REJUVENATING CENTRAL CAMPUS

‘DEAN’ OF WILDCATS TELLS HIS WEBER STORY

WEIRD—AND—FUN SCIENCE
Weber State University
News for Alumni & Friends

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Traveling Wildcats

Mexicoan Riviera Cruise
January 31-February 7, 2010
Cabin on the Royal Caribbean’s Mariner of the Seas eight-day cruise start at $559. The ship departs from Los Angeles.

Whether your idea of fun is exploring a historic town, snorkeling amidst dazzling tropical fish or discovering the joys of a siesta on a white-sand beach, a Mexican Riviera cruise is the vacation for you. With stops in Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlán and Puerto Vallarta, there is no end to the adventures you can have.

For additional information, call 801-626-7535 or visit alumni.weber.edu and click on “Travel.”

Contact Info
WSU Alumni Association
801-626-7535
alumni.weber.edu

Tickets for Performing Arts and Wildcat Athletics events:
801-626-8500 or 1-800-WSU-TIKS
weberstatesports.com

On the Web:
weber.edu/performingarts
weberstatesports.com

Department of Performing Arts

September 23, 2009
Greek Theatre Festival: Euripides’ Bacchae

October 2-3 and 6-10
Fuddy Meers, directed by Tracy Callahan

October 30-31 and November 3-7
An original musical based loosely on The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, written and directed by Jim Christian

Homecoming

October 17, 2009
WSU vs. Sacramento State

Watch for the summer edition of the alumni newsletter for more information on homecoming activities, or check alumni.weber.edu.

WSU Board of Trustees 2008-2009
Barney Chapman ’72, Chair
Jerry Stevenson, Vice Chair
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Camille Cain
Alan Hall ’59
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Daniel P. Schrak

Lindquist Family Summer Pops Concert and Fireworks

July 19, 2009
Bring the family and join the fun of the 31st annual concert and fireworks spectacular featuring the New American Symphony Orchestra at WSU Ogden’s Ada Lindquist Plaza.

May 19, 1967

Dwain Hurst, Weber State alumni director, looks towards his newly published Alumni Magazine that will be in the mail soon.
WEBER WATCH  |  WEBS NEWS & EVENTS

JOHN KOWALEWSKI, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Distinguished Military Service

Military Advanced Education magazine has recognized WSU as one of the 60 top military-friendly colleges and universities in the nation. The annual list is compiled by the magazine’s editorial staff and an independent panel of judges. Schools are selected based on military enrollment, military-friendly policies and programs, military contracts and feedback from students.

Senior Project Takes Flight

A senior project by two electronics engineering technology students helped Hill Air Force Base improve equipment used for training exercises. David Ashton and Ryan Tichwell each spent more than 300 hours working to replace 10-year-old memory board components in devices that collect data from simulated-combat flight exercises. In debriefing sessions, the collected equipment and technologies.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

The John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics has earned a strong national endorsement—continued accreditation of its bachelor’s and master’s degree programs in business from AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The Goddard School is one of only 470 institutions in the world to achieve AACSB accreditation in business for its undergraduate and graduate programs and one of only 189 institutions in the world to hold AACSB accreditation in both business and accounting.

Adopting a Genome

WSU microbiology students will be among the first in the nation to adopt a microorganism as part of a pioneering federal DNA research program. In January, four WSU science professors attended a workshop in California where they learned how to decode microbial genomes—the genetic information that makes up a cell and controls what it does. The U.S. Department of Energy’s Joint Genome Institute is enlisting the help of university faculty and undergraduate students across the country in identifying DNA sequences in microorganisms and figuring out what each genome tells the cell to do. Findings at each institution will be entered in a national database. WSU is one of only 24 groups nationwide invited to be part of the first cohort of this new program. The research opportunity will be incorporated into course curriculum this fall. Students should have plenty of work, since a typical microorganism has more than four million pieces, or letters, in its genome.

Taking it to the Schools

WSU alumni and students are reaching out to area middle school students to get them thinking about attending college. As part of the Utah Scholars program, offered through the State Board of Regents, alumni association volunteer leaders are speaking to eighth-graders in Ogden City and Weber County school districts, explaining the value of a post-secondary education and making students aware of scholarship opportunities. Meanwhile, 35 WSU students, serving as Mentors for Utah Scholars, are working with seventh-, eighth- and ninth-graders at Mt. Ogden Junior High, helping them with their college-preparatory course work and answering any questions they might have about going to college. The goal is to increase participation in higher education.

On a High Note

Two Weber State alumni are making names for themselves in GRAMMY circles, one for her musical talent, and one for her fashion flair.

Kira Zeeman Rugen is a member of the Phoenix Chorale, which was honored as “Best Small Ensemble Performance” during the 51st Annual GRAMMY Awards ceremony Feb. 8. Rugen was a featured soloist on the award-winning recording Spotless Rose: Hymns to the Virgin Mary. Debbie Dawson Mitchell’s jewelry appeared in celebrity gift bags for the GRAMMYs’ 2009 MusiCares celebration. Dawson is a designer and founder of Twisted Silver, a collection of jewelry made from chain, copper, gold, brass, silver, steel and aluminum.

