



# DIRECTIONS



WASHBURN<sup>TM</sup>  
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

FALL 2015

LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD'



FALL 2015 Vol. 8, NO. 1  
'LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD'

*Directions* is a publication for Alumni & Friends

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**Biology:** John Mullican

**Chemistry:** Stephen Angel

**Communication Studies:** Kathy Menzie

**Computer Information Sciences:** Bruce Mechtly

**Education:** Cherry Steffen

**English:** Corey Zwikstra (interim)

**History:** Tom Prasch

**Kinesiology:** Roy Wohl

**Mass Media:** Kathy Menzie

**Mathematics and Statistics:** Kevin Charlwood

**Modern Languages:** Miguel Gonzalez-Abellas

**Music:** Ann Marie Snook

**Philosophy and Religious Studies:** Russ Jacobs

**Physics and Astronomy:** Steve Black

**Political Science:** Mark Peterson

**Psychology:** Cindy Turk

**Sociology and Anthropology:** Cheryl Childers

**Theatre:** Paul Prece

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**Cover:** Maria Haag, Objects in Mirror, oil on canvas

Mulvane Art Museum, Charles & Margaret Pollak Award, 2014

# Looking Back, Looking Forward.

This year we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Washburn University. In 1865, the founders of Lincoln College, as Washburn was originally named, sought to provide access to higher education for students of all backgrounds. Faculty dedicated to student opportunity and success have long been a Washburn tradition and in this issue, you can read about a few of the many teaching, scholarly, and creative projects of our current faculty.

Often anniversary celebrations focus on recalling the past. However, observing the vigorous activity on campus this fall, I find myself much more focused on the future. From the vantage point of the new CAS office in Morgan, I've been able to watch the final bits of construction and landscaping of the Welcome Center/Morgan Hall. Not only does the new Morgan Hall offer a one-stop place making it easier for students to enroll, register, and pay bills, it also offers new classrooms and spaces to socialize. Our forensic building, which will be shared with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, also opens this fall. And construction of the new residence hall next to Stoffer has begun and will be ready for students in another year. All of these campus construction projects have made this a year of looking forward.

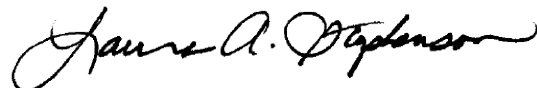
When we moved into our new space in Morgan Hall, there were three things I wanted in order to make our new home truly complete. First, I wanted a display case for recent faculty publications and awards. I'm pleased to report it's already full and I may be in need of a second one.

Second, I wanted our walls to be adorned with faculty and student artwork to showcase the abundant creative spirit here at Washburn. One of these recently-installed paintings, *Objects in Mirror* by Maria Haag (AR '14), is featured on our cover. This work, on loan from the Mulvane Art Museum, was the winner of the Charles and Margaret Pollak Award for outstanding student art in 2014. This painting reminds us of our mortality and challenges us to seize the opportunities of today. I find this an apt message for this special anniversary year; it leads me to think of what remains after we're gone. Faculty have a legacy that continues in the lives of the students they've taught and advised. Early benefactors of Washburn such as John Ritchie and Ichabod Washburn, who helped establish and sustain Washburn in its early days, are still remembered for their contributions. Many of you are currently creating a new legacy with your donations to scholarships, capital campaigns, and other funds that have helped the College to thrive. Looking back and looking forward, the generosity of our donors continues to impact the lives of our students, the university, and our community.

The final thing I wanted was to show off our new home to our alumni and friends; we hope you'll stop by our space in Morgan Hall for a visit.

Thank you for your support as we embark on the next 150 years.

Sincerely yours,



Laura A. Stephenson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences



# From Nobel Laureate to Poet Laureate

Washburn's College of Arts and Sciences has had the distinction of being the only university in Kansas that can claim a Nobel Prize Laureate among its alumni: Dr. Earl Sutherland, *bs chemistry '37*. This year we welcomed another laureate to our fold: Associate Professor of English Eric McHenry was named the 2015-17 Poet Laureate of Kansas.

Dr. Earl Sutherland, Jr. was presented with a Nobel Prize in 1971 "for his discoveries concerning the mechanisms of the action of hormones." He received a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from Washburn in 1937 and then earned a medical degree from Washington University in 1942. His most notable contribution was the elucidation of the epinephrine (adrenaline) hormonal signaling pathway in animal cells. Sutherland described and delineated the role of cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP), an organic molecule that is critical in the cellular signaling pathways of a multitude of species. Dr. Sutherland's pioneering work helped establish a research paradigm that defines modern biochemistry, molecular biology and drug design.

