JUNE 2013 ISSUE

Dear Center for,

“Summer time, and the livin’ is easy....” Or so the lyrics go. Truly, it is a great time of year for a saunter in the park and neighborhood cookouts. Whatever your plans are for the next several months, may it be a time of true refreshment. As our office slides into summer mode, we reminisce about homecoming and are in the planning stages of summer/fall activities.

In the weeks prior to Alumni Homecoming 2013, faculty and staff would inquire how the planning was progressing. My frequent response became, “I will only experience my first homecoming as alumni director once – so I am anticipating a fabulous time.”

With considerable assistance from the Office of Advancement staff and a university-wide commitment to excellent programming, this “fabulous time” became a reality. Please enjoy pictures from our more than 60 weekend events. We would also invite you to check out photos of our honored alumni, our honor classes and the 50th anniversary celebration of KGTS.

We look forward to seeing you again next year. Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2014 – April 24-27.

You’ll note in our “Upcoming Events” column several great alumni opportunities to help you enjoy “livin’ easy.” If you’re in the Walla Walla Valley, join us for our traditional Walla Walla Sweets baseball game Tuesday, July 16. Additionally, join John McVay and our Advancement Staff at the annual Rosario Sabbath Aug. 24 – or rent a cabin for the whole weekend for a family getaway.

Summer time living – may you be blessed during the

UPCOMING EVENTS

Commencement
June 16 | College Place, Wash.
For more information on graduation weekend details and how to watch the live stream if you’re unable to attend, click here.

Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting
June 21, 22 | Spangle, Wash.

Washington Conference Camp Meeting
June 28, 29 | Auburn, Wash.

Walla Walla Sweets Alumni Night Baseball Game
July 16 | Walla Walla, Wash.
Join WWU alumni for our annual evening of baseball and team cheering of the Walla Walla Sweets baseball team. We have reserved 300 tickets for this special event at a reduced rate of $2/each. Children are free. Tickets go quickly, so please make your reservations early. For tickets, visit us online or call (800) 377-2586.

Oregon Conference Camp Meeting
July 19, 20 | Gladstone, Ore.

British Columbia Camp Meeting
July 27 | Hope, B.C., Canada

Rosario Alumni Weekend
Alumni Association President Takes On New Challenge
George Fearing ’79 will be leaving his appointed position at Walla Walla University to become a district judge in Washington state. His new responsibilities begin June 24.

Physics Graduate Anya Rasmussen Working on Discovery with Colleagues at WSU
Rasmussen and fellow WSU researchers recently discovered a pressure-induced phase transition in indium selenide at the pressure of seven tenths of a gigapascal (GPa), which is believed to be the lowest critical pressure observed in a semiconductor. Their research has been published in Applied Physics Letters, a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the American Institute of Physics. Read more here.

Have news to share?
Send it to us at alumni@wallawalla.edu.

More alumni news online >>
Richardson Jr. will oversee all areas of student residential life, including housing, spiritual and social extracurricular programs, food services, student government, counseling, and health services. Richardson comes to WWU after five years with Concorde Career Colleges, an institution with 15 campuses across the U.S. Read more about Richardson in this full story.

Communications Chair Dave Bullock Chosen 2013 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer

David Bullock, chair of the Department of Communications and Languages, will present the 2013 Distinguished Faculty Lecture Sunday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Melvin K. West Fine Arts Center Auditorium. Bullock is considering a topic “based on observations and research in social and political conflict.” He gained political experience as the communications director for a congressional campaign in 2006. Read the full story.

Professor Authors Book on Life After Retirement

Julian Melgosa, the dean of the School of Education and Psychology, wrote "Enjoy Life," an illustrated book about retirement and preparation for retirement, written for the lay person from the perspective of a psychologist. Read more about the book.

If you are an alum and have had a baby, email us your birth announcement. We will mail you a commemorative baby bib for your new little one. Bibs are soft cotton with a Velcro clasp and say "Future graduate of Walla Walla University." Here, Tate Swinyar, son of Ted Swinyar '02 and Heather James '02, shows off his new bib.

Surprise a Student!

Whether the reason is to celebrate a special occasion or accomplishment or to just give a student a boost, you can give us a call and we can deliver a cake, balloons, flowers, a fruit basket, or a gift card with a personalized message. Order online or call us at (800) 377-2586.

Come Stay With Us!

We have three beautiful guest rooms in the Havstad Alumni Center that are available to alumni, and we have recently lowered our rate to a flat rate of $60 (plus tax). To reserve one of these rooms, call us at (800) 377-2586 or (509) 527-2631 or email alumni@wallawalla.edu.

Did you miss the last issue of Alumni Currents? Don't worry, you can still read it. Visit the archives now to catch up on past issues.