Fullbright Scholar Studies in Latin America

Child and family studies professor Paul Schvaneveldt received a Fulbright Scholarship to study Latin American families and establish programs in Ecuador to foster early childhood literacy and provide parenting training. He also plans to conduct research on factors contributing to the rise in teen drug addiction and high school drop-out rates in Ecuador. Schvaneveldt hopes to share his experience with future WSU students, many of whom will work with Utah’s growing Latino population.

Code Purple

Campus police and local first-responders conducted an emergency response exercise on campus in January. The training session, which included a building evacuation, simulated hostage situation and SWAT team response, helped the police department and local agencies fine-tune their emergency response protocols and identify areas for improvement. The drill also allowed university officials to test the new Code Purple notification system, which sends voice and text messages to students and employees in the event of a campus crisis or emergency.

Strike Up the Band

This spring, music professor Thomas Root and the WSU Wind Ensemble took the stage at Carnegie Hall, the first Weber State group ever to perform in the legendary concert hall. The ensemble gave the closing performance at the New York City Wind Band Festival, held April 7-8.

WSU microbiology students will be among the first in the nation to adopt a microorganism as part of a pioneering federal DNA research program.
ROAD WARRIORS
Despite having its postseason cut short with an early loss in the conference tournament, the Weber State University men’s basketball team had a phenomenally regular season, going 21-8 overall and 15-1 in conference play. The Wildcats ended their regular season on a 12-game winning streak, which included eight road wins. The eight conference road victories are the most by any team in the history of the Big Sky Conference.

WSU CLUB HOCKEY TEAM BACK ON NATIONAL STAGE
Even though the men’s basketball team didn’t get to go to the big dance, another WSU team was involved in some national march madness of its own. The WSU hockey team traveled to Grand Rapids, Mich., as part of a 16-team field in the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II national tournament. The ‘Cats went 3-2 in pool play and failed to advance to the semifinals.

After two years of rebuilding, the ‘Cats were back where they belong, having strong showings at the tournament in five of the previous eight seasons. In 2001 the WSU team finished second in the country after losing in the championship game.

A PLACE TO PLAY
The WSU softball team announced plans for a playing field to be built north of the Dee Events Center. The athletics department plans to start construction in May of 2009 with the expectation that the field will be completed in time for the 2010 season, which runs from February to May. It will be the first season of Wildcat softball since the program was dropped in 1983. WSU head softball coach Tina Johnson has been working since last August to restart the program.

38 WILDCATS ON ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM
A total of 38 WSU student-athletes were named to the 2008-09 Big Sky Conference Fall All-Academic teams in men’s/women’s cross country, women’s soccer, women’s volleyball and football.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must have participated in at least half of the team’s competitions, achieved a 3.20 cumulative grade point average or higher (on a 4.0 scale) at the institution of the most recently completed term and completed at least one academic term at his/her current Big Sky institution.

MAC WINS HIS FIRST COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD
With the success of the 2008 Wildcat football team, the Big Sky Conference rewarded head coach Ron McBride with its coach of the year award. Despite multiple successful seasons in his 16 previous years as a head coach, the 69-year-old McBride had never received a coach of the year award. WSU also rewarded the coach with a new contract that will keep him at the Wildcat helm through the 2012 season.

WITH A LOOSENED TIE, raspy voice and ponderous brow, Weber State University men’s basketball head coach Randy Rahe is celebrating a victory.

Not that you’d know.

The third-year coach is constantly evaluating and tinkering to put his team’s best foot forward on the court, game-in and game-out. He’s still got his game face on, even after a big home-court victory.

“I just try to be who I am,” Rahe said. “I worry every day if I’m doing the right things to help this program. I’m questioning myself constantly, every single day, 365 days a year. When you do have success, it at least proves to yourself that you’re doing something right.”

Rahe’s analytical approach has paid off. After watching days’ worth of film and running grueling practices, he has indeed seen success at WSU, going 57-35 overall and 36-13 in Big Sky Conference play. That’s a 73 percent winning percentage against Big Sky teams.

Rahe, a native of Bancroft, Iowa, was honored for last season’s success, when the ‘Cats went 15-1 in league play, with the conference’s coach of the year award. It was his second in the last three years.

“I’m really honored by it,” Rahe said. “It’s nice to be honored by the peers in your league and know they have some respect for what we’re trying to do here, but I also view it as a team award. The reason that award was given to me was because I have good players and terrific assistant coaches. They do a great job of making me look good.”

The successes of the past three seasons came after a long road to a head coaching position. Rahe bounced around from six different schools in 17 years as an assistant coach before he was hired at WSU in 2006. Twelve of those seasons as an assistant were spent next to the revered Stew Morrill at Colorado State University and then Utah State University. Rahe said he learned what it takes to have a successful program while at the side of one of the best in the business.