## Interest in medicine

Sutherland was born in Burlingame, Kansas in 1915 to a family that greatly valued education. His interest in medicine began in high school after reading a book about Louis Pasteur. He later earned his B.S. degree from Washburn. "Dr. Earl Sutherland's accomplishments reflect the potential offered to all Washburn students compelled by the sciences," said Stephen Angel, chair of the chemistry department. "They speak to the continuous commitment of Washburn University to provide the latest in scientific instrumentation and to provide professional faculty committed to inspiring the next generation of contributing scientists."

After serving as a surgeon in World War II, Sutherland returned to Washington University to conduct research in pharmacology. He was appointed director of the department of pharmacology



Dr. Earl Sutherland receiving the Nobel Prize in 1971.

at Case Western Reserve University in 1953 and it was there that he made his Nobel-winning discovery of cAMP. He worked as a physiology professor at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine from 1963 to 1973, and later became a distinguished biochemistry professor at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, where he worked until his death in 1974.

## Additional recognition

Sutherland is well known for his work in molecular biology and his findings resulted in new techniques in areas including cancer, cholera, and diabetes research. Other recognitions include election to the National Academy of Sciences (1966), the Albert Lasker Award for basic medical research (1970) and the National Medal of Science (1973).

Sutherland's work exemplifies Washburn's core values of excellence and innovation. "Dr. Sutherland's accomplishments also speak to the type of student drawn to Washburn — exceptional individuals who study consistently and care for others," said Angel. "They appreciate the individual science education and research opportunities at Washburn, and they continue to excel at the next level, whether that be in graduate/professional schools, education, government, or industry." To honor Dr. Sutherland and his notable achievements, a bronze bust of Sutherland is on display in Stoffer Science Hall.

## Stay

after Frost

by Eric McHenry

Fall's first gold is green.  
It falls somewhere between  
a joy and a concern.  
But soon the leaves will turn  
flamboyant with their doubt,  
like people falling out  
of love, becoming all  
the lovelier as they fall.

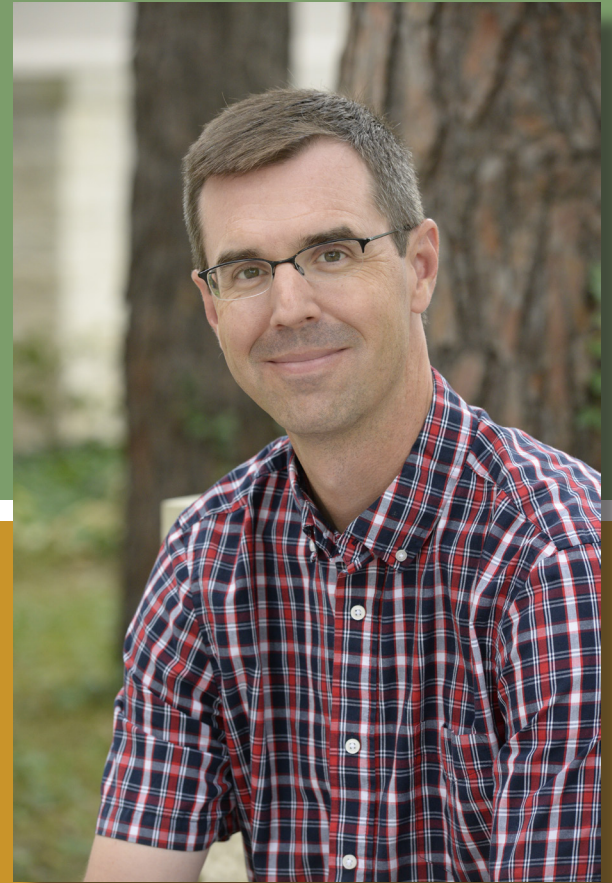
McHenry will be presenting  
a poet laureate address on  
Monday, April 25, 2016 at  
4:00 p.m. in the Bradbury  
Thompson Alumni Center.

