



From left, researchers Janaye Houghton, Robert Fox and Ewa Jacewicz record a speaker at WCU as part of a dialect study.

WCU Joins Ohio State Researchers in Study of Dialect

Audrey Greene was surprised in 1982 when, standing in line at the World's Fair in Tennessee, strangers asked her to talk again so they could hear her "Southern drawl." "There were a lot of people from a lot of countries there with a lot of different dialects, and it was sort of odd that they picked out ours," said Greene, who has spent her life in Haywood and Jackson counties. "I guess you kind of think at first that because you talk this way and understand what other people are saying that they are talking just like you are."

Studying how sensitive listeners are to differences in how vowels are pronounced in different dialects is part of the next phase of a research study led by The Ohio State University and taking place, in part, at Western Carolina University. The project was designed to compare dialects in Western North Carolina, Central Ohio and Wisconsin, and changes in dialect from generation to generation. Greene

was one of more than 200 participants, ranging in age from 8 to 93, who came to Western Carolina's speech and hearing center to participate in the first phase. She and others were recorded as they pronounced words such as "head" and "hide," read sentences and told a story of their own choosing.

WCU recently received a \$15,000 grant to continue the perception phase of the study, which was initially funded by a \$1.8 grant from the National Institutes of Health. Participants will listen through a headset to words and record their responses on a computer. Janaye Houghton, a speech-language pathologist serving as a research associate for the project at WCU, is currently searching for volunteers to participate in the study who are lifelong residents of Western North Carolina between the ages of 9 and 13, and age 50 and older.

"One of the goals is to see whether language is changing here, and language development processes in general," said Robert Fox, professor and chair of speech and hearing science at Ohio State.

The results of the research project could help improve standardized tests for speech and hearing or improve voice recognition systems that understand spoken commands such as "voice mail" or "yes." Another benefit is simply the historical preservation of how people speak in a region, the researchers said.

"We've constructed a corpus of spoken utterances – the largest corpus of spoken American English to date," said Ewa Jacewicz, principal investigator and research scientist at Ohio State. "The collection can be used worldwide for speech research, speech-language pathology, dialectologists and linguists."

What researchers also found interesting, in addition to analyzing the different sound waves, were the topics participants chose to talk about when invited to tell a story. While many child participants native to Ohio and Wisconsin chose to talk about school or sports, participants in Western North Carolina talked about their grandparents or church. "I heard about a lot of hound dogs, hunting and fishing, and family," said Houghton "Some talked about instruments or music – the banjo, bass fiddle or guitar. They were asked to talk for three to five minutes, but frankly there were times I just couldn't turn the recording off and just kept listening."

Participants have been very interested in the results of the study, she said. In fact, one who is a student at Smoky Mountain High School, Jessica Masters, approached Houghton about working with her on a dialect study for her senior project. "I always loved to listen to my grandparents and their dialect, and I noticed it when I volunteered at a nursing home, too," said Masters, who is considering attending WCU next year. "I'm fascinated."

Inside this Edition
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With Gallery Space*

Celebrate Global Experiences at International Education Week

Western Carolina will host a gamelan concert, “Octubafest,” an Italian movie, an online photo exhibit and informational presentations about WCU’s academic global opportunities during International Education Week, which is Nov. 17-21. The festivities recently kicked off with the induction ceremony for Phi Beta Delta, an honor society recognizing scholarly achievement in international education, and the formal GloBall dance.

Developed as a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Education, International Education Week is an annual event celebrated across the country and beyond, and WCU is excited to participate again this year, said Kevin Childers, a student services assistant with the Office of International Programs and Services.

“We want to encourage everyone to think about our global community and to learn more about the many related opportunities available to them here at WCU,” said Childers. “We are particularly encouraging more WCU faculty to consider leading an international trip.”

Jane Nichols, assistant professor of interior design, led her first trip abroad last summer to Russia and Sweden “because when I was there a couple years ago, I kept thinking, ‘Wow! My students have to see this!’ From the austerity of Lenin’s tomb in the Kremlin to the opulence of the Winter Palace and Peterhof, there were incredible extremes in design, cultural values and human expression.”

In one part of the trip, student groups were given maps to independently “go see” at least three of 10 design shops in Stockholm, Sweden. In another, they visited a venue where chairs, sofas, benches and décor were carved out of ice. “We got comments all over the country about how polite and considerate the students were,” said Nichols. “They were terrific ambassadors for Western.”