From his first day on the job, Rahe was clear on what his team’s desired components would be: high-character players who were willing to work hard on the court and in the classroom. He never has professed to have the most talented players on his bench, but he’s always managed to get big-time performances out of them.

“Obviously he’s an outstanding teacher of the game,” said WSU Director of Athletics Jerry Graybeal. “He gets the best out of his players, and that’s the mark of a good coach.”

Looking back on his first three seasons, Rahe said he’s satisfied with what his teams have accomplished and where the program currently stands. With two Big Sky Championships, an NCAA Tournament appearance and an NIT appearance already under his belt, nothing is out of reach for Rahe, who has truly been a ray of light for Wildcat basketball.

“Building a solid foundation of good people and players is one of the biggest things you want to accomplish as a coach,” Rahe said. “I feel like that foundation has been built and that we’ll have a chance to be successful every season.”
Whether it’s a program at the Ott Planetarium, a star party at Antelope Island, the Circus of Physics at the annual open house on campus or Feel It day at an Ogden City park, physics faculty and students love to introduce people to the wonders of science.

Physics professor Adam Johnston explains the secret to turning scientific experiments into everyday magic. “We demonstrate interesting physical principles that come from really ordinary things that you interact with every day, like soap bubbles in a sink, or throwing a frisbee or paper airplane.”

The experiments are meant to open minds and motivate those in the audience to learn the concepts behind them.

Each year physics faculty and students search for new sources of funding for the physics open house and science in the park programs. Johnston sums up the motivation of his colleagues: “We want the public to understand that science is fun, it’s engaging, it’s part of what makes us human.”

Photographer Zac Williams captured the magic of introducing children to “weird and fun-science” in this photo essay.

**SCIENTIFIC MAGIC**

One girl covers her mouth in anticipation. A boy squeezes his eyes shut. Another girl stands up in her seat so she doesn’t miss the action.

What’s the cause of all this excitement? A brave demonstration by visiting assistant professor Ben Anger, who stretched across a bed of nails and watched as colleague Colin Inglefield strategically placed a cinder block on top of him and busted it with a sledgehammer.

Anger, trusting in the laws of physics, knew he would be OK. Audience members at WSU’s Third Annual Physics Open House weren’t so sure at first, but thanks to Anger’s fearless presentation, they now have a better grasp of weight distribution.

The free open house has become a source of entertainment and learning for the local community, attracting so many participants the Department of Physics has had to expand the venue and the number of activities each year.

**OTT PLANETARIUM**

The Ott Planetarium offers programs for astronomy lovers and students of all ages. The following calendar is just a sampling of some of the planetarium’s upcoming events.

Visit weber.edu/planetarium for a full schedule.

- **July 20**
  - Moon Landing Party

- **September 18**
  - Ott Planetarium 40th Anniversary Celebration

- **November 20**
  - International Year of Astronomy Holiday Party

**GETTING KIDS’ HANDS—AND HEADS—INTO SCIENCE**

“Hear it! See it! Fly it! Feel it! Build it!”

For a kid, those are tough offers to pass up.

So last summer, as faculty and students from the WSU College of Science partnered with the Ogden City School District to provide fun-filled science demonstrations and free lunches in six city parks, local children came out in droves.

Interactive activities included constructing musical instruments, playing with soap bubbles, and building objects with magnets. “We do real science with the kids, but in a playful way that I think really gets at the spirit of science,” says Johnston.

Johnston estimated that 150 students a day attended the “OttReach Science in the Parks” road show (named after WSU’s Ott Planetarium) in 2008, which spent a week at each of six Ogden City Parks—up from the three parks visited during the program’s inaugural year in 2007.

See community.weber.edu/ottreach for the 2009 schedule.
‘Dean’ of Wildcats Tells His Story

Weber State Through and Through

As Dean Hurst settled into his comfortable living room couch, he issued a warning, of sorts. “I may get too verbose,” he said, with a nostalgic gleam in his eye.

Carroll, his wife of 56 years and a Weber alumna herself, raised her eyebrows and smiled. She knew her husband, the aptly nicknamed “Dean” of Wildcats, would have plenty to say about WSU. After all, his connection to Weber goes back to 1944, when he enrolled at Weber College.

Dean attended only one quarter before being drafted by the U.S. Army. “I sure had one heck of a winter break.”

After serving two years as a paratrooper during World War II, Dean returned to Weber College and graduated in 1948 with a certificate of completion from the engineering department.

The next 18 years, Dean, who had become a successful advertising executive, returned to Weber in art. But his love of Weber didn’t end there. It got stronger.

Over the next 18 years, Dean, who had become a successful advertising executive, returned to Weber often. He was president of the alumni association, chairman of the 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee, and actor in several of Weber’s stage productions. Originally a drama major, his portrayal of Professor Weber in The Music Man was a smash hit.

Carroll, an accomplished pianist, was also on campus frequently accompanying musical performances.