Nationally-known poet, native-Topekan, and Associate Professor of English Eric McHenry, has held a passion for poetry as far back as he can remember. "I think I have always been a language person, and a word person" said McHenry. "Pleasing arrangements of words have always been one of the greatest sources of joy in my life." He now has a great opportunity to share his love of poetry with our state after being named 2015-2017 Poet Laureate of Kansas by the Kansas Humanities Council.

### Love for Kansas

Equal to his regard for poetry is McHenry's regard for Kansas. "I'm very much a hometown advocate," McHenry said. "It's a huge part of my identity and my family has been here since the mid-nineteenth century." Being named poet laureate unites his two interests.

As poet laureate, McHenry will visit, and revisit, six regions in the state of Kansas periodically over the next two years, engaging in readings and presentations to promote poetry. The program aims to provide smaller communities, and those with fewer resources, the opportunity to learn from a prize-winning poet. "It's really set up so as to emphasize giving communities that are off the beaten path a little bit the opportunity to have the Poet Laureate visit" said McHenry. "It's very much about outreach and grassroots."



### Other accomplishments

McHenry's work has been featured in notable publications including *Poetry International*, *Slate* and *Yale Review*. His poetry reviews have been featured in the *New York Times* and *Columbia Magazine*. McHenry won the Kate Tufts Discovery Award in 2007 for his first book of poems, "Potscrubber Lullabies" and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize for poetry seven times. He also received the Theodore Roethke Prize in 2011 for his distinguished work.

McHenry is glad to see his hard work paying off, especially when he comes from a place with so many talented writers. "I say only half-jokingly that it's my aspiration to be the seventh best Topekan poet of my generation" he said. "I'm grateful for the recognition; I'm grateful for the opportunity that it represents; I'm grateful that it's a Kansas thing particularly."

# Archaeology and Cutting-Edge Forensic Science



Archaeology is generally associated with literally digging into past cultures. Starting this fall, with the addition of the new Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) building on Washburn's campus, students will have the opportunity to apply archaeological techniques to criminal investigations with the new forensic emphasis in the Bachelor of Science program in anthropology.

### **Origins of Forensic Anthropology**

Forensic anthropology is a union of two anthropological sub-disciplines--physical anthropology and archaeology. "Physical anthropology examines skeletal changes, growth and development and how disease affects bones" said Mary Sundal, associate professor of anthropology. "And then archaeology uses field methods to recover artifacts or human remains to recover the past."

Forensic anthropology developed rapidly in the 1970s as anthropologists applied their skills outside of the classroom. "You had anthropologists that already had this knowledge and they started working for the police or FBI to help identify skeletal remains" said Sundal. Forensic anthropologists collect measurements of human remains to create a biological profile based on age, ancestry, and biological sex. The newest component to investigation in forensic anthropology is the use of DNA analysis.

### **Features of the KBI building**

In January of 2016, faculty and students will begin utilizing the new facilities. The facilities include a vehicle bay which will serve as an Anthropology-Criminal Justice lab classroom. There is also an outdoor space for practicing methods to recover remains, using replica skeletons. Students will engage in recovery operations as part of mock cases and gain useful applied experience.

### **Benefits to the department**

The lab will be a highly valuable addition to the sociology/ anthropology department. With the new space, the replica skeletons will be located in mobile table units in the classroom, which allows for the teaching and lab activities to occur in one place. The new forensic anthropology program also allows for a broadening of emphases within the sociology/anthropology department. "In the past our department has been really focused on cultural anthropology, but to bring in physical anthropology and have it be showcased is pretty awesome" said Sundal.



The Kansas Bureau of Investigation building on Washburn's campus.

*Opposite page:* Associate professor Mary Sundal teaches area middle school students about archaeology at Women in Science day.



# Department Chair Leadership

We look back at the impact left by beloved Art Department Chair Glenda Taylor and we look forward to a bright future with new Education Department Chair Cherry Steffen.

## Remembering a Friend

**“Prairie Memories | Glenda Taylor Clay”**  
Retrospective at the Mulvane Art Museum  
March 15 through May 22, 2016

The Washburn community lost a prominent and much-beloved leader earlier this year who leaves behind a great legacy and fond memories. Glenda Taylor, former art department chair, was killed in a bicycle/truck collision on June 7, 2015 as she was warming up for the Kansas State Time Trials in Walnut, Kansas.

