



Dean, continued from page 2

prepares students to write, think critically, research, comprehend mathematical applications and develop a broad view of the world around us.

Of course, we are not immune to the state budget crisis. Fairmount College will continue to practice responsible financial decision making to ensure that we continue to provide high quality education for our students, educational and research development opportunities for our faculty and continuing education opportunities for our community and alumni.

In closing, I am excited to be your new dean. I appreciate your support and look forward to our future endeavors.

Sincerely,

William D. Bischoff, Dean

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research driven social marketing approach aimed at reducing harm to college students.”

Ben Weaver, biological sciences, is working on a research project under the supervision of professor Bill Hendry. Weaver is studying the DES (Diethyl Stilbestrol) induced dysfunction for male reproductive development. He also teaches undergraduates and credits his skills to the knowledge and techniques he has gained through research work. “We have first-rate, National Institute of Health-funded research in biological sciences at WSU.”

Benjamin Bunck and **Joshua Collette**, mathematics and statistics, are involved in ongoing research to develop advanced algorithms for the detection and visualization of sources of noise and vibration in complex structures. These algorithms provide engineers with tools to model interior noise levels in airplane cabins and automobile interiors.

According to Bunck, “Research is the single most important part of a graduate education in mathematics.” Collette agrees. “Research

introduces me to ideas and concepts before I have them in class. Instead of concentrating on what the concept is, I can turn my attention to why it works and where it came from.” Faculty members Thomas DeLillo, Victor Isakov and Tomasz Hrycak are involved in the project, which is funded by a National Science Foundation multi-year grant.

For more information about graduate study in the arts and sciences at Wichita State, please visit the following Web site: <http://webs.wichita.edu/gradsch/lasdetail.htm>.

The Fairmount College newsletter is published two times a year. For information, contact Cheryl K. Miller, coordinating editor, (316) 978-7900 or cheryl.miller@wichita.edu

Donald Beggs, president, Wichita State University
 William Bischoff, dean, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

NEWS

Technology in LAS classrooms

There's technology in and beyond the classroom in Fairmount College.

Blackboard, a Web-based application, is the staple of classroom technology. Faculty may post their syllabi, lecture notes, lecture slides and quizzes or exams to the Web for student use. Course announcements alert students to room changes, corrections to instructions or reminders of assignment deadlines. Students also may participate in electronic discussion boards and real-time chat rooms.

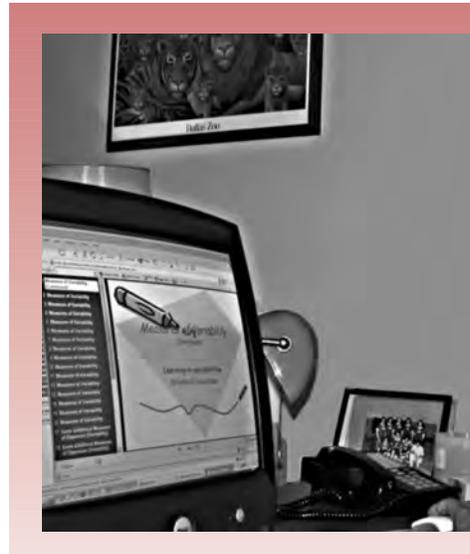
"In short, it allows us to provide the student with a superior learning environment," said **Chuck Halcomb**, professor of psychology. "The advent of Blackboard meant I could use it as a way to deliver my content to students. The discussion forum and virtual classroom made it possible for me to add things to the course I wasn't able or didn't have the time to do before."

Halcomb said Blackboard makes it easy for him to make more material available to his students. In turn, students have more accessibility to him and receive more personalized instruction. If students miss a class or need extra review, they may download PowerPoint lecture slides or listen to an audio recording of his lecture.

OTHER METHODS

Although Blackboard is the premiere example of technology enhanced classrooms, additional instructional methods exist.

Integrity Web Learner users have a broad range of applications. Faculty are able to show students how to conduct research on the Web, demonstrate dangerous experiments safely or to participate in formulaic equation development using a virtual whiteboard. Applications such as these make it possible for students to review lecture vignettes, program applications and other instructional



Halcomb downloads slides from his Blackboard classroom for Psych 401.

BLACKBOARD IN USE

- **Yumi Foster**, MCLL-Japanese, posts material for her class in Japanese using Blackboard.
- **Diane Quantic**, English, is making her Introduction to Great Plains Studies course available entirely online.
- **Mark Schneegurt**, biological sciences, has created a Web-based discussion board for participants in the biology seminar series.

methods at their convenience, or during a scheduled real-time period.

More instructors are discovering download files called "companion electronic cartridges" that complement textbooks. These cartridges are available from textbook publishers' Web sites and include chapter activities, course documents, test question banks, Web links and video files. The material supplements what teachers use in the classroom.

Another popular method is the use of telecourses. Classes meet on campus eight to 12 times a semester and the remaining class periods take place via televised instruction broadcast from WSU-13. Students who are not able to watch the broadcasts may rent videotapes or record the sessions themselves. However, this technology is now moving toward a CD-ROM base.