Dean was at Weber so much he was sometimes mistaken as, well, a dean. “A student approached me once and asked, ‘You work here, don’t you, Mr. Hurst? Aren’t you a dean of something?’”

A Conversation to Remember

Perhaps it was the student’s question. Perhaps it was just his love of the Purple and White. But on Dec. 19, 1966, Weber was weighing heavily on Dean’s mind. Something was telling him to call his beloved alma mater.

Dean picked up the phone in his office at Pierson, Kearney and Hurst Advertising and Art Agency and dialed. He didn’t really expect anyone to answer, considering campus was closed for winter break.

Surprisingly, Weber State College President Bill Miller answered the call. Dean recalled asking, “President, is there something up there you’d like for me to do?”

A Jack—or Wildcat—of All Trades

“I didn’t find it hard to ‘sell’ Weber to others,” Dean said. “I loved the school—still do.”

While the Stewart Bell Tower and Dee Events Center were two of Dean’s fundraising highlights, he also spearheaded fund drives for the Stewart Library, the Ada Lindquist Plaza, the Marriott Allied Health Building, as well as numerous scholarship programs. In his 24 years at Weber State, he oversaw cultural affairs, the Val A. Browning Center and campus security.

Dean is the illustrator of the original animated Waldo the Wildcat. There are hundreds of Waldo drawings cataloged in his scrapbook—football and basketball Waldos, Waldos in Weber wear, and many more.

Although it’s been years since Dean first sketched the happy-go-lucky mascot, he is still recognized on campus as Waldo’s creator. “While on a tour of the new Shepherd Union Building, a student stopped me and said, ‘Hey, aren’t you Waldo’s dad?’” he laughed.

While Waldo is a big part of Dean’s history at Weber State, he is most proud of his role in the growth of the university. “To have made an impression on an institution I truly love has been very satisfying,” he said. Even in retirement—he hung up his hat at Weber in 1991, leaving as vice president of college relations—he continued raising funds for the school, chairing the university’s capital campaign in 2001.

Dean beams whenever Weber State is mentioned. Fondly recalling that spur-of-the-moment phone call he made more than 42 years ago, he said, “You know the old saying, ‘When you come to a fork in the road, take it?’ I took it, and it made all the difference in the world.”
1. Waldo the Wildcat once had a sidekick. What was her name?
   A. Waldetta  
   B. Wilma  
   C. Winnie  
   D. Winona

2. Name a Hollywood star who picked the sweethearts for the annual Sweetheart Ball in the 1950s.
   A. Humphrey Bogart  
   B. Fred MacMurray  
   C. Tyrone Power  
   D. Bob Hope

3. Where was the first alumni house? (Think carefully. This could be a trick question.)
   A. Building 3  
   B. The Lindquist Alumni Center next to the Weber State Credit Union  
   C. A licensed on 38th street owned by the college  
   D. The Desert Gym building

4. The Phoenix Club won a spirit yell contest in the late 1940s. What was its winning yell?
   A. I'll be true to thee oh Purple and White, and I will stand by thee in every fight.  
   B. Weber State, Weber State, great, Great, GREAT!  
   C. Lean to the left. Lean to the right. Stand up, sit down, fight, fight, fight!  
   D. Are you living Weber College? Are you hip to the jive? Get off your rusty dusties and support those Weber guys.

ANSWERS:
1. B. Wilma the Wildcat was introduced in the early 1970s, but she’s never caught on,” said Dean, who illustrated both Waldos and Wilmas.
2. C. Hollywood heart-throb Tyrone Power picked the sweetheart one year, recalled Carol, who explained that photos of the names were sent to celebrities, who, in turn, choose one and send back: “I can’t really remember any others. All I remember is they didn’t pick me,” she laughed.
3. A and C. The original alumni office was in an 8’ by 12 room in Building 3. Dean, serving as director of the alumni association, moved the office in the late 1960s to its first “alumni house,” located in the basement of a home owned by the college at 3499 38th Street.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Carnegie Classification Highlights

WSU’s Commitment To Community

A CORE VALUE of Weber State University is forming strong partnerships with the local community. We don’t just reside in the community; our faculty, staff and students roll up their sleeves and partner with individuals and organizations to make a difference.

In December I was delighted to hear from the Carnegie Foundation for Teaching that Weber State University was selected for the 2008 Community Engagement Classification in the categories of Curricular Engagement & Outreach and Partnerships.

The foundation commended WSU for “excellent alignment among mission, culture, leadership, resources and practices that support dynamic and noteworthy community engagement.”

Among the more than 6,500 institutions in the United States that are eligible to apply for the Carnegie Foundation designation, only 173 have been recognized for Curricular Engagement & Outreach and Partnerships. Fewer than half of those recognized are public regional universities like WSU.

This award doesn’t just reflect the work of a small number of people. It represents countless hours of thoughtful, creative pedagogy among faculty, a rich investment of staff time mentoring students and organizing projects, and the selfless commitment of our students who volunteer in the community.