This summer, Nichols will lead a group of students to Athens, Florence and Barcelona. Assignments will include research and reflection papers, digital journals and sketch journals or an equivalent project for non-design students.

For more information about international educational opportunities at WCU, call 227-7494 or check out the Web site www.wcu.edu/ips.

— By TERESA KILLIAN



The skyline of Moscow rises behind a group of WCU students who traveled to Russia and Sweden as part of a trip led by Jane Nichols, assistant professor of interior design.

EVENTS

Monday, Nov. 17-Friday, Nov. 21

- Information about international opportunities will be shared across campus and at tables on the second floor of the UC.
- International students, faculty and staff will speak, by invitation, to classes about a range of themes, issues and personal experiences.
- An online photo exhibit will be linked to the International Programs and Services Web site at www.wcu.edu/ips.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Japanese traditional tea ceremony. Second floor lobby, UC.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Presentation by students in the “International Partners” living-learning community. Room 232, UC.

11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m. – WCU Euphonium Ensemble performs Octubafest concert. UC lawn.

8 p.m. – Low Tech Ensemble performs gamelan music on instruments that originated in Indonesia and coastal Southeast Asia accompanied by guest dancer Siti Kusujarti. Coulter Recital Hall.

Thursday, Nov. 20

7 p.m. – “Rocco and His Brothers,” 1960 Italian film. Lectures, Concerts and Exhibitions Series. UC theater.



Siti Kusujarti dances as the Low Tech Ensemble performs gamelan music.

Chancellor Discusses Possible Impact of Economic Downturn on N.C., WCU

Chancellor John W. Bardo convened a town hall meeting Tuesday, Nov. 11, to discuss the impact of the economic downturn on the state of North Carolina and Western Carolina University.

Statewide, revenues are about \$300 million behind projections – a significant deficit for the first quarter, said Bardo. The University of North Carolina General Administration has asked institutions including WCU to prepare for a 5 percent “hold back” this year and permanent budget reductions of 1 to 6 percent for next year.

Strategies to implement this year’s budget cuts, which are not permanent cuts, include delaying hiring, allocation of enrollment growth funding, and equipment purchases; reverting a portion of lapsed salaries; implementing additional utility conservation; restricting travel; and reducing operating budgets by about \$590,000.

Bardo said deans, vice chancellors and directors will help make decisions regarding permanent budget cuts, and members of the university community will be asked for their input. The university’s strategic planning committee’s recommended budget priorities include developing the university’s brand and image; supporting program infrastructure, compliance, business processes, diversity, initiatives and selected programs that support engagement; implementing the university’s Quality Enhancement Plan; and recruiting and retaining students.

“We will try to focus less on across-the-board cuts and more on minimizing disruption to core university functions,” said Bardo. “We will keep you informed as we know more both about the plans and about the magnitude of the state’s budget issues.”

Watch the town hall meeting about the budget from the chancellor’s “updates and speeches” Web site, located at www.wcu.edu/364.asp.

Graduate Schools Conference Visits WCU for 1st Time

The annual North Carolina Conference of Graduate Schools was held recently at WCU for the first time.

Deans and staff members from graduate schools across the state met Nov. 13-14 to discuss graduate education’s challenges, issues and future. Highlighted events included a talk by Terri L. Lomax, interim vice chancellor for research and graduate studies at N.C. State University, about professionalizing master’s degrees and a panel discussion of developing, managing and awarding graduate certificates.

At the group’s business meeting, Scott Higgins, dean of WCU’s Graduate School and Research, was elected president of the conference.

WCU Co-sponsors Summit for Education Leaders, Coaches

WCU and Western North Carolina public schools developed and co-sponsored an inaugural Instructional Leadership Summit with the theme of “Strategies for the 21st Century” on Nov. 5 in Asheville. The one-day event for instructional coaches, lead teachers, principals, assistant principals, school administrators and teachers aspiring to leadership featured workshops and discussions.

The summit was developed after the induction and professional development committees of WCU’s School-University Teacher Education Partnership identified a need for a coaching or leadership conference, said Ruth McCreary, SUTEP coordinator. A survey of schools in Western North Carolina confirmed the need, said McCreary.

Faculty members who helped plan the event were McCreary; Elaine Franklin, director of the Center for Mathematics

and Science Education; Janice Holt, director of the Center for the Support of Beginning Teachers and Office of Alternative Licensure; David Strahan, the Taft B. Botner Distinguished Professor of Elementary and Middle Grades Education; and Kathleen Jorissen and Lucian Szlizewski, assistant professors of educational leadership and foundations.

