EWU Renames College

Eastern’s College of Science, Health and Engineering (CSHE) is now the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (CSTEM). The name of the college was formally approved Jan. 30 by the EWU Board of Trustees.

This change was predicated by the creation of the new College of Health Science and Public Health, which replaced the “health” programs from CSHE into the new unit. Those programs include the Departments of Health Science and Public Health, which placed the “health” departments and programs to the new college was that the remaining science college was cut in half. By whatever metric one measures, the move was a significant change for the STEM education and research: Chemistry/Biochemistry, Geology, Geosciences, Forensic Science, and the School of Computing and Information Sciences.

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Calendar | Third Thursdays


March 19, 2015 (Thursday): THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN SPOKANE: Dave Raymonds from Access for All Spokane will be the presenter at the EWU Spokane campus, Phase I Building Refreshments, 9:30 a.m.; meeting, 10 a.m., Phase 1, EWU Spokane campus.

Richard Sola

“While in Spokane, Sanger met two people with whom she developed important long-term connections,” Sola said. “One was Lillian Fassett, a wealthy socialite, who became a close friend and confidante of Sanger for many years. The other was a young engineer, Herbert Simonds, who became Sanger’s business partner in 1925. They manufactured and marketed the first legal contraceptive device for women in the U.S.”

Sola told Eastern students, employees and other community members at the presentation that during her 1916 Spokane event, Sanger vividly described her nursing experiences as an obstetrics nurse in the slums of New York City, where women could not legally or practically obtain effective birth control.

“Those months after her Spokane visit, Sanger opened her first birth control clinic in New York City, which was quickly shut down by authorities,” Sola said. “Sanger was arrested and brought to trial under obscenity laws. Lillian Fassett traveled to New York to support Sanger during this ordeal.”

Sola also covered Sanger’s connection with Emma Goldman and others who advocated for birth control in Spokane.

A native of Washington, Sola graduated from the University of California, San Diego, with a degree in history. After graduating from the University of San Diego School of Law, Sola was a practicing attorney for 20 years, representing clients in state and federal courts. From 1998 until retiring last summer, he was employed in a variety of management positions with EWU’s Early Head Start, a federally funded program that provides comprehensive, integrated services to low-income infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families in Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille counties.

Sola frequently is a guest lecturer at local universities and community organizations, with an emphasis on social history. He is a consultant to the newly formed Spokane Mental Health Companionship Program, a local ecumenical project. He is finishing pre-production on a documentary short film to be completed by next winter and is beginning pre-production on a second documentary to be completed by summer 2016.

The formation of the STEM College provides a wealth of exciting opportunities for visibility, community engagement, professional collaborations and research with regional technology businesses, and science education programs with K-12 and the community colleges, plus research for the faculty and students in STEM fields.”

Case emphasized CSTEM will continue the tradition of excellence Eastern has developed in STEM-related fields. This includes long-standing relationships between the Biology Department and Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge and the Upper Columbia tribes, as well as technical programs in the School of Computing and Engineering Sciences, which have established themselves as vital resources for the economy in eastern Washington over the past decade.

In addition to Biology, Engineering & Design and Computer Science, the college will consist of departments focused on STEM education and research: Chemistry/Biochemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Physics and the Environmental Science program.

Readers’ Theater Meets Feb. 25

EWULA Readers’ Theater will meet Wednesday, Feb. 25. This is a change from the usual date, which would have been the fourth Thursday. The group will meet at the regular place and time, JPK Library LO3 at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Rita Seedorf, rta.seedorf@gmail.com.

Golf Sponsor

Amy Sanderson, PT, OCS, Apex Physical Therapy

Save the Date

Mark your calendar now for the President’s Retirees Breakfast, 8 a.m., May 21, 2015, at the Walter and Myrtle Powers Reading Room in Hargreaves Hall. You will receive an invitation in the mail.
**Announcements from the President**

One of my major goals this term was to complete the "Strategic Plan" for the EWURA (a project started by Niel Zimmerman in 2013) and have it as a part of the governing documents for the organization. At the last EWURA Board meeting, the plan was accepted and voted in as an amendment to the EWURA Constitution. This plan is now posted on the EWURA website. The next step is the implementation of this plan, which would strengthen the RA by increasing the number of active members in the organization, providing ongoing programs/information of interest to the membership, and ensuring the commitment to our scholarship for students attending EWU.

