Lake Tribune and on KSL.com regarding the Twilight series and her work studying it. Later in the month she was quoted in collegemagazine.com on their article “Let’s Talk About Sex, Baby.” Christy’s new book The Predicteds was selected as “Best Dystopian Twist” in Salt Lake City Weekly’s Best of Utah 2012.

Kim Zarkin was recently elected the Chair-Elect of the Sugar House Farmers Market board. In November, she participated in a podcast on plagiarism, http://pandora.bonnint.net/audio/2011_11_09_scott_and_maria1.mp3. She was
quoted the same month on KSL.com regarding the false identity writings of West Valley City Mayor Mike Winder. Kim also made two presentations at the Broadcast Education Association conference in Las Vegas in April: in the 2012 Telecom Update Panel, “State of the First Amendment”; and in the Graduate Education in Mass Media: Balancing Theory and Application, “Nice Article List, But Can You Teach a 4-4?: How Graduate Schools Should (and Shouldn’t) Prepare Students for Life at a Teaching Institution.”

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Helen Hu attended SIGCSE (The ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education) in March where she ran a special session (“Promoting Student-Centered Learning with POGIL“) and presented a poster, “Using POGIL to Teach Students to be Better Problem Solvers.”

**ENGLISH**

On January 20th, Daniel Shank Cruz was quoted in the Sugar House Journal regarding his teaching fellowship here at Westminster.

In January, Georgi Donavin’s book *Scribit Mater: Mary and the Language Arts in the Literature of Medieval England* came out. Currently, she is completing her term as president of the Medieval Association of the Pacific and is attending the annual convention in Santa Clara, CA. In May, Georgi will attend the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI, for which she’s organized two sessions for The Gower Project on the poetry of John Gower. She will also be presenting a paper on one of Gower’s shorter Latin poems entitled “Rex Celi Deus.”

Peter Goldman’s article “The Winter’s Tale and Antitheatricalism: Shakespeare’s Rehabilitation of the Public Scene” was published in the fall 2011 issue of *Anthropoetics: The Journal of Generative Anthropology*. His presentation on “Shakespeare’s Gentle Apocalypse: The Tempest” was accepted for the 2012 Generative Anthropology Summer Conference to held this year at International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan, on July 6-9th. Peter has also been awarded a Henkels Teaching Fellowship by Westminster College (funded by the John and Jean Henkels Endowment) for summer 2012 to study using visual arts for teaching literature, history, and philosophy. He’s looking forward to exploring the connections between figural art and literary, historical, and philosophical texts; and using figural art in various creative ways in his future classes.

Chris LeCluyse attended the Modern Language Association conference in Seattle to complete his final term as a regional delegate to the MLA Delegates Assembly. He helped organize the first Utah Community Literacy and Writing Consortium staff retreat, which brought together tutors and directors from the Westminster, the University of Utah, the Salt Lake Community College Student Writing Center, and the SLCC Community Writing Center. In March he presented “Writing Consultants as Disciplinary Translators” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in St. Louis and took five writing consultants to the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference at Utah State University. He continues to serve as president of the Rocky Mountain Writing Centers Association.

Jeff McCarthy was invited to lead a seminar at this year’s Modernist Studies Association conference where 20 professors and graduate students worked with him on “Modernism & Nature.” His review of George Handley’s *Home*
Waters appeared in *Western American Literature*. The *University of Edinburgh Journal* will publish his essay “Reading Green: How Eco criticism Works.” Also forthcoming is the essay “Beyond Romantic Nature” which will appear in the *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*. His op-ed “How to Stop Ski Resort Expansion” appeared in *The Salt Lake Tribune* and urges everyone to oppose Talisker’s Ski-Link initiative.

**Fatima Mujcinovic** will deliver a keynote speech at the interdisciplinary arts and sciences conference, Confutati 2012, held at the University of Utah April 13th-15th, 2012. Responding to the conference theme “Mapping Effaced Identities,” **Fatima** will discuss the potential role of minority literature in expressing oppositional forms of identity, cultural practices, and political positioning. Her talk is entitled “US Latino/a Literature: Writing on the Margins, Mapping New Identities.”


**Natasha Saje** accompanied five *Ellipsis* editors (Lauren Johnson, Thomas Johnson, Cyndi Lloyd, Monica Walker, Mikki Whitworth) to the Associated Writing Programs Conference in Chicago over spring break. There, they distributed 400 back issues and otherwise spread the word about the magazine and Westminster College to 10,000 attendees, as well as listened to readings and panel discussions, and visited the other 500 tables in the book fair.

**FILM**

**Sean Desilets** delivered a paper called “Pretty Pow: Femininity, Waste, and Reading in *Kiss Me Deadly***” at the Popular Culture Association Conference in Boston in April.

**HISTORY**

**Mary Jane Chase** was quoted on the StandardNET in November regarding The Envision Utah Governor’s Quality Growth Award, http://www.standard.net/stories/2011/11/10/envision-utah-honors-quality-growth. In January, she was quoted in the *Sugar House Journal* on the Westminster Teaching Fellows Program.