Event speakers included Franklin and Michael Dougherty, dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions. Jacquie Jacobs, professor and head of the educational leadership and foundations department, presented “Leading Learning in a Changing World.” Patricia Bricker, assistant professor of elementary and middle grades education, was part of a panel discussion of “Lessons Learned by Instructional Coaches and Principals.” Co-leading workshops were Jorissen in “Engaging the Whole School in

Collaborative Learning through Classroom Walkthroughs”; Strahan in “Best Practice Instructional Strategies”; Szlizewski in “Working with Challenging Situations”; and Holt in “Supporting the Millennials: A New Generation of Beginning Teachers.”

continued from cover WCU, Ohio State Researchers Study Dialect

Greene said she thinks such studies are important as a way to preserve the dialect. She remembers when a junior high English teacher discouraged students from using words such as “reckon” and “y’all” that were not commonly said in other places. “As you get older, you appreciate who you are and your roots, and you appreciate the dialect,” said Greene. “It makes you different, and the difference is something you want to hold onto and not forget.”

Hear examples of speakers from each region by clicking on “Vowel Corner” on the left side of the Web site www.spalabs.org. If you or your child was born and raised in Western North Carolina, contact Houghton by phone at 506-8276 or by e-mail at janayah@hotmail.com to find out how you could participate.

— By TERESA KILLIAN

Interviews Planned in Dean Search

Western Carolina University faculty and staff will have the opportunity to meet two finalists for the position of dean for the College of Education and Allied Professions during the week of Nov. 17.

Perry Schoon, senior associate dean of the College of Education at the University of Texas at Arlington, will participate in on-campus interviews Monday, Nov. 17, to Wednesday, Nov. 19.

Jeffrey Gilger, associate dean for discovery and faculty development in the College of Education at Purdue University, will participate in on-campus interviews Wednesday, Nov. 19, to Friday, Nov. 21.

Check out CEAP’s Web site at <http://ceap.wcu.edu> or the provost’s Web site at www.wcu.edu/provost to review itineraries and background information for these two finalists and, when confirmed, information about the full slate of finalists.

Ron Rash Wins Thomas Wolfe Award for Short Story Collection 'Chemistry'

Ron Rash, the Parris Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Culture, is recipient of the 2008 Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award for his compilation of short stories "Chemistry and Other Stories."

The honor was announced at the annual meeting of the Western North Carolina Historical Association. The Wolfe Award has been presented since 1955 to honor authors of printed works that focus special attention on Western North Carolina. Gwin Jones of Asheville, chairwoman of the association's Wolfe Award committee, said the stories in Rash's book "have the power of ancient myths," adding that the committee recognized the collection "as a worthy recipient of an award named for Thomas Wolfe."

Earlier this year, "Chemistry and Other Stories" earned Rash a nomination as one of four finalists for the PEN/Faulkner Award, the largest peer-juried prize for fiction in the United States. Published in 2007 by Picador, the collection also was named one of 15 "notable books" of 2007 by The Story Prize committee. While his short stories have been drawing accolades, Rash's fourth novel, "Serena," published by Harper-Collins Press in September, has been garnering glowing reviews in the national media. In the New York Times, reviewer Janet Maslin wrote that "for those unfamiliar with the elegantly fine-tuned voice of this Appalachian poet and storyteller, a writer whose reputation has been largely regional despite an O. Henry Prize and other honors, ('Serena') will prompt instant interest in his first, second and third" novels.

Another Rash novel, "The World Made Straight," earned him the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for 2006 and was named one of the nation's top 10 books for teenage readers by the Young Adult Library Services Association. His other prize-winning novels include "Saints at the River" and "One Foot in Eden."



Ron Rash

WCU Group Planning Trip to South America for Mapping Project

A WCU faculty member and 10 of her students will use a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to travel to South America in early 2009 to work on a project testing the remote sensing applications of a new type of radar satellite technology.

Joni Budgen-Storie, assistant professor of geosciences and natural resources, was awarded a grant of \$99,612 to develop a project in cooperation with the University of San Juan in Argentina and the National Institute for Space Research in Brazil to test the use of polarimetric radar data in mapping land use and land cover.