As to the next step, I need everyone's help. I am asking that current members of the RA bring along a retiree to an upcoming event. This is especially important for those who have never attended a meeting/program or who haven't been to a meeting/program in a long time. I think we need more involvement from the recently retired staff and faculty to ensure that the EWURA continues to grow and achieve the goals of the organization.

Following the Feb. 19 meeting, there will only be a month before the first day of spring is upon us, and then a very important part of the RA begins not long after that – The Monday Morning Golf League. I will be sending out more information about this great opportunity and some exciting changes/additions that I have been working on this winter. This year, Dennis Reed and I will be overseeing the league. We are very excited to increase the number of golfers as well as the fun to be had! Stay tuned and get ready!

As always, I hope everyone is doing well, staying healthy, and continuing to smile. Be safe, and I hope to see you at a future meeting/program.

Go Eags!!

Jerry Uppinghouse,
2014-2015 EWURA President

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**EWURA Golden Eagle Scholarship Fund – Bequests**

If you’re looking for a simple way to give to the Golden Eagle Scholarship Fund, a bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make.

A charitable bequest is a bequest written in a will or trust that directs a gift to be made to the EWU Foundation (a qualified exempt charity) when you pass away. One benefit of a charitable bequest is that it can help you save estate taxes by providing your estate with a charitable deduction for the value of the gift. Better yet, a charitable bequest enables you to continue the EWURA legacy of impacting Eastern students who will receive the Golden Eagle Scholarship long after you are gone.

Other deferred giving options include the bequest of an IRA or an insurance policy. With careful planning, your family can also avoid paying income taxes on the assets they receive from your estate.

To learn more, contact Dennis Reed, EWUF Director of Planned Giving, 509-359-6901 or email at dreed8@ewu.edu.

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**Disability Support Services Then and Now**

**Kevin Hills**

Word of mouth has spread Eastern Washington University’s reputation for helping students with disabilities to succeed, which has had a great deal to do with the dramatic increase in the numbers of students who utilize the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS). Last academic year, DSS served 508 students. This year, that number is up to 722.

“The best thing we have at Eastern is a lot more collaboration,” said DSS Director Kevin Hills at his Jan. 15 presentation to EWURA. “We have open conversations about students to help them succeed. We take care of our students.”

DSS is dedicated to the coordination of appropriate and reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities that are based on individual needs. Such accommodations give each student equal opportunities to learn, participate in campus life, grow emotionally and socially, and successfully complete a program of study.

Hills and his staff assess students with a wide variety of physical and mental impairments that substantially limit one or more major life activities, including seeing, hearing, walking, caring for themselves, performing manual tasks, speaking, breathing, learning and working. DSS works with Eastern faculty and staff to develop accommodation plans for these students, which may include alternative textbooks (such as Braille or electronic), sign language interpreters, recorded lectures, ergonomic furniture, longer time allowance for testing, proctored testing in a designated facility, service animals, etc.

Some accommodations may prove more challenging than others. Hills described a situation in which a student was allergic to another student’s service dog, so class schedules had to be rearranged, and the classroom had to be thoroughly vacuumed with a HEPA filter after the dog left. “Sometimes we have to get creative,” Hills said.

“The biggest hurdle for our students is math,” Hills said. “But the ALEKS (math placement assessment at EWU) program is helpful. It is self-paced, computer-based, and you have to pass each level before you move up to the next.”

Hills said the majority of students who receive help from DSS earn their degrees and find rewarding employment.

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**Our Apologies**

Retirees in the greater Spokane area may have noticed that the postcard they received in January not only arrived after the postcard they received in January not only arrived after the January meeting, but the recipient name was incorrect. Our Apologies

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**In Memoriam**