BULLETIN BOARD

• Students dig deep to help with Mission Mozambique. The Associated Students of Walla Walla University has raised $80,000 to build 10 wells in the Zambezi Province of Mozambique. By meeting this goal, as many as 30,000 people will now have access to clean water. To watch a short, three-minute Youtube
video about the project, click here. You can donate online, or send a check payable to Walla Walla University. The address is: WWU, Attn: ASWWU, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324.

• **Summer issue of Westwind coming soon...** Look for the next issue of Westwind in your mailbox in July. If you don't receive yours, please let us know. We may need to update your address.

• **Stay connected.** Join fellow alumni online by becoming a fan of the WWU Alumni page on Facebook or connecting to WWU Alumni on LinkedIn.

• **Share what's new in your life!** Whether you're recently married, received a promotion or an award, completed a new degree, or had a baby, we want to hear about it. Submit your alumnote now!

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Alumni Association President Takes On New Appointment

George Fearing '79 Will Be Division III Judge

George Fearing '79, current Walla Walla University Alumni Association president, has been appointed to the Division III bench in Spokane to replace Judge Sweeney, who retired April 30. As a result, he will be leaving his appointed position at WWU because, under the Washington Code of Judicial Conduct, a judge must resign from office from all organizations, except those organizations devoted to improvement of the legal system. The purpose of this rule is to protect the independence of the judiciary.

"George has been proactive in his leadership of the Alumni Association this past year," says Terri Dickinson Neil, Alumni and Parent Relations Director. "Last year, as president-elect, he attended many classes and WWU functions to begin to get to know those on campus as well as alumni. This year, as president, he has attended alumni events, including those out of state and actively participated in Alumni Homecoming in April. It has been a pleasure to work alongside George in connecting with our alumni."

His new appointment will start June 24 and will be the third person in the court's 44-year history to hold the District 2 seat representing nine southeastern counties.

Division III covers everything east of the Cascades. The court reviews the decisions of trial judges. It can affirm a case by finding that a judge did everything right, send it back for a new trial or sentencing, or dismiss the matter.

Fearing, 55, recognizes it will be a big change to don the black robe this summer. The son of a Seventh-day Adventist minister, Fearing moved around the country before attending Walla Walla College for his bachelor's in business administration.

Fearing has been with the same firm since his law-school days in Seattle — and will now wrap up his caseload and say goodbye to his partners at Leavy, Schultz, Davis & Fearing.

Fearing's focus has been in civil litigation, representing municipalities like Pasco, Kennewick, Richland, Benton and Franklin counties, and other cities throughout Eastern Washington. He also has handled cases for school and irrigation districts.

Fearing said the Court of Appeals will be a good fit for him because he's handled many appeals in his more than 30 years practicing law. He estimates that in a given year, he's written between 10 and 15 appeal briefs and argued before the judges five to 10 times.

Judge Sweeney announced earlier this year that he would retire after 21 years with the court. His replacement was appointed, since Sweeney left two years into a six-year term.

Fearing has known Sweeney for 22 years. He first met Sweeney when he was a junior in law school at the University of Washington in 1981 when Sweeney offered him a summer internship with the Tri-Cities firm. He was offered a job at the firm following his graduation in 1982, and he has now been there for his entire career.

"It's a big honor," Fearing said. "It's an honor to be appointed by Gov. Inslee, and I pray that I will do an excellent job for the citizens of Washington state."

Published May 28, 2013

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Anya Rasmussen’s Research Published in Peer-Reviewed Physics Journal

By: Camlynne Waring

Recent Walla Walla University alumna Anya Rasmussen and fellow researchers at Washington State University recently discovered a pressure-induced phase transition in indium selenide at the pressure of seven tenths of a gigapascal (GPa), which is believed to be the lowest critical pressure observed in a semiconductor. Their research has been published in *Applied Physics Letters*, a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the American Institute of Physics.

“This critical pressure is an order of magnitude lower than that for most materials,” says Rasmussen. “Other semiconductors show phase transitions at two GPa or higher.”

Rasmussen’s research could have implications for memory devices, called phase change random access memory, or PRAM. PRAM is a faster and smaller replacement for FLASH memory. Indium selenide is a phase change material that can be used in these devices.

“The switching in PRAM devices is done thermally,” explains Rasmussen. “However, the thermal phase transitions can cause the phase change material to change in volume, which puts stress on the material possibly affecting the memory switching. To precisely control switching between phases, it is important to understand the phase transformations due to pressure as well as temperature.”