Taylor had a vibrant personality and touched many lives extending well beyond the art department. She had a spark that was unique only to her. “It was that twinkle in her eyes that made you feel like she was just about to laugh at something, or make an astute observation” said Laura Stephenson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

### A life of art

Taylor had many interests including running and competitive cycling. She was a talented ceramicist, whose love for molding clay originates from her childhood days in rural Kansas. “Her first clay experiences involved digging in her father’s pasture” said Marydorsey Wanless, retired associate professor of photography.

Taylor grew up in Chapman, Kansas and earned a bachelor’s degree from Bethany College, a Master of Arts degree from Emporia State University, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Kansas State University. Taylor joined the Washburn faculty in 1987, teaching art education, ceramics and sculpture, and served as chair of the art department for 17 years.



“The Creek” by Glenda Taylor

### Putting students first

Though Taylor was involved in many activities, she always made her students a top priority. Eleanor Heimbaugh, a student of Taylor’s, earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Washburn in 2013. Of Taylor, she said “She wore a lot of hats; sometimes she wore more than one at once, and she’d always do it with a happy heart. During her busy day of what seemed to me like saving our little world several times over, she’d always make time for a student in need.” In recognition of her dedication to students, Taylor was awarded the Muriel Clarke Student Life Award in 2013.

Taylor is remembered for her exemplary leadership, her bright demeanor, and her zeal for everything she did. “She touched us with her artistry” said Washburn University President Jerry Farley. “She touched us through her heart, her care for students, and her friendship.”

The Washburn University Foundation established the Glenda Taylor Memorial Fund. Contributions can be made by contacting the Foundation at 785.670.4483.



# Welcoming a Colleague



Education Professor Cherry Steffen teaches a class using common materials.

Cherry Steffen, professor and chair of the education department, has enjoyed a journey of diverse and valuable experiences prior to her current appointment at Washburn. As a student, Steffen originally planned to study music, but decided instead to pursue and complete a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Richmond. She taught sixth and seventh grade math and science for a few years before deciding to become a practicing scientist.

While earning a master's degree in botany from the University of South Florida, Steffen realized her passion for college-level teaching. This melding of her educational training and scientific background motivated her to complete a doctoral program in secondary science education at the University of South Florida.

Steffen joined the faculty of the department of elementary and early childhood education at Kennesaw State University, where she excelled in a variety of roles including professor, science educator and undergraduate coordinator.

## STEM education

While at Kennesaw State, Steffen developed a passion for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education while working with elementary schools that were STEM certified or were working toward STEM certification. "I always kept my finger in science education and at that time STEM education wasn't really a buzzword, but as it became popular, I began to realize that's where education needed to go," said Steffen.

Steffen sees STEM as something to incorporate into education from an early age. "STEM education is not separate courses, but is something we integrate throughout all education and it starts with the first day they walk into a school," said Steffen. She would like to develop further a program for Washburn students who have a desire to teach in the STEM fields at all levels (birth through high school).

## Teaching philosophy

Steffen has a unique teaching philosophy that centers around hands-on activities. "I don't see myself as a teacher" said Steffen. "I see myself as a facilitator, opening doors and allowing learning to happen. I fly a lot of paper airplanes, I blow a lot of bubbles, and I do a lot of things with straws and paper and strings in my classroom." She believes in using basic materials as opposed to elaborate lab materials to teach science education as a way to help future educators see that science can be taught in any classroom and with common items that are readily available and inexpensive.

## Looking toward the future

Steffen is energized at the opportunity to join her colleagues in the education department as they create a bright future for their students. She plans to foster a focus on STEM. "My vision is that we create a program here at Washburn that not only prepares STEM teachers for high school and middle school, but also for elementary and early childhood programs" said Steffen.

# Research Into the Past Provides Healing for the Future



Professor of History Rachel Goossen studied how the Mennonite Church handled the sexually abusive behavior of prominent pacifist and Mennonite theologian John Howard Yoder.

In late 2013, Rachel Goossen received a call from the executive director of Mennonite Church USA, asking her to investigate the denomination's responses to the long legacy of sexual abuse by the late theologian John Howard Yoder. Goossen was invited to conduct this research because of her reputation as a scholar of Mennonite history.

Yoder (1927-1997), was one of the most highly-regarded theologians and ethicists of the 20th century, known for his teachings on nonviolence and for his influential book *The Politics of Jesus*. Until 1984, he served as a faculty member of Goshen Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, and he taught at the University of Notre Dame until his death in 1997. Throughout his 30-year career at the University of Notre Dame, he remained a faculty member in good standing.

