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CHANCELLOR'S VIEW

This fall, WSU Vancouver welcomed its 16th class of students with a record enrollment of 1,944. While our campus and surrounding communities expand at an ever increasing pace, the University continues to examine higher education needs in Southwest Washington. Most notably, the need to balance the disparity in baccalaureate attainment rates in the state of Washington—Southwest Washington's rate of 20% of the population is below the state average of 28% and far below the Seattle metropolitan rate of 47%.

WSU Vancouver is currently addressing these needs through a self-study mandated by the state Legislature, as outlined in the front page article in this newsletter. This effort has provided the data and background for our proposal to the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the state Legislature for future developments of the Vancouver campus.

Also this fall, the WSU Vancouver Engineering and Science Institute opened its doors to junior- and senior-level students pursuing degrees in biology, computer science and mechanical engineering. It also welcomed, for the first time on our campus,

freshman- and sophomore-level community college students.

We look forward to building upon this successful partnership with Clark College and Lower Columbia College, which will benefit our local economy and high-tech industry.

This past spring, the university approved the new School of Engineering and Computer Science at WSU Vancouver, an extension of the College of Engineering and Architecture in Pullman. Dr. Hakan Gurocak was appointed as director of the new school.

We look forward to new challenges and continued growth at WSU Vancouver, while working closely with the community to meet the higher education needs of Southwest Washington.

—H.A. Dengerink, Ph.D., Chancellor



Photo by Cliff Barbour.

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WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY VANCOUVER • Fall 2004

Community Report



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY VANCOUVER CONDUCTS SELF-STUDY *to* EXAMINE FUTURE ROLE *in* SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

There may soon be a four-year university in Southwest Washington. Pending approval by the WSU Board of Regents, the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) and the Washington State Legislature, WSU Vancouver could admit freshman students as early as Fall 2006.

The Washington State Legislature asked each branch campus to "examine its instructional programs, costs, research initiatives, student enrollment characteristics, programs offered in partnership with community and technical colleges, and regional context and make a recommendation by Nov. 15, 2004, to HECB regarding the future evolution of the campus."

Over the past several months, WSU Vancouver solicited input regarding the future direction of the university from the local community, community stakeholders, and students, staff and faculty in higher education. Additionally, internal work groups were formed to examine the academic model, role/mission and budget.

To determine the community interests in WSU Vancouver's continued development, approximately 4,000 individuals throughout Southwest Washington were surveyed. A clear majority of the community expressed a preference that WSU Vancouver expand to include a four-year program (70%). Respondents in all categories supported the university retaining a role as a research institution.

Based on the self-study process, WSU Vancouver recommends:

- Lower-division: Expand the role of WSU Vancouver to include selected freshman and sophomore students; approximately 200 freshman in fall 2006.



WSU Vancouver students meet for a study session in the reading room located in the campus Library. Photo by Cliff Barbour.

- Upper-division/Transfer: WSU Vancouver's upper-division transfer and graduate track should continue to grow at approximately 100 students per year.
- Academic Plan: Expand degree offerings in high-demand clusters; science and liberal arts, health and human services, high-tech and information sciences, education and business.
- Role and Mission: WSU Vancouver should retain their existing name and continue to be a campus within the WSU system, under the governance and administration of WSU and the WSU Board of Regents. The campus should continue developing as an urban or metropolitan university with a strong research component focusing on local community issues.

To view the complete self-study report, visit www.vancouver.wsu.edu/WSUV_Self_Study.htm. For more information, contact Analese Forster, Assistant to the Chancellor, at (360) 546-9580.

SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

WSU Vancouver held its fourth annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon on September 24. When the University was first established in 1989, scholarship support totaled \$500. Today, over \$1.6 million in annual and endowed scholarship funds provided more than \$100,000 in individual scholarship support to over 80 students.

These scholarships, ranging in size from \$500 to \$5,000, are supported by private gifts to WSU Vancouver from alumni and friends, businesses, organizations and foundations.

To learn how you can contribute to WSU Vancouver scholarships, contact Jennifer Crooks at 360-546-9604. Tax-deductible gifts to WSU Vancouver are given to the WSU Foundation, a non-profit corporation that raises and manages



Heidi Rath is presented with the Shirley Mae Nelson Memorial Scholarship. Photo by Joe Winton.

private gifts from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit of Washington State University.