Remote sensing through the use of satellites orbiting the Earth has been going on for about half a century, with one of the most widely known modern examples being the weather satellites that produce images of clouds and storms, Budgen-Storie said. The polarimetric

radar, which uses microwave wavelengths emitted from a satellite to "see" through clouds and detect targets on the Earth's surface, has been in operation only about five years, she said.

To test the radar's ability to discriminate between different types of ground cover, the partners will create land-use/land-cover maps using radar data and on-the-ground observations. The project will focus on three particular areas – the semitemperate forests around Cullowhee, the tropical forests of Brazil, and a semiarid desert in Argentina. The project will test the radar's applications for detecting land use and land cover for water – quality monitoring in Western North Carolina, to track land-use changes in Argentina, and to find illegal soybean fields in a national park in Brazil, Budgen-Storie said.

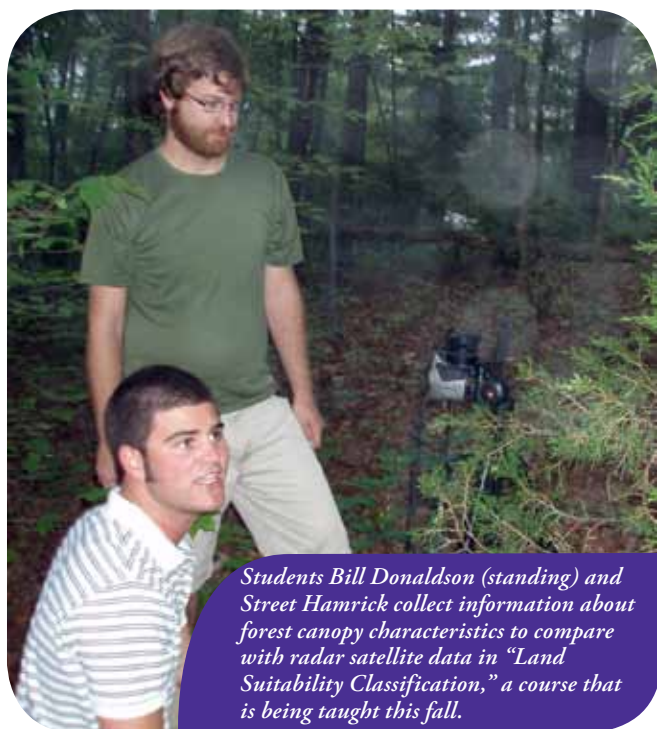
Accompanied by Christopher Storie, Budgen-Storie's husband and a lecturer in geography at Winthrop University, the WCU contingent will be in South America from Feb. 28 through March 14. After arriving in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the group will hold a workshop for governmental staff and university faculty and students to teach them to use the polarimetric radar data to create land-cover/land-use maps. Then, the WCU contingent will travel to San Juan, Argentina, to collect field observations in the Tulum Valley with faculty and students from the University of San Juan. At the same time, the orbiting RADARSAT-2 Earth observation satellite will collect data from the same area so that participants can compare the findings from field collections and the radar data to create maps.

The WCU group will travel to San Paulo, Brazil, to conduct another workshop before returning home.

Some of the students who will go on the trip are currently taking a new course, "Land Suitability Classification," to learn to perform field collection for mapping with radar remote sensing data. During the spring semester, all 10 students will learn how to make land-use/land-cover maps using software and radar satellite data in another new course, "Advanced Remote Sensing."

The skills gained by the students involved in the project will help them be better prepared to address resource conservation and management issues after they graduate and begin working in Western North Carolina, Budgen-Storie said. The type of work the WCU students are engaged in is not being done anywhere else in North Carolina, she said.

– By RANDALL HOLCOMBE



Students Bill Donaldson (standing) and Street Hamrick collect information about forest canopy characteristics to compare with radar satellite data in "Land Suitability Classification," a course that is being taught this fall.

INSIDE

THE STAFF BREAKROOM

with Brandon Tigie



Brandon Tigie joined the staff at Western Carolina University in October 2007 as assistant director of admission. Acting as the diversity coordinator and minority recruiter for Western, Tigie helps develop diversity-building experiences for incoming students, such as Experience Western, an overnight, weekend event designed to give prospective students a sneak peak of what their experience would be like at WCU.

Tigie, a native of Honolulu, earned his bachelor's degree in communication, specializing in broadcast and studio work, from Western Carolina.

The Reporter: What was your favorite childhood game?

Tigie: Hide and seek. I was good at it, which may surprise some people. I was quick, and I could hide in all kinds of places.