In sharp contrast to his image as a respected theologian, Yoder is now known to have sexually abused an estimated 100 women over an estimated twenty-year period. Some of Yoder's victims were students whom he invited to engage in theological "experiments" for developing a new sexual ethic; others were women he met during travels to Europe, Latin America, Africa and elsewhere as an academic and an ordained church leader. Though some of his colleagues in Mennonite institutions were aware of this abuse and tried to persuade him to stop, they were unsuccessful.

### **Why it was hidden**

Through her research, Goossen explored the historical and legal dynamics that permitted Yoder to continue his predatory patterns despite a growing awareness of his actions. First, in the 1970s, there was no language nor formal processes in place to address sexual harassment in the workplace. Second, the charismatic influence of a powerful mentor who justified his abuse with theological reasoning contributed to his victims' reluctance to report. Many feared they would not be believed, or would be blamed for the abuse. Third, there was a conspiratorial effort to preserve the reputation of both Yoder and of the Mennonite seminary, where he had served as president from 1970-1973.

### **Research and recognition**

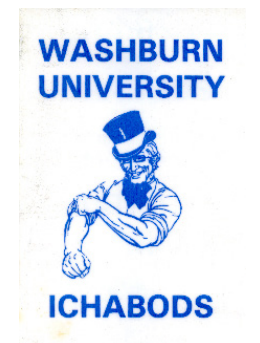
To conduct her research, Goossen traveled to northern Indiana to examine previously sealed records at the seminary and the Archives of the Mennonite Church, and to visit the University of Notre Dame. She conducted oral history interviews with 29 individuals, mostly in Indiana, but also in Kansas and other locations. Most of her interviewees were Yoder's administrative and faculty colleagues, but six were his victims. Goossen's article, "Defanging the Beast': Mennonite Responses to John Howard Yoder's Sexual Abuse," appeared in *The Mennonite Quarterly Review* in January 2015. Since then, *The Washington Post*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Christian Century*, and other national publications have reported on Goossen's work.

In April 2015, Goossen received the A. Roy Myers Excellence in Research Award from Washburn University for her scholarship, including her recent work investigating Yoder. "Receiving the Myers award was meaningful to me because my research involved conversations with many people who care about history, who care about honesty and transparency, and now acknowledge the significant harms that were perpetrated by institutional failures to stop sexual abuse by an eminent religious leader," Goossen said.

Goossen's research efforts have also provided healing for individuals involved in this tragedy. During interviews, some of Yoder's colleagues acknowledged how long they have carried burdens of guilt and shame, mostly in silence. This past summer, Goossen attended a public "service of lament" held by the Mennonite Church, meant to acknowledge past failures to stop sexual abuse. The denomination has now established a fund for victims' expenses for counseling and other needs, and has passed a resolution on sexual abuse, addressing past failures and focusing on implementing policies and education to prevent future abuse.

# The Ichabod: Standing the Test of Time

Assistant Professor of Art History, Kelly Watt is studying the prominence of the Ichabod mascot, logo and terminology from its origin to today.



The Ichabod has long been an essential part of Washburn's identity. Kelly Watt, assistant professor of art history, is investigating which elements of the mascot and "Ichabod" name have been modified, which have remained constant, and how this balancing act has contributed to its enduring success.

Watt's work will culminate in an article published in an interdisciplinary, edited book of essays related to on-campus space. She has been working with Washburn University Archivist Martha Imperato to examine how Washburn developed the Ichabod mascot and the visual impact it has had on the campus over the long history of our institution.

### Discoveries

Watt uses an art historical approach to the emblem and its reception over time. She notes that the original Ichabod mascot/logo designed by Bradbury Thompson in 1938 reflects the palette from the 30s; cyan, magenta, and yellow. In the 1980s, the Ichabod logo was modified to look more naturalistic, muscular and strong, with rolled up sleeves, but it did not catch on. "Instead, the more historical and abstract design is the one that persisted" Watt observed.

Watt also explains that the Ichabod was conspicuous in some decades more than others based on the cultural trends of the time. "It has been visible in a sort of waxing and waning way" said Watt. For instance, the Ichabod was popular in parades

and at homecoming in the 50s, but Ichabod was hardly seen in the 1960s. In the 1980s, concern was raised over the mascot because of claims that he was not representative of a diverse student body. "He's a white, male industrialist in a top hat" said Watt. However, the use of the popular term 'Bod' to refer to all members of the Washburn community in the late 1980s and on helped to alleviate that tension. According to Watt, "This verbal shorthand, combined with the stylized logo, allowed students to side-step the historical specifics of Ichabod Washburn."