When students in electronics engineering technology complete a senior project to help Hill Air Force Base update some of its training equipment, they are engaging the community and strengthening partnerships.

When dental hygiene students provide teeth cleaning, X-rays and training on brushing and flossing to first and second grades in inner-city schools, they are enhancing their skills while reaching out to those in need.

When art students teach their craft to seniors at a community center, they are broadening their understanding of course concepts while building relationships with people in the community.

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Brenda Marsteller Kowalewski, co-director of WSU’s Community Involvement Center (CIC) and a sociology faculty member, notes that students learn more and retain information longer and more in-depth when they’ve had a chance to apply their knowledge in a community setting.

The CIC helps professors find ways to integrate community service into their classes and also coordinates the AmeriCorps program and volunteer opportunities between the campus and community. The center was recognized for the third consecutive year when Weber State University was listed on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts. This national honor is conferred by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Whether it’s faculty adding service learning assignments to their classes or student athletes reading to elementary school children or student volunteers building Habitat for Humanity homes, community service and involvement are integral parts of the educational experience at WSU.

The Carnegie Classification award is recognition of the many ways community engagement is woven into the fabric and culture of the university. This prestigious honor stands as external validation of something we’ve known all along—that faculty and staff at Weber State University provide excellent educational experiences for students in and outside the classroom.
WSU Upgrades for Energy Efficiency

WSU recently contracted for an energy performance audit that will save the university more than $600,000 annually.

NATIONAL COMMITMENT

In early 2007, the university joined the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. Together with more than 600 institutions throughout the country, WSU pledged to work toward completely eliminating greenhouse gas emissions in the coming decades. As part of that commitment, WSU developed a master transportation plan, which calls for improved mass transit routes and bicycle paths on campus. “We are not going to be able to increase parking, so we need to decrease demand,” Hansen says. “We are doing a lot of things to protect what we have, recognize the growth we’re going to encounter and make it work for the future.”

Another way the university is working to fulfill the Presidents Climate Commitment is through the use of alternative fuel sources. The university purchased a block of wind power through Rocky Mountain Power’s Blue Sky renewable energy program and is looking at converting WSU vehicles to run on compressed natural gas, which is a cleaner fuel source.

“We recognize there are climate issues that need to be addressed,” Hansen says, “and colleges and universities have an important role to play in leading that effort.”

Dorsey also believes higher education has a responsibility to lead the way in conserving resources. “The mission of the Environmental Issues Committee is to serve as a source of information on environmental issues affecting Utah,” he says. “That’s why public outreach is such a big part of what we do.”

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

WSU Upgrades for Energy Efficiency

TRAVIS CLEMENS, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

AS AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT, Bryan Dorsey took an outdoor ecology course to fulfill a science requirement. That class ignited his passion for nature, eventually leading him to a doctorate from the University of Colorado at Boulder and a position as a geography professor at Weber State University.

His passion for protecting the environment is part of the reason Dorsey enjoys working at WSU, where environmentally friendly practices have become a priority. “Weber State is being very proactive in reducing carbon emissions,” he says. “It is something we should be boasting about. Our operating costs as an institution go down with a lot of these strategies.”

At WSU, Dorsey has become a champion of green initiatives, serving as co-chair of the university’s Environmental Issues Committee on the Faculty Senate. The committee works alongside Kevin Hansen, associate vice president of facilities and campus planning, and other university administrators to integrate mass transit and prioritize environmental issues.

In recent years, WSU has rejuvenated its campus with a flurry of renovation and construction. The numerous construction projects gave the university an opportunity to drastically improve the energy efficiency of its buildings and systems.

“If you look around our campus, most of the buildings are in the 30- to 40-year-old range,” Hansen says. “The systems that are in them are not very efficient. We saw there was clearly potential to do something.”

Major projects include the construction of the most efficient chilled-water plant in Utah, the construction of two buildings given Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, and replacement of the original boilers on the Ogden campus.

MAXIMIZING RESOURCES, MINIMIZING OUR FOOTPRINT

One way the university is working to minimize its carbon footprint includes updating energy-consuming equipment. WSU recently contracted for an energy performance audit with an energy services company that eventually will save the university more than $600,000 annually. The energy services company is in the process of identifying and making $6 million worth of efficiency upgrades, which WSU will pay for over the next 10 years out of the savings generated from using reduced amounts of energy. In addition, the projects will lower the amount of carbon dioxide released by the university each year by more than 9 million pounds.

The contract is part of the university’s Energy Savings Investment Plan and includes upgrading to central-point thermostats in WSU facilities, which would allow the university to reduce heating and cooling loads in buildings when they are not occupied. It also calls for updating lighting fixtures, windows, and heating and cooling system components.

“We are trying to be good stewards of the university’s resources and get the maximum value out of them,” Hansen says. “This is a multifaceted approach that will allow us to reduce energy consumption on campus.”