"Technology use is a new approach to learning in the classroom," said Rob Gibson, instructional developer for Media Resources Center. "Fairmount College is one of the biggest on-campus users of technology. As technology use increases, Wichita State will need more personnel and a technological infrastructure to support these methods of classroom enhancement."

STUDENT EXPERIENCES WITH BLACKBOARD

Many students appreciate and are comfortable with technologies like Blackboard. However, some students encounter problems when their Internet provider does not have tools compatible with the technologies being used. Others have limited experience with computers and the Internet and must overcome a learning curve for technology. Some students do not own up-to-date computers and may find it inconvenient to return to campus to use the computer labs.

Despite these frustrations, some students favor the use of technology so much that the Student Government Association is actively promoting the use of Blackboard and similar applications on campus. Students want faculty to use technology in ways that allow closer interaction and more personalized instruction with professors. Some faculty,

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DEAN'S MESSAGE



President Donald Beggs introduced William Bischoff as the new Fairmount College dean at a community reception.

Dear alumni and friends:

It is my honor to serve as the dean for Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. I appreciate the many gestures of support and congratulations you've made since my appointment on July 1. Thank you.

There are many good things happening in the college. External funding through research support, grants and contracts has increased by 20.6 percent over FY '01 to a total of \$10.6 million for FY '02. Gifts to the Foundation in support of the college increased by seven percent over the last fiscal year. Individual and corporate donor giving increased by 106 percent. Overall, Foundation goals for the college were achieved at 193 percent. Thank you for your kind generosity.

Our college planning document is complete and may be viewed from our Web site: las.wichita.edu. This plan focuses on the six dimensions of excellence, intellectual exploration, enhancement of learning, support, retention and recruitment as well as addressing student, faculty, staff and alumni and community constituencies. Feel free to view the document and provide any feedback to me at bill.bischoff@wichita.edu or by phone at (316) 978-6659.

Our biggest challenge for the year ahead is the redesign of teacher education. The state of Kansas is moving from requiring teacher certification to licensure. Fairmount College provides the content courses for many teaching areas. Our joint task with the colleges of education and fine arts is to certify that students are ready to take and pass the licensure exam so they are considered appropriately qualified to teach.

A second challenge is the review of the University's general education program. Fairmount College provides the majority of the general education coursework for WSU. This program is the backbone of every student's academic experience as it

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Graduate Education in Fairmount College

Passion for lifelong learning is an outcome of an education rooted in the arts and sciences. Some individuals return to the classroom to learn the skills necessary to advance in their professional careers or to teach at the university level. For others, this love encourages them to try new things or take classes throughout their lives.

Graduate students may pursue an advanced degree in one of 20 subject areas within the arts and sciences at Wichita State. They participate in research projects through coursework or assistantships, and some of them teach undergraduate courses. Through close interaction with faculty members, graduate students experience a solid, research-based education. Highlighted below are several students involved in graduate education and research at WSU.

Graduate students **Laura Carlson-Humphrey**, **Hong Li**, and **Larry McGlasson** are assisting Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs professor Mark Glaser with an evaluation of Wichita's community policing program. This research examines officers' views of citizen participation, how community policing is internally coordinated and how city departments and local agencies work

together to respond to community needs. McGlasson said, "Participating in this research project has 'fine-tuned' my recognition of quality research and that will be helpful in assessing research support for issue advocacy in my analyses."

Becky Gruhn, communication, is researching the coverage of children's health stories in Kansas newspapers. She receives financial support from the Public Health Reporting Grant (Kansas Health Foundation). "This program is giving me something to build on in a Ph.D. program. I am very pleased with the program and the enthusiasm of the instructors," she said. Faculty involved with her thesis and research projects are Kate Hawkins, professor, and Les Anderson, associate professor.

Amy Commer, community psychology, is the project coordinator for a Regents-wide initiative to reduce and prevent negative consequences of heavy drinking on college campuses. Commer conducts the project through the Self-Help Network of Kansas and receives funding from the Kansas Health Foundation. Commer's thesis advisor Greg Meissen said, "The project is a theory based,

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Shaw elected to Osage Tribal Council

Jerry Shaw, instructor, ethnic studies, was recently installed to serve as a member of the Osage Tribal Council.

Shaw is one of eight members elected by the Osage people to serve a four-year term. There are more than 16,000 Osage people in the United States and the majority resides in Oklahoma. A chief, assistant chief and the Tribal Council are the governing body of the Osage people.

The Osage Tribal Council is primarily responsible for the mineral estate of the Osage people in Osage County, Okla. They're involved in all facets of tribal business, such as health, education and housing.

"It's humbling to know that I represent this many people. Never in my life did I think I would do this. It's hard work



and we've made a tremendous amount of progress," said Shaw.

Shaw has served numerous organizations including the board for Mid-America All-Indian Center, Girl Scouts of America and the National Conference of Community and Justice. He is the 1985 recipient of the Leo Reano Memorial Award from the National Education Association for making a positive contribution to the lives of Native American youth. Shaw received the Excellence in Teaching Award from Wichita State in 1991. He received the Kansas Association for Native American Education (KANAE) award for Indian Educator of the Year in 1994. Most recently, Wichita State recognized him with the Academy for Effective Teaching Award in 2000.