### Relevance today

Ichabod is clearly thriving on Washburn's campus today--seen on bus stop shelters, throughout the new Morgan Hall and the outside of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation building. "...And the adaptability of the term Bod continues to appeal to students, as evidenced by the many t-shirts and student-run organizations cheekily using this slang" adds Watt.

Though the mascot and logo are slightly different than the original 1930s design, and the term "Bod" is a shortened version of the original term "Ichabod," Washburn has been able to retain its mascot in an impactful way that honors its heritage and history. "The full embrace of Ichabod by students, alumni, and administration is due to the exceptional way that the emblem manages to represent both an honorable past and a dynamic, successful future" concludes Watt.

## The Washburn Game Club

Washburn's Game Club worked collaboratively through the past year to design a hybrid role playing and table top game to present at Gen Con in Indianapolis this summer. Gen Con is the largest table top and role playing game convention in North America. The game centers on the history and future of Washburn University.

Participants play various roles to save Washburn University from evil while learning about Washburn. Participants included Areli Bermudez-Villarreal, David Dennis, Colton Goeffert, Shekinah Palermo, Kent Van De Mark, Aaron White and faculty mentor Gaspar Porta.



# Department Highlights





## ART

This summer **Art** faculty members Kelly Watt and Marydorsey Wanless organized a trip to Peru (*shown above*), which included visits to Machu Picchu and the Amazon basin as well as the opportunity to see ancient and modern Peruvian art. The faculty art show in the Mulvane Art Museum opens Nov. 6. Azyz Sharafy was awarded with the Herrick Faculty Award for Outstanding Service. Marydorsey Wanless retired from the art department.

The **Biology** Department welcomes Lecturer Heather Snyder and Assistant Professor Matthew Cook and plans to hire a new faculty member with a specialty in forensic biology. Professor John Mullican was awarded the inaugural Excellence in Teaching Science Award (*shown above*), an award provided by a generous alumnus, Dr. John P. Slater. Christian Gomez, *bs biology '13*, is now a doctoral candidate in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at the University of Kansas after successfully passing his comprehensive exams this past summer.

In March two Washburn students from the **Chemistry** department presented their research in a poster session at the 147th annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science at Pittsburg State University. Jalen Dickson won first place and Aaron Stadler won second place in Undergraduate Poster Presentation. Dickson's research mentor was Professor Stephen Angel and Stadler's mentor was Professor Shaun Schmidt.

The Washburn mock trial team, coached by Associate Professor of **Communication Studies** Jim Schnoebelen, finished in the national semifinals in 2014-15. At regionals, the team pulled off an 8-0 sweep over schools such as Kansas State,

*Opposite page:* Students performing in the Spring 2015 theatre production of *The Glass Menagerie*.

## BIOLOGY

## COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Creighton and Air Force. Washburn Debate (*shown above*) ended its competitive season by winning the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence, resulting in the best overall record in the nation.

**Computer Information Sciences** Professor Nan Sun and her students Michaela Saunders, Keval Shah and Zachary Smith were awarded the 2015 Jay Liebowitz Outstanding Student Research Award by the International Association for Computer Information Systems. Sun also was awarded the IACIS Director's Award.

**Education** Professor Judith McConnell-Farmer will be taking another group of students to Belize from December 28, 2015-January 11, 2016. They will volunteer and tutor in an orphanage and an island school, stay several days on an island, Caye Caulker, and see a Mayan Temple. The Student Life team presented the Achieving Excellence award to Tracie Lutz, lecturer in the Education Department.

**English** Professor Danny Wade's Young Adult Literature class partnered with the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library on its Big Read Program, centered around the novel, *True Grit*, by Charlis Portis. Assistant Professor of English, Melanie Burdick, co-authored a book, *Community Fieldwork in Teacher Education*. Tom Averill's book, *A Carol Dickens Christmas: A Novel* was selected as one of 15 books on the Kansas Notable Book List; Averill was also awarded with the 2015 Byron Caldwell Smith Award for Fiction by the KU Hall Center for the Humanities. Roy Sheldon retired from the department.