The Reporter: How did you become interested in working for the Office of Admission?

Tigie: I really enjoyed my time here as a student. Plus, I have a friend working in student activities who encouraged me. I guess the other reason was because I was in a TRIO program in high school that motivated me to go to college. Growing up in a single-parent home, I needed the extra support because my mom was busy working and taking care of us. I always wanted to help others have opportunities to go to college. I just want to give back.

The Reporter: What has been one of your best experiences when working with diversity issues?

Tigie: During the summer, an African-American family drove up to Western because the daughter wanted to apply here. On the drive, though, they saw a Confederate flag in the local area, which created some concern. I spent the whole day with them once they arrived, showing them around the campus. The daughter was excited about the band, so we looked around in the band area. Now, she's excited about Western again, and she will be attending in January.

The Reporter: What are some misunderstandings surrounding diversity?

Tigie: When people hear the word "diversity," they usually think black. How diverse is something if it only has one color? Diversity includes everyone, and it's not always people of color. It includes all races, cultures and backgrounds.

The Reporter: What's your sense of what the greatest challenges are facing diversity today?

Tigie: First, the media. A lot of students, the newer generations, play

off the media. Some students try to keep an edge about being a minority because it's broadcasted through the media. But, for example, you can't talk slang all the time. Second, we need to start discussing college at an earlier age. College is brought up during high school, but it needs to be discussed in elementary and middle school. A lot of minority students come from first-generation families, and I have to help them. I help the students and their families understand the importance of succeeding in college.

The Reporter: What do you hope to achieve in your current position?

Tigie: I'd like to help people understand the true meaning of diversity and implement more cultural training into our office. Studentwise, I'd like to create more events to invite students of color up to events like Experience Western, which turned out great. It gave our potential students a taste of college life. Everyone who helped and supported the event did a wonderful job.

The Reporter: What's your personal motto?

Tigie: I'm not sure this counts, but what I always think of is lyrics from Tha Carter III's "Misunderstood": "Misunderstood ain't gotta be explained/But you don't understand me so let me explain."

The Reporter: What is your favorite TV show?

Tigie: "Martin." It's my show. The jokes make me laugh all day.

Interview by Bessie Dietrich Goggins

Museum Invites Employees to Enjoy Art and Refreshments

Earlier this semester, the Fine Art Museum launched a "Third Thursday" event, a wine and cheese social from 5 to 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the Star Lobby, adjacent to the Fine Art Museum, in the Fine and Performing Arts Center.

The event is free, and faculty, staff and community members are welcome.

The final Third Thursday of the fall semester is Nov. 20. Artwork on exhibit at the museum will include "Living with the Enemy" by

Donna Ferrato, a series of black-and-white photographs that document domestic abuse in the United States. An accompanying exhibit, "Healing and Art," will be on display in the Star Lobby.

For the spring semester, Third Thursday events are planned in January, February, March and April.

For more information, call Hillary Brett, assistant curator of the Fine Art Museum, at 227-3591.



Art professor Marya Roland, left, helps Rachael Griffin, a junior in art education, arrange her book sculpture for display in Hunter Library.

Library Finds Niche as Cultural Center and QEP Resource

The university's newest art gallery isn't where you might expect. It's not in the Fine Art Museum, the School of Art and Design, or even A.K. Hinds University Center. It's on the second floor of Hunter Library.

An exhibit called "Phases of Currency," a series of prints by art education associate professor Erin Tapley, is on display now at the new Second Floor Gallery. "Before, this was just an empty hallway," said Alessia Zanin-Yost, reference librarian and the woman behind the new gallery, as she gestured toward the 20 colorful, framed works.

Other current displays include an exhibit about William Bartram, the 18th-century botanist and explorer. An election-related student art exhibit came down just after Election Day. Associate English professor Marsha Lee Baker had her students fill three cases near the library's entrance with a literature-related project. In 2007, second-graders from Cullowhee Valley School exhibited projects related to Black History Month, which brought many community members into the library. And next year, professor James Costa's biology students will create an exhibit for a basement space to acknowledge the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin.

Zanin-Yost, chair of the library's display committee and an interdepartmental "arts in the library" committee, is on a mission to fill the library's blank spaces with art and exhibits by Western Carolina students and faculty. In doing so, Zanin-Yost said, the library is establishing itself as key component of the university's Quality Enhancement Plan, which emphasizes synthesized educational experiences, engagement with community, and an intentional path of learning that considers students' post-collegiate goals.