In March, **Jeff Nichols** was quoted in the *Salt Lake Magazine* within the article “Turn on Your Red Light”, http://saltlakemagazine.com/blog/turn-on-the-red-light/. **Jeff** recently held a book signing for his new book *Playing With Shadows: Voices of Dissent in the Mormon West*.

**HONORS**

In November, **Richard Badenhausen** traveled to Phoenix with five students for the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), where he presented at five different sessions (on curriculum development, assessment, honors newsletters, and using facebook to achieve programmatic goals). In January, he was appointed co-chair of the NCHC Publications Board, which oversees the publishing of all NCHC monographs, journals, and other printed materials. In his non-Honors life, he delivered a paper at the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture entitled “Digging Up Corpses: Bodily and Psychic Scarring in *The Waste Land***.”

**JUSTICE STUDIES**

**Giancarlo Panagia** was a discussant at the...
Public Interest Environmental conference meeting last March held in Eugene, OR. He is also presenting his paper “Theoretical Foundations of Federal Land Exchanges” at the Southwestern Social Science Conference in San Diego in April. Giancarlo will also present his paper “Public Choice and Federal Land Exchange” April 13th at the Utah Academy of Arts and Sciences in Logan.

MATH

Bill Bynum and Sean Raleigh attended an NCAT course redesign workshop in Dallas, TX, on March 29th.

Richard Wellman, Jonas D’Andrea and Carolyn Connell attended the joint meetings of two math societies (AMS and MAA) in Boston in January, along with three math majors: Taylor Sibbett, Kali Wickens, and Andy Larsen. Kali and Andy gave a talk “Predicting the NBA: Trees and Support Vector Machines, Beyond Regression” (research they had done with Richard). Taylor presented work he had done with Jonas in a poster session: “Discrete Signal Processing Using Fractal Wavelets,” then helped with a talk Jonas gave about the work (as Jonas came down with laryngitis.) Carolyn did a poster about the AWE+SUM summer camp for eighth-grade girls in a session about Outreach Programs and also gave a talk about the history of the Intermountain Section of the MAA.

Richard Wellman and Jonas D’Andrea attended a conference in Washington, DC, in late February: Dialogues for the National Council on Undergraduate Research.

The entire math faculty helped plan the annual conference of the Intermountain Section of the MAA, co-hosted by Westminster and Salt Lake Community College, March 23rd and 24th. Nearly 100 math faculty and students attended, mostly from colleges and universities in Utah and Idaho.

MUSIC

On January 2nd, Brandon Derfler was quoted in the Daily Herald, “Minimalist mystery: BYU professor attempts to shed light on composer La Monte Young” http://c.moreover.com/click/her...826610933&z=1250249089


PHILOSOPHY

Jeffrey Nielsen’s book The Myth of Leadership: Creating Leaderless Organizations was recently released in paperback. Jeff’s book explores the topic of how to create and flourish in leaderless organizations. In October, he also had a piece published in the Salt Lake Tribune, “Leaderless Communities.”

Sabrina Hom’s new book Thinking of Irigaray was recently published by the SUNY Press.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Mike Zarkin’s paper entitled “Cable TV Deregulation Reconsidered: An Exploration of Three Theses” was published in the winter 2012 edition of Communication Law and Policy.

PSYCHOLOGY

Laura Bennett-Murphy gave an invited address for the Center for Victims of Torture
National Community Building meeting in Chapel Hill, NC: “Traumatic Separations, Attachment, and Healing Among Refugee Torture Survivors and Their Families.” She will be presenting a paper with Dr. Tovah Klein of Barnard College at the International Conference on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology (University of Roehampton, London, UK) entitled “Separation, Attachment, and Loss” in July.

In March, Seong-In Choi and Laura Bennett-Murphy presented a paper entitled “Acculturation, Stress, and Distress Among Refugees” for the Generations Conference held in Salt Lake City.


SOCIOLOGY

Kristjane Nordmeyer and Mark Rubinfeld presented papers at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference in Boston in April. They also served as session chairs for an undergraduate panel at that conference, which featured paper presentations by Westminster sociology students Amy Arburn, Nicole Bedera, and Taylor Francy.

SPANISH

Deyanira Ariza-Velasco was selected by the Latino newspaper El Observador (a Spanish edition of Deseret News) to be among the Latino Heroes of the year for 2011.

Alan Davison recently completed a translation of Pablo Neruda’s Cien sonetos de amor which is available in book form at blurb.com (search under “Blurts”) with the title “Pablo Translates Neruda.”

Brenda Lake presented her paper “Procreation and Miscegenation: The Conquest of Mexico in 19th Century Literature and the Birth of a National Identity” at the 59th Annual Conference for the Rocky Mountain Council of Latin American Studies that was held in Park City March 28th - 31st.