## HISTORY

**History** Lecturer Tony Silvestri taught the Traditional Japan course in Spring 2015, which explores the history and development of Japanese civilization from the prehistoric period to the collapse of the Tokugawa shōgunate in 1868 and beyond. Along with standard assignments, students also participated in the development of a samurai-era strategy board game (*shown above*). Silvestri has been working to perfect this game—his own creation—since he first came up with the idea for the course. Silvestri’s libretto had its premiere in the children’s opera “The Pastry Prince,” in January at the Houston Opera. In light of its success, they have commissioned a new libretto from Silvestri. Kelly Erby, assistant professor, and Kerry Wynn, associate professor, received a grant for a fundamental revamping of survey American History courses to stress critical thinking.

The 2015 bachelor of science-athletic training program graduates in the **Kinesiology** department continued to exceed accreditation requirements with a 100 percent first time pass rate on the national athletic training board of certification examination. This is the third consecutive year that this program has had a 100 percent first time pass rate. Accreditation standards require programs to meet a 70 percent first time pass rate and the national average is just over 80 percent. For the fifth straight year, the BEd P-12 Physical Education Teaching majors volunteered and participated in Shawnee County’s Largest Workout, which attracted more than 500 participants to Yager Stadium in Moore Bowl. The PE majors designed and implemented games and activities for almost 100 children.

## KINESIOLOGY

(*Shown above: Physical Education Major Matthew Barlow*).

**Mass Media** alumna Emily Juhnke was named the December 2014 Sibberson recipient. Shortly after graduation, Juhnke left the states for Cape Town, South Africa, (*shown above: Emily is on the far right*) to complete an internship with the Hillsong African Foundation, where she focused on public relations and marketing. Charles Cranston spent the spring 2015 semester on sabbatical working on his film project. Rick Duet, Lecturer in Public Relations, joined the department.

H.C. Beckman retired from the **Mathematics & Statistics** department. On Nov. 17, around 200 high school students from 20 schools all over northeast Kansas will come to Washburn to compete in a 40-question competitive mathematics exam. Meanwhile, the teachers accompanying the students will meet to discuss current issues of importance to mathematics educators and/or participate in activities ready for the mathematics classroom. In December, nine students will complete the Putnam math competition, which is administered by the Mathematical Association of America. Largely considered the most prestigious undergraduate exam, its median score is often zero or one out of 120 questions. Junior math major Jonathan Tyler, who previously scored a nine on the exam, will take the exam again.

**Modern Languages** Professor Courtney Sullivan signed a contract with Palgrave Macmillan to publish her book, *The Evolution of the French Courtesan Novel: From de Chabrilan to Colette*, which will be available spring 2016. Lecturer Georgina





## MODERN LANGUAGES

Tenny led 11 students to Salamanca, Spain, where students spent the month in Spanish classes, taking siestas and taking daily cultural tours. (*Shown above: students in Salamanca, Spain*). They were able to see the timeless city of Segovia where they saw the Segovia Castle and the Roman Aqueduct Bridge. Spanish major Tirzah Richards completed her second semester studying abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina; she previously studied a semester in Asuncion, Paraguay.

**Music** Professor Gordon McQuere's students traveled to Russia this summer and were immersed in Russian music and culture with stops including Moscow and St. Petersburg. Craig Treinen, director of jazz studies and assistant professor, was inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame. Under the direction of Michael Mapp, director of bands, the Washburn Marching Band has grown by 25 percent over the last two years and now the band features 125 students. At this year's Mosaic concert (*shown above*), there were 16 performing groups including the Marching Blues, Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Choir, and the Jazz Orchestra. They also had a couple of newly formed groups; the low brass ensemble, and a 30 member saxophone choir. Washburn's Department of Music will be hosting the first Kansas Bandmasters Association State Marching Competition. There will be 21 bands in attendance, and it will be the second largest marching band event in the state.

The **Philosophy and Religious Studies** department has settled into its new home in the renovated Morgan Hall

## MUSIC

after working in Garvey 233 for more than 40 years. Klaus Ladstaetter, lecturer, taught a Philosophy of Language class at Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts in Pune, Maharashtra, India. Professor Barry Crawford (Religious Studies) is co-editing the third of a three-volume series of studies by members of the Society of Biblical Literature's Seminar on Ancient Myths and Modern Theories of Christian Origins. Ian Smith, assistant professor, will publish