That comprehensive approach incorporates outdoor projects as well. In 2008, the university drastically altered the entrances to the Ogden campus from Harrison Boulevard. The Dixon Drive remodel included the installation of two roundabouts designed to improve traffic flow, with an additional benefit of reducing the amount of time cars idle while waiting to exit campus, which subsequently reduces carbon emissions.

As part of the Dixon Drive project, the university planted 200 new trees and other native plants to add to the campus’ biodiversity. “We talked to the botany department about what kinds of things need to be done to increase the biodiversity and how we can help do that so they could use it for instructional purposes as well,” Hansen says. “We improved the appearance of the university, but we also have better carbon sequestration and a more diverse set of plants for students to study.” Students in the botany department’s taxonomy of vascular plants course now learn from studying the plants on campus, according to department chair Gene Bozniak.

Other areas of campus have seen increased xeriscaping, eliminating the need for watering, and an improved water system which monitors the need for moisture in the soil at a central weather station and adjusts the amount of water accordingly. The improvement to the irrigation system makes it possible to reuse water from the Lindquist Pond.

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IT'S A PICTURESQUE SPRING MORNING, and Veronica Smith is waiting for her upcoming English class in Elizabeth Hall. With the warm light entering through large windows and a view of the newly remodeled Stewart Bell Tower Plaza, she couldn’t ask for a better place to study.

“I have an hour between two classes, and I like it here,” Smith says. “I like to come here when I have time. It’s quiet and comfortable.”

Smith is not the only one making use of the area. Other students are reading or texting, some are working on laptops or conversing with classmates, others are napping against the walls and talking to one another or read or prepare for class. So there’s a real feeling of life and energy in the building.

IMPROVING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

After 18 months of construction, Elizabeth Hall opened its doors in the center of WSU Ogden in January. The brand-new, four-level, 94,302-square-foot building is a welcome addition for faculty, staff and students who have migrated from much older facilities.

Matthew Cranford, an English major, spent years in the windowless classrooms of the Social Science Building. In his final semester before graduation, Cranford is glad he had at least one semester to see the light.

“I have some great memories of the Social Science Building, but the equipment and desks made it difficult to pay attention in my classes,” Cranford says.

Elizabeth Hall houses WSU’s communication; English; foreign languages & literatures; and telecommunications and business education departments. The four departments offer many of the core general education courses on campus, meaning that almost every WSU student will take at least one class in Elizabeth Hall. With 29 classrooms in the building, many of which are filled most of the day and into the evening, there are more classes offered in Elizabeth Hall than any other building on campus.

The state-of-the-art facility with the latest technologies available gives students the atmosphere that’s required for serious study. Better desks and chairs, newer computers and more light in the rooms may seem like small things, but Miner says when you add them all up, they become extremely important.

“I think the new building does make a difference,” says TBE student Mike Metcalf, who is impressed with the upgrade in technology at Elizabeth Hall.

Michelle Hill, a communication student majoring in electronic media, agrees. She also has been impressed with the technological advances. The building has seven computer labs/computer classrooms, including two for discipline-specific work in technical and media writing.

“You can just pop in your thumb drive and go,” Hill says. “It’s nice to have the technology available.”

“The new technology is also encouraging a change in the mindsets of faculty,” Miner says. “You can just pop in your thumb drive and go.”

The new technology is also encouraging a change in the mindsets of faculty. Miner says when you add them all up, they become changing their pedagogy because it’s there,” Miner says.

“In Building 1, Hansen felt isolated from the campus because the building housed only a couple of academic departments and wasn’t an inviting place to explore.

The architecture, and the fact that the building houses four academic departments, seven computer labs/classrooms, a writing center and general tutoring center, makes the new building a convenient gathering place for students, faculty and staff.

Surrounded by the Shepherd Union, Watts Business and McKay Education buildings, Elizabeth Hall’s sheer size also makes it a magnificent structure, visible from almost anywhere on campus.

“Elizabeth Hall is the prettiest building on campus,” Hansen says. “It’s the highlight now. It’s like how a catenary is right in the middle of a city because it’s the most important.”

INSPIRING TEACHING INNOVATIONS

With the three primary humanities departments now located together in Elizabeth Hall, Miner says she has noticed more interaction and unity within the college.

“There’s a kind of synergistic productivity as a result of having the three departments in the same place,” she says. “There’s much, much more communication, and I think there will be interested research projects that cross disciplinary boundaries. This can’t help but have a positive effect on the college.”

Students are coming closer together, literally. An interesting architectural decision by WSU was to build smaller classrooms in Elizabeth Hall with just one larger lecture hall for special guest speakers and other larger events.

“One thing I like is that some of the classrooms are actually smaller than in other buildings,” Cranford says. “You have smaller class sizes automatically. You’re not going to be able to cram 50 students into one of these small rooms. It makes learning that much more personal. I like it.”

“People like being here,” Miner says. “That’s a success.”

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

For Miner, it’s the approval of students like Smith and Cranford that suggest the dream of Elizabeth Hall is now becoming a reality.