WSU VANCOUVER GALLERIES *present...*

Artist Katherine Ace
Nov. 1 to Dec. 10
Student Services Building Gallery

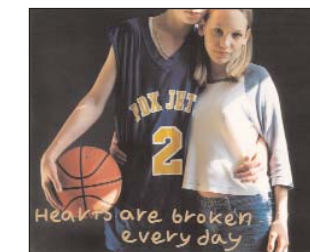
Ace works primarily in alkyd/oil on canvas and teaches figure painting at Portland State University. Her work postulates and subverts realism, has a feminist orientation and is rich in color, depth and meaning. The artist describes contradiction as the main thematic connection in her work and notes, "I am interested in the role of dark feelings, thoughts and states of mind in the process of transformation."



Cooking Lesson 300

Artist Fritz Liedtke
Nov. 22 to Feb. 25
Engineering Life Sciences Building Gallery

Hearts are Broken Every Day is a series of photographic portraits of adolescent-aged children—sometimes alone, sometimes with their significant others. The youths observations about life, relationships and secret, are at once insightful and heartbreaking, personal and universal among viewers of any age. Liedtke is a professional photographer whose work has been shown in numerous galleries and can be found in several private collections.



Hearts are Broken Every Day

WSU Vancouver Galleries are open during building hours: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please contact 360-546-9580.

WSU VANCOUVER ENGINEERING *and* SCIENCE INSTITUTE OPENS ITS DOORS *to* OVER 50 FRESHMAN STUDENTS



Dr. Christine Portfors is an assistant professor of biological sciences, with a research focus on auditory processing of complex sounds. Photo by Cliff Barbour.

For the first time in WSU Vancouver's history, freshman students are attending classes on campus. It's a result of the WSU Vancouver Engineering and Science Institute—a partnership with WSU Vancouver, Clark College and Lower Columbia College.

Through the Institute, students can pursue a bachelor's degree in biology or computer science or a bachelor's or master's degree in mechanical engineering. All Institute classes are taught on the WSU Vancouver campus, allowing students access to state-of-the-art computer and research laboratories, a library collection boasting over 20,000 book titles and 9,000 print and electronic journal subscriptions, fitness center, outdoor sport court and opportunities to get involved in student government or on-campus organizations.

Plus, students pay community college prices for the first two years—once junior-level status is

reached, students move smoothly into the WSU Vancouver degree program.

"I'm excited about the opportunity the Institute provides for students to learn in small classes with one-on-one instructor contact," said Robin Terjeson, Coordinator of the WSU Vancouver Engineering and Science Institute. "Students will be able to complete their degrees in computer science or engineering in four years, when it can take five at many colleges."

The priority deadline for Fall 2005 enrollment in the WSU Vancouver Engineering and Science Institute is February 15, 2005. For more information or to arrange a personal visit with WSU Vancouver's Institute Enrollment Coordinator, call (360) 546-9779 or visit www.vancouver.wsu.edu/institute.

LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS EXCEL *in* BUSINESS, COLLEGE, MARRIAGE & PARENTHOOD

Juggling college courses, married life, two children and a new company can be a daunting task. But Elizabeth and William Palma make it look easy. And, to top off their success, this spring the Palmas were awarded the 2004 Pacific Northwest Student Entrepreneur Award, a regional honor administered by Seattle University.

In 2002, the Palmas launched Palmabriz, which sells equipment to food processing companies in the United States, Spain, Central and South America and Thailand. The company's primary customers are businesses that process canned foods.

Elizabeth and William are both currently pursuing bachelor's degree in business administration at WSU Vancouver. "We like the small campus atmosphere and that it is close to home, enabling us to raise a family and go to school at the same time," said Elizabeth, on why they decided to

attend WSU Vancouver.

The Palmas moved to Vancouver in 1998, relocating from San Francisco. Both were born in Nicaragua. The couple has two sons, William, 6, and Roberto, 4. "They like to help out with the business," William commented jokingly. "They answer the phone in our home office and say 'Thank you for calling Palmabriz.' "

In November, the Palmas traveled to Chicago to attend the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization conference. They were joined by their WSU Vancouver business professor, Dr. U.N. Umesh, who nominated the couple for the Student Entrepreneur Award. "Dr. Umesh interacts with students in and out of the classroom and truly cares how we (students) grow in the community," said William.

This fall the Palmas hope to continue their success

with the launch of a second business—a web site to assist local businesses in marketing to the Latino population.



Elizabeth and William Palma on the WSU Vancouver campus. Photo by Joe Winton.

THANK YOU *to* OUR DONORS

Listed below are those who have generously supported WSU Vancouver in the University's fiscal year July 1, 2003, to October 31, 2004. WSU Vancouver looks to the broad-based community support of corporations and foundations, alumni, friends, faculty and staff to continue our progress. Our sincere thanks to all of you for helping to make a difference for WSU Vancouver and our community.

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