Students who exhibit their works in the library must synthesize what they have learned in order to relate it to the outside world, she said. Their displays often require them to

cross curriculums; Zanin-Yost, for example, requires artist statements to accompany the art displays. The result of the increased quality and number of library displays, Zanin-Yost said, is that campus and community members are beginning to consider the library a cultural center.

Ten students from associate art professor Marya Roland's beginning sculpture class recently spent an afternoon in the library arranging their original works of sculpture made from books, which will be on display through the end of the semester. Students approached the project in different ways. One sculpture made a political statement, with a Democratic donkey rising from its pages. Another was ironic, transforming hardback books into a book light. Another was playful, re-creating in three dimensions an illustration from within the book's pages.

For more information

Interested in learning more about the library's display space or in submitting scholarly and creative work as part of Faculty Scholarship Recognition Week? Contact Alessia Zanin-Yost at azaniny@email.wcu.edu or 227-3398.

Second-year graduate student Megan Woods, who created a hanging book sculpture, said exhibiting in the library would allow more people to view the student artwork than if it remained in the art building. "It's more of a communal building than the art building," Woods said.

The library is a "perfect place for this kind of assignment," which required students to alter and disassemble books – taboo in this culture, Roland said. The art students have the benefit of a new exhibit space, and library patrons have the opportunity to "come into the library and see something they wouldn't ordinarily see," she said.

According to a soon-to-be-published history of the College of Fine and Performing Arts by Christopher Bishop, a graduate student

in history, Hunter Library has a long history of serving as a place for WCU students to experience the arts.

"After the completion of Hunter Library in 1953, faculty and students frequently exhibited there until a more permanent exhibit space was available," Bishop wrote. And music students often gave recitals in a small room in the library known as "the Gallery."

Zanin-Yost's efforts have impressed Carol Burton, assistant vice chancellor for undergraduate studies and QEP project director, who is co-authoring a paper with Zanin-Yost on Hunter Library as a leader in engaged, intentional learning.

Burton also is supportive of plans to use the library as a key element in the celebration of faculty scholarship planned for next semester, describing it as a "key way that the library is helping us implement the QEP"

The inaugural Faculty Scholarship Recognition Week, coordinated by Hunter Library, the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Honors College, and Graduate School and Research, will be the week of Feb. 16. It is an effort to showcase all forms of faculty scholarship, including books, articles, display panels, sculpture and musical compositions. Areas of the library will be reserved for distinct disciplines or categories of scholarship.

Placing faculty scholarship on display in the library will counter the fragmented nature of recognition, which until now has happened mostly within individual colleges, said Scott Higgins, dean of WCU's Graduate School and Research. Prior to this coordinated effort, there has been "no real visibility on campus," Higgins said.

A reception for Faculty Scholarship Recognition Week will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, on the library's mezzanine level.

— By JILL INGRAM

A Funny Thing Happened of the Way to the (QEP) Forum

Sarah Lipham, a senior theater major from Canton, came to the provost's academic forum Oct. 29 as Dogwood, a character from an educational play for young audiences based on a Cherokee legend developed by WCU's Theatre in Education program. The forum was planned to discuss examples of how the Quality Enhancement Plan, titled "Synthesis: A Pathway to Intentional Learning," is being piloted on campus, and Lipham's interactive performance illustrated how her TIE experience fit in with the QEP.

Through the student-led program, Lipham engaged with schoolchildren attending performances and with Cherokee community members who helped her learn musical skills and background. She gave examples of how a student researched costumes, designed and made them, and how she had used everything she had learned – "even theater history" – during the course.

Other forum presenters included faculty from the College of Fine and Performing Arts, which is building off of the TIE program in its QEP plan; Peg Connolly from recreational therapy, who described expanding student reflection activities and hands-on application activities such as working with an Alzheimer's unit; and a student from health information administration, who described her experience the electronic Education Briefcase portal and self-reflective notes.

Forum discussion explored questions such as how to inspire more faculty to work collaboratively to incorporate elements of the QEP in their work, and participants who already have said what most inspired them was seeing the enthusiasm of students such as Lipham, who volunteered without hesitation to participate in the forum. Watch the forum online at <http://fpamediaserver.wcu.edu/~static/qepforum.mov>.