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Mary Tams Clifton ’28
began her teaching career in a
one-room school, teaching first
through eighth grade, at Clear
Creek in Box Elder County. She
and her husband founded
Clifton Ladies’ Store in 1946. Mary
has five children, 21
grandchildren, 77 great-grand
children and 28 great-great
grandchildren. She recently
celebrated a birthday mile-
stone, turning 100.

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20s
Bessie Arce Jensen ’29
celebrated her 100th birthday
recently. Her hobbies include
oil and watercolor painting,
reading, candy making, bow
arranging and gardening.

30s
Avend “Art” DeBoer ’38
worked in the printing in-
dustry at Weber College, the
Marquardt Corp. and from his
home. A craftsman, he built
much of his own house and
also used his skills to help fam-
ily and friends. Art celebrated
his 90th birthday recently. He
enjoys softball, handball and
table tennis.

40s
Kay Freeman ’41 served on the
South Ogden City Board of
Adjustment for 22 years. His wife,
Marilyn Farr Freeman ’46, served as
secretary of the board for 15 years. Ray
is retired from Hill Air Force
Base. He enjoys fishing, hunt-
ing and woodworking. An avid
supporter of the Boy Scouts of
America, he was presented the
Silver Beaver Award for
distinguished service to young
people within a local council.
Marylin is a member of the
Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

*George B. Handy ’44 has
practiced law in Ogden for 58
years. He was chief prosecutor
for the Weber County At-
torney’s Office from 1967-69,
vice-chairman for the Utah
Board of Corrections from
1957-73 and president of the
Weber County Bar Association
in 1981. In 2004, the Utah State
Bar named him Distinguished
Lawyer of the Year.

Don O. Carlson ’48 served in
the U.S. Navy during World
War II. He and his wife, Josie
Bush Carlsen, later owned and
operated Empire Printing and
Carlson Printing in Ogden. While
Don was president of the
Ogden Rotary Club, the
couple attended the interna-
tional convention in Australia,
which was the start of their
circle-world tour. The Carlsons
recently celebrated their 60th
anniversary.

Dale L. Gardner ’48 served
in the military during World
War II. Afterward, he became
assistant athletic director at
Utah State College and then
athletic director at Weber State
College, where he also served
as director of the Dee Events
Center. Dale, who now lives in
North Ogden, was president of
the Logan Lions Club and a
member of the South Ogden
City Council.

Lowell Steeper Maw ’48
worked at Defense Depot
Ogden and Hill Air Force Base
in electronic repair and mate-
rial management. He has held
several positions in the Ogden
Amateur Radio Club and has
served many years in the U.S.
Army Military Affiliate Radio
System.

Glade Price ’58 worked with
his father at Rainbow Market
until he went into sales for
Morton Salt Co., where he
worked for 35 years. He has
been a board member and
officer of Rayco Corp. for more
than 30 years. Glade and his
wife, Conus, recently celebrate-
ed their 58th anniversary.

Don L. Becker ’49 was a
member of the Mormon Tab-
ernacle Choir for more than 20
years. He was also a recitalist
specializing in German lieder
and an orchestral guest soloist,
performing throughout the
West. Formerly lead baritone in
the Pasadena and Citrus opera
companies, Don returned to
Utah as a private vocal coach.
He lives in Salt Lake City and
sings with local choirs and the
German Harmonic Chorus.

Richard “Dick” Heninger ’49
joined the U.S. Army in 1945
and was honorably discharged
as a first lieutenant in 1946.
He worked for the U.S. Forest
Service for 30 years, retiring in
1985. He was a member of the
Lions Club for 26 years. Now 80, Dick enjoys hunting, fish-
ing and reading.

50s
Rulon V. Dye ’52
retired from Hill Air Force Base
in 1988 after 35 years of service.
He served 16 years on the Utah
City Council and currently
serves on the Mosquito Abate-
ment Board. Rulon and his wife,
Gayla, have six children and 23
grandchildren. He enjoys farm-
ing, gardening and genealogy.

Donna Gilbre Willard ’56
taught piano lessons for more
than 10 years and was an Avon
representative for 23 years. She
enjoyed photography, photo-
book projects and traveling.
She and her husband, Sherman,
recently celebrated their 53rd
anniversary.

Jim Brattawiser ’58, after serv-
ing in the U.S. Navy, worked for
Frictor & Gamble, Phenol and
Allstate Insurance. Jim, who
was also vice president of First
Security Insurance, founded

* Lifetime WSUAA member
Richard Richards ’58 wrote an autobiography called Climbing the Political Ladder One Rung at a Time, highlighting his nearly five decades of involvement in local, state and national politics, including his position as chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1980. In 2005, Richards received the WSU Alumni Association’s Emeriti Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jesse Neal Browder ’64 was an All-American golfer at Weber State, is director of golf operations for Celtic Golf Management in San Francisco, Calif., and is co-host and executive producer of the Hooked on Golf radio program. John, a former PGA Tour player, was named the 2008 Golf Professional of the Year by the Northern California Section of the PGA. He and his wife, Rose, live in Burlingame, Calif.