Rasmussen is a doctoral candidate at Washington State University, with full funding provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Rasmussen’s WWU education gave her the skills she needed to succeed in her graduate studies. “WWU’s physics instruction prepared me well for graduate level physics classes,” says Rasmussen. “I am grateful for such a strong math background, as I also majored in math at WWU.” Her experience as a teaching assistant for the applied statistics class also gave Rasmussen a strong background in probability, which was beneficial in her graduate thermodynamic course work.

In the future, Rasmussen hopes to teach physics at a college or university and continue her research on high pressure physics.
WWU: Graduate Discovers Record Low Pressure-induced Phase Transiti...

http://www.wallawalla.edu/nc/about-wwu/news/article/view/graduate-di...
New Vice President for Student Life Appointed

David Richardson, Jr. Begins His Duties in July

By: Rosa Jimenez

Walla Walla University President John McVay has announced the appointment of David Richardson, Jr. as WWU's new vice president for student life and mission. Richardson, who lives in Riverside, Calif., will begin his duties on July 1.

In this position, Richardson will oversee all areas of student residential life, including housing, spiritual and social extracurricular programs, food services, student government, counseling, and health services.

Richardson comes to WWU after five years with Concorde Career Colleges, an institution with 15 campuses across the U.S. Most recently, Richardson was regional director of student affairs, overseeing student services on seven campuses, including the areas of career services, learning resource center, military and veterans’ support services, disability services, student government, and other student-focused areas. He began his time at Concorde College serving as director of student affairs for the campus in San Bernardino, Calif.

“Dr. Richardson brings energy, verve, and a passion for excellence to his new role,” says John McVay, WWU president. “He possesses valuable experience in linking student life outside of the classroom with success in the classroom and personifies a rock solid commitment to the mission of Seventh-day Adventist higher education. We look forward to the contributions he will make to Walla Walla University.”

Richardson is also a pastor and evangelist, serving the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in church growth and evangelism since 1993. His youth work includes leading a youth committee that focuses on secondary and post-secondary students to help them develop strategies for the successful completion of educational, spiritual health and workforce goals.

Before his current roles, Richardson was a counselor and instructor at Riverside Community College in Riverside, Calif., and a physical education instructor at Oakwood College Academy in Huntsville, Ala.

Richardson holds a doctoral degree in educational leadership from Argosy University, and a master’s degree in counseling from University of Phoenix. He is also a 1995 graduate of Andrews University, earning his master of divinity degree. He also received his undergraduate degree in 1993 from Oakwood University in physical education with a minor in religion.

Richardson replaces George Bennett, who has been serving as interim vice president for the past year.

Richardson will move to the Walla Walla Valley with his wife, Melanie, who is a speech-language pathologist by profession. His sons, Brandon and Jaylin, will attend school in the Walla Walla area this fall.
Communications Chair Selected as 2013 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer

David Bullock Will Present November 10

By: Camlynne Waring

David Bullock

David Bullock, chair of the Department of Communications and Languages, will present the 2013 Distinguished Faculty Lecture Sunday, Nov. 10, 7 p.m. in the Melvin K. West Fine Arts Center auditorium. The selection is based on student, faculty, and staff nominations of faculty members whom they consider to be accomplished scholars and gifted instructors. A committee then considers the nominations and selects a speaker, who will present the following November.

“I was surprised and honored to have been selected,” says Bullock. “When I look at the list of previous faculty speakers, I am humbled and energized to consider the opportunity to share ideas with colleagues.”

Though he is currently undecided on a topic, Bullock is considering one “based on observations and research in social and political conflict.” He gained political experience as the communications director for a congressional campaign in 2006.

In 1995, Bullock was recognized for having one of the top four papers in political communications from the National Communication Association. In 2010, he was a Humanities Washington Inquiring Minds Lecturer and spoke about the story of “a central Washington coal community torn by a labor union dispute.”

Bullock received his bachelor’s degree with a major in journalism from WWU in 1976. He has a master’s degree in communication from Washington State University and a doctorate in communication from University of Arizona.

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Professor Authors Book on Life After Retirement

Julian Melgosa Writes From Perspective of Psychologist

“Enjoy Life” is the title of Julian Melgosa’s recently published work, an illustrated book about retirement and preparation for retirement written for the lay person from the perspective of a psychologist. Melgosa, the dean of the Walla Walla University School of Education and Psychology, wrote the book to help people add quality to the “third age” of their lives.

According to the publisher Safeliz, Ltd. in Madrid, Spain, the book “offers a complete investigative tool full of practical advice that is specifically designed to help the reader achieve optimal health and find enjoyment in this stage of life.”

Melgosa has a personal interest in the topic of retirement and the publisher decided it was relevant, as the old age population sector is growing in both developed and undeveloped countries.

The book, published in English, Spanish, and French, can be purchased from the Review and Herald Publishing Association, as well as internationally. Find more information at:

bit.ly/YY6ka6

Published March 7, 2013

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