Theater student Sarah Lipham (standing) interacts with the audience and panelists (from left) Erin Tapley, associate professor of art education, and Glenda Hensley, assistant professor of theater, at an academic forum on the Quality Enhancement Plan

Four QEP Grants Announced, Applications Open for Spring

Four faculty members have been awarded \$750 Quality Enhancement Plan Development Grants this fall from the Office of the Provost to implement programs connected to implementation of the QEP – "Synthesis: A Pathway to Intentional Learning."

- Glenda Hensley, assistant professor of stage and screen, applied for funding to help with expenses for the Theatre in Education program. The grant will help cover the cost of production elements, publicity and touring expenses connected with this year's program, in which students create an educational, theatrical production and perform the show for school children. Students are collaborating this fall with the School of Music's Low Tech Ensemble, which performs on Javanese, Sundanese and Balinese gamelan, and an art education class to develop a show based on Indonesian folktales. The interdisciplinary course features service and engaged learning elements, and is a model for an arts academy that the College of Fine and Performing Arts is developing as part of the QEP.

- Tracy L. Zontek, assistant professor of environmental health, applied for funding to enable students to help conduct an indoor air quality study at a Western North Carolina nonprofit organization. The grant will fund the purchase of the testing kit and equipment needed to conduct the study, which could improve the health of employees, volunteers and patrons. The project will provide an opportunity for students to apply their academic knowledge and research skills while serving the community. Participating students also will complete reflection exercises intended to help them see the connections between the experience and their future careers.

- Benjamin R. Tanner, assistant professor of geology, applied for funding for an integrative geology field trip. The grant paid for bus transportation and geological maps for a field trip to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Nearly three dozen students who are enrolled in "Methods in Geology," the first course required of geology majors, spent Saturday, Nov. 8, at the park

applying what they learned in the classroom. As part of the trip, they worked in groups alongside faculty to examine park geology including landslide patterns, ice age remnants, stream channel characteristics, water quality and mountain building processes. Participating faculty shared expertise in geomorphology, sedimentology, petrology, hydrology, geochemistry and structural geology. The groups collected data independently and then synthesized their information and looked at the experience holistically, a task that required effective communication skills, which will be important in careers as scientists.

- Jayne Zanglein, assistant professor of business law, applied for funding intended to expand the student-led Campus Mediation Program. The grant will help pay for banners, fliers and brochures as part of a publicity campaign for the program, which offers free mediation for disputes between students. In addition, the grant will cover travel costs for a student case coordinator from the program to attend the spring conference of the American Bar

Association Section of Dispute Resolution in New York. Increasing the number of mediation experiences for students will help students improve skills such as negotiation and time management, as they work on real-world projects, and the experiences will help prepare them for the comprehensive capstone virtual law office class or other mediation experiences. Senior business law majors Chris Sorci from Cashiers and Ashley Brabenc from Bryson City wrote the QEP grant proposal under Zanglein's supervision and worked with Walter Turner, director of the student community ethics department, to develop the concept.

Applications for spring QEP grants will be accepted through Friday, Jan. 30.

Details and grant applications can be accessed from the Web site www.wcu.edu/10093.asp.

For more information, contact Carol Burton, assistant vice chancellor for undergraduate studies and QEP project director, at 227-7497 or burton@wcu.edu.

Reporter Calendar

Nov. 17 - Nov. 30

Monday, Nov. 17

Concert – University Chorus, Early Music Ensemble and the Concert Choir. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Monday, Nov. 17-Friday, Nov. 21

International Education Week – Sponsored by International Programs and Services. (227-3455)

Tuesday, Nov. 18

Chancellor's Speaker Series – Forensic anthropologist Kathy Reichs, author of the novels that inspired the TV series "Bones." 7:30 p.m. FAPAC. Free, tickets required. (227-2479)

Catamount Concert Series – Jazz Ensemble. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Visiting artist – Art Rosenbaum, painter, muralist, illustrator, collector, and performer of traditional American folk music. 4-6 p.m. Room 130, FAPAC. (227-3599)



The Clothesline Project – T-shirts as testimony to the issue of violence against women. 6-9 p.m. FAPAC courtyard. (227-2627)

The Smothers Brothers – One of the most successful comedy teams in history. 7:30 p.m. FAPAC. \$. (227-2479)

Concert – Low Tech Ensemble (gamelan). 8 p.m. RH. (227-3258)