Steven R. Moore ’75, division manager for Barnes Aerospace in Ogden, has been appointed to the Ogden Weber Applied Technology College board of directors. Steven is past president of the Weber County Production Managers Association. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Ogden/Weber Chamber of Commerce and the Western Economic Development Corp.

Scott Waterfall ’77 is a partner in the law firm of Helpyes, Waterfall and Jones and also serves as a South Ogden Justice Court judge. He recently was hired as Ogden’s new community and economic development director. Scott, who is an adjunct professor in WSU’s John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics, has served on the board of directors for MarketStar and Centennial Bank. His wife, Nancy, live in Layton, Utah.

David L. Rollins ’83 retired with 28 years of military service with the U.S. Army, U.S. Army National Guard and U.S. Air Force Reserve. He retired from Hill Air Force Base after more than 30 years of federal service. He lives in Bonor, Calif.

Constance Watkins Hymas ’77 is a licensed commander in the U.S. military. She recently returned from a seven-month deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, where she served as a trauma nurse coordinator with the Joint Theater Trauma System.

Blake Knight ’89 is president of CNX Construction in West Jordan, Utah. Notable projects under his leadership include West Valley Animal Shelter, Wendover Airport terminal, Fort Douglas Museum renovation, Zion’s Bank and Valley View Golf Course clubhouse. He is on the board of directors for the Association of Builders and Contractors and is a member of the Ogden Rotary Club.

Nancy Lane Waterfall ’77 serves on the WSU Alumni Association Board of Directors.

C. Brett Nelson ’79 is chairman of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America and senior vice president for the Buckner Co. in Ogden. He served as president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Utah from 1992-93 and as Utah’s national director for nine years. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Layton, Utah.

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As a Weber alum, chances are you’ve heard of—or maybe even participated in—the “Flaming W Hike,” a tradition that promptly came to an end in the mid-1960s when an oil filter used to create the flaming “W” caught the hillside on fire.

The “Flaming W” that now makes its annual Homecoming appearance on the mountainside above Ogden is made of light bulbs—a much safer alternative to lit aircraft oil filters. It’s been that way since 1979. But what about the years in between?

An alum, after reading about the modern-day “Flaming W” in the winter 2008 edition of Weber State University Magazine, shared the story of the “Whitewash the W Hike.” After 50 years of wanting to build a “W” on the hill, students finally got their wish in 1966. According to the 1967 Acorn yearbook, the rocks used to build the letter were carried up and whitewashed just in time for the 1966 Homecoming game against Idaho State. For several years after, the tradition was to hike to the “W” and repaint it each fall, another chapter in the life of the “Flaming W.”

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DIXON AWARDS

IN AN AGE WHEN the average twenty-sixty-five entering the work force will hold nine to 13 different jobs, the 2009 H. Aldous Dixon Award winners, Richard Sadler and Don Spainhower, are examples of longevity and loyalty.

Sadler, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, joined the faculty as a history professor in 1969, during Richard Nixon’s first year in office and roughly a year before the Beatles officially announced their break up. In Sadler’s 40 years at Weber State, it’s estimated that thousands of students have benefited from his work in the classroom. “Wherever I go, someone says, ‘I know you.’ That’s very encouraging. It makes me feel as if I’ve made an impact on people,” he said.

Sadler has received several awards for his teaching skills, including the Presidential Teaching Award. To this day, he continues to teach, in addition to his administrative duties as dean. “The students are the number one reason why I keep coming back year after year,” he said.

An active historian, Sadler has co-authored books on Ogden City and Weber County. He is the author and editor of Weber State College...A Centennial History. Published in 1989, the book chronicles WSU’s first 100 years.

Sadler’s legacy also includes outstanding leadership and service. In 1985 he was named to his current role—dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. In that role he has grown the academic offerings of WSU and mentored the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences. In that role he has grown the academic offerings of WSU and mentored thousands of students who have hearing impairments.

Ashlee Allington ’07 is a teacher at Snow Horse Elementary School in Kaysville, Utah. She competed for the national Ms. Wheelchair America title after winning the Ms. Wheelchair Utah pageant. She is also a motivational speaker.
We’re Number 1!

The Weber State University spirit squad is the 2009 NCA/NDA National Champion after wowing judges at the Daytona Beach, Fla., national championships in April. This is the team’s first Division I national title.

The cheer squad, coached by Summer Willis, scored 8.830 in the finals, upsetting seven-time defending champion Stephen F. Austin State University, who finished with a score of 8.777. WSU upped its score in the finals after finishing fourth in the preliminary round.

With the win, WSU’s cheer squad becomes the first team in Utah to win a national championship.

The WSU dance team, coached by Michelle Falk, also competed at the championships, coming in third in the Dance Open I Division.

2009 marked the second-straight year that WSU has competed for the national championship, an event that draws almost 5,000 student-athletes and 15,000 supporters and spectators annually. In 2008, the Wildcats finished third in the cheer competition and second in the dance portion.