Shaw began his 30th year of teaching at Wichita State this fall.

Goldbarth wins award for *Many Circles: New & Selected Essays*

Albert Goldbarth, Adele M. Davis Distinguished Professor of Humanities-English, won the PEN Center USA 2002 Creative Nonfiction award for *Many Circles: New & Selected Essays*.

Judges said *Many Circles* is "a virtuoso performance by one of America's great prose stylists ... (Goldbarth) entertains all topics from prosaic to profound, with a kinetic intelligence informed by a generous and compassionate spirit. The result is a dazzling, thought-provoking examination of what makes people such contrary, confusing, unique beings. Goldbarth expands the stylistic boundaries of the essay, shattering assumptions about form and content to produce groundbreaking, mind-altering, life-changing prose."

Finalists for the award included Gretel

Ehrlich, *This Cold Heaven: Seven Seasons in Greenland*; Joseph M. Marshall III, *Lakota Way: Stories and Lessons for Living*; Valerie Miner, *The Low Road: A Scottish Family Memoir*; and Terry Tempest Williams, *Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert*.

PEN USA's annual awards program, established in 1982, is a unique regional competition that rewards writers in 10 categories. Distinguished panels of judges, comprised of writers, editors and journalists, selected this year's winners and finalists from among more than 500 entries.

Earlier this year Goldbarth won the National Book Critics Circle Award for his book of poetry, *Saving Lives*. He is the only person since 1981 to win this award twice for poetry; he first won the award in 1991 for *Heaven and Earth*.

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such as Halcomb, are quite comfortable with technical applications. Others are testing the waters, tentatively exploring technology as it becomes available, said Gibson.

Halcomb thinks that technology will not replace human interaction. "It results in more human interaction," said Halcomb. "The instructor will have to work hard to be prepared to deal with the unanticipated question rather than to simply deliver a prepared lecture."

Gibson suggests that technology empowers the student to become an active learner and less of a rote note-taker. "Technology will encourage them to utilize more robust learning systems."

Blackboard seems to have that effect. Halcomb and his colleagues found that students in Psych 401 Blackboard sections performed the same or better than students in traditional, teacher-centered Psych 401 classrooms. To observe student initiative, Psych 401 professors arrived late to classrooms using either instructional model. Blackboard students appeared to assume more responsibility for their learning, working on assignments before instructors appeared. However, students in traditional sections waited for teachers to arrive before starting any work. In these classrooms students seemed to make the instructor responsible for their learning.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Charles Halcomb came to Wichita State in 1990 to develop and lead the doctoral program in psychology. He mentored more than 60 Ph.D. candidates during his career at Texas Tech, including the likes of Charles Burdsal and Alex and Barbara Chapparo. Halcomb's research areas are applied cognition and human-computer interaction.

His wife, Nancy Halcomb, is the departmental secretary for anthropology. They have three daughters and seven grandchildren. He is a ham radio operator and assisted with the early stages of communication during the Lubbock and Wichita Falls, Texas tornados. Other hobbies include sailing, western swing music, playing steel guitar and, of course, computers.

Halcomb earned a doctorate in psychology from Baylor University and a Bachelor of Arts degree (psychology) from Oklahoma Baptist University.

"The computer takes the focus off the professor," said Halcomb. "People are more willing to say what they think. Collaborative learning is encouraged and students interact more with each other. Faculty have to get past the ego part and realize students aren't in class to see or hear them."

NEW FACULTY

Michael Bohan, research assistant professor, psychology
Alexandre Boukhgueim, professor, mathematics
Randy Brown, senior fellow, communication
Doris Chang, assistant professor, women's studies/religion
David Coberly, visiting assistant professor, modern and classical languages and literatures
Mary Corrigan, assistant professor, gerontology
Perry Glasser, visiting professor and director of the Writing Center, English
Iouri Ilitchev, assistant professor, chemistry
Svetlana Kouznetsova, assistant professor, computer science
Jeff May, associate professor, biological sciences
Chinyere Okafor, associate professor, women's studies/religion
Sattiraju Prabhakar, assistant professor, computer science
Martha Smith, associate professor, criminal justice
Christian Wolf, assistant professor, mathematics

Roussel named Kansas French Educator of the Year

Brigitte Roussel, associate professor, MCLL-French, is the first recipient of the Kansas French Educator of the Year award, given by the Kansas chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Erin Arantowicz, president of the Kansas chapter, said "The programs (Brigitte) created for National French Week and her immersion sessions for students have become widely known and we celebrate the success of her work with her as we present this award to her."

When coordinating National French Week events at WSU, Roussel organizes immersion activities that allow high school students and teachers to learn more about the French culture and language. Approximately 450 middle and high school French students participate in on-campus language and arts activities.

"The idea is to take French out of the classroom and display it for people to become aware of its existence and its importance," said Roussel.