Luis I. Prádanos (Iñaki) has a forthcoming article “Ecocriticism and Subaltern Epistemology in Eduardo Galeano” in the peer-reviewed journal Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos 36.2 (September 2012). He has also published a short story “Fantasmas digitales [Digital Ghosts]” in Céfiro Journal 11.1/11.2 (2011). In October, Iñaki presented a conference paper “Current Theoretical Articulation of Critiques and Alternatives to the Unsustainable Global Capitalism in Mediterranean Europe” at the 2011 Conference of the Rocky Mountain European Scholars Consortium, University of Utah. Finally, Iñaki has been invited to be a Referee for L’Érudit franco-espagnol (an electronic journal of French and Hispanic literatures).

WELCOME

Joining the faculty in the chemistry department this past fall was biogeochemist Frank Black. He spent his undergraduate years at Dartmouth College, and later earned his PhD in biogeochemistry and environmental toxicology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was then awarded a Fulbright grant to conduct research in the Okavango Delta in Botswana. This was followed by a post-doc in the
geosciences department at Princeton University before coming to Westminster. His research focuses on the biogeochemical cycling of trace metals in the environment. This includes metals that are toxic (e.g., mercury) as well as those that are essential for biological systems (e.g., iron, molybdenum, and vanadium). Since arriving at Westminster Frank has started student-led research projects that aim to understand the transformations, transport, bioaccumulation, and trophic transfer of mercury in the Great Salt Lake and surrounding ecosystems. He will be teaching a range of chemistry and environmental science courses at Westminster and is interested in the use of inquiry-based teaching strategies, project-based learning, and the shift to student-centered learning that Westminster has put at the forefront of its mission.

Michael Chipman was recently appointed Assistant Professor in the music department, where he heads up the vocal performance program and is director of the Westminster Opera Studio. An accomplished classical performer, Michael has soloed twice at Carnegie Hall in New York and is a regular soloist with Salt Lake City’s NOVA Chamber Music Series, Intermezzo Chamber Music Festival, Utah Chamber Artists and Utah Opera. He holds a masters degree in vocal performance from the University of Utah and an Artist Diploma in Voice from Oberlin College Conservatory, where he studied with Richard Miller. Michael also studied for five years with Steve Smith (formerly of Juilliard, now at Northwestern University), with whom he co-authored the book The Naked Voice: A Wholistic Approach to Singing, which was published by Oxford University Press in 2007.

Russ Costa is a new assistant professor of Honors and Neuroscience. He joins the faculty full time after several years of work as an adjunct instructor at Westminster as well as at the University of Utah. Russ earned his BA from Middlebury College in 2001 (Psychology and Sociology) and his PhD from the University of Utah in 2010 (Psychology, specializing in Cognitive and Neural Sciences). Russ’s primary research work focuses on the cognitive and neural mechanisms underlying attention and cognitive control, in particular on how we switch and divide attention among multiple tasks and “block out” or inhibit irrelevant, distracting information. He also teaches and writes about philosophical and methodological issues in cognitive science and has many interdisciplinary interests, including consciousness, perception, and phenomenological psychology. Outside of the classroom and lab Russ is an avid skier and mountaineer who is happy to be working close to the mountains.

Daniel Shank Cruz is a new postdoctoral fellow in the English Department. Daniel received his BA in Religion at Goshen College. He received his MA and PhD in English at Northern Illinois University, where he taught writing and literature before coming to Westminster.

Brandon Derfler was recently appointed Assistant Professor in the Music Department. Brandon studied music theory at the University of Washington, where he received a PhD in 2007. In addition to teaching at the University of Washington, he has also taught at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he received an MA in musicology. Brandon also holds a BA in music degree (magna cum laude) from the University of Utah. He served as Assistant Editor of the journal Perspectives of New Music from 2001 to 2007. His work has been published in GAMUT Journal, Indiana Theory Review, and Perspectives of New Music. His book Single-Voice Transformations: A Model for Parsimonious Voice Leading was published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing in 2010.
Jared Larkin is the new assistant professor of Acting for the department of Theatre. In addition to his duties at Westminster, Jared is the Artistic Director for Pinnacle Acting Company. He was the Department Chair for Theatre at Salt Lake School for the Performing Arts before coming to Westminster. Jared received his BS in Theatre from Southern Utah University and his master's degree in Acting from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is a recognized Actor/Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors. Jared has acted for five seasons with the Tony Award winning Utah Shakespeare Festival, Pioneer Theatre Company, and numerous roles for Pinnacle Acting Company. In 2008, his second physical theatre piece “Innovation” premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland. Additionally Jared has been commissioned for a third original Physical Theatre piece that will be included, along with “The Park Bench” and “Innovation”, in a book he is currently writing. Jared was most recently honored by the Utah Advisory Council of Theatre Teachers with the 2010 Master Teacher Award.

Welcome New Westminsterites

Anna and William Baker welcomed son Harvey Dewitt Baker on March 2nd, 2012. Life is good!

Noémie and Zora were born on Wednesday March 28th to Katy and Mike Evans. Everyone is doing fine.