Thursday, Nov. 20

"Electronic Records and Employment Law" – Electronic documents and the law, social networking Web pages, e-mail policies, instant messaging and text messaging in the workplace. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Room 143, CCB. \$ ((800) 928-4968)

Third Thursdays at the Fine Art Museum – Wine and cheese social. 5-6 p.m. Star Lobby. FAPAC. (227-3591)

LCE Foreign Film Series – "Spirit of the Beehive" (1973, Spanish). 7 p.m. UC theater. \$. (227-7206)

Kayak roll clinic – For all levels. No registration required. 7-9 p.m. Breese Gymnasium pool. (227-3633)

Concert – Jazz Combo/Tech Ensemble. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Friday, Nov. 21

University Club TGIF – For members and their guests. 5 p.m. UClubhouse, Central Drive. \$. (227-3933)

Movie – "Tropic Thunder." 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. UC theater. \$. (227-7479)

Kids Climb – For children of students, faculty and staff. 6-8 p.m. Climbing wall, CRC. \$. (227-3633)



Galaxy of Stars Series – "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play," set in a radio station circa 1946. 7:30 p.m. FAPAC. \$. (227-2479)

Saturday, Nov. 22

Movie – "Tropic Thunder." 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. UC theater. \$. (227-7479)



Catamount football – vs. Appalachian State. Battle for the Old Mountain Jug. 3 p.m. WS/BW. \$. (227-7338)

Concert – Civic Orchestra. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Monday, Nov. 24

"Don't Tell Mama" – Dance and musical theater scenes showcase. 7:30 p.m. FAPAC studio. (227-2479)

Concert – Brass ensembles. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Siren test – Noon. (227-7301)

Wednesday, Nov. 26- Friday, Nov. 28

Thanksgiving holiday – No classes meet. Offices closed Nov. 27-28. (227-7495)

KEY: \$-Admission fee; BB-Belk Building; CAC-Catamount Athletic Center; CAT-Center for Applied Technology; CCB-Cordelia Camp Building; CRC Campus Recreation Center; CSC-Catamount Softball Complex; FAPAC-Fine and Performing Arts Center; HA-Hoey Auditorium; HFR-H.F. Robinson Administration Building; HL-Hunter Library; HS/CF-Hennon Stadium/Childress Field; MHC-Mountain Heritage Center; NSA-Natural Sciences Auditorium; RH-Recital Hall, Coulter Building; RRAC-Ramsey Regional Activity Center; UC-A.K. Hinds University Center; WS/BW-Whitmire Stadium/Bob Waters Field.

Submissions:

Send news items, calendar notices and address changes to Reporter@email.wcu.edu or WCU Calendar, 420 H.F. Robinson Building. Submit items for The Reporter calendar at least four weeks prior to the event.

Friday, Nov. 28

University Club TGIF – For members and their guests. 5 p.m. UClubhouse, Central Drive. \$. (227-3933)

Friday, Nov. 28, and Saturday, Nov. 29

Hard Candy – Christmas arts and crafts show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. RRAC. \$. (524-3405)

EXHIBITS

Fine Art Museum

"Living with the Enemy" – Photographs documenting domestic abuse by New York photographer Donna Ferrato. Through Nov. 22.

"Healing and Art" – Work by figurative painter Diane McPhail of Highlands; landscape painter Jenean Hornbuckle of Cherokee; book artist Luzene Hill of Whittier; and late feminist Hollis Sigler of Chicago. Star Lobby, FAPAC. Through Nov. 22.

School of Art and Design BFA Student Portfolio Exhibition – Creative research and studio art production from graduating students. Through Nov. 22.

"Lewis Buck: Beyond the Surface" –

A retrospective of the Black Mountain artist's life. Through Dec. 15.

Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues., Wed. and Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thurs. and 1-4 p.m. Sat. (<http://fapac.wcu.edu> or 227-3591)

Mountain Heritage Center

"The Artistry of Plain-Style Furniture" – Handmade WNC furniture. Gallery C. Through Dec. 15.

"Migration of the Scotch-Irish People" – Story of the Scotch-Irish Appalachian settlers in WNC. Permanent exhibit. Gallery A.

"New Threads on Old Patterns" – Slideshow spotlight, November.

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. (www.wcu.edu/mhc or 227-7129)

Hunter Library

"Bartram's Journey" – The 18th century botanist's life and observations. Through December, ground floor. (227-3398)

"Phases of Currency" – Original artwork by Erin Tapley. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Through Dec. 30. Second Floor Gallery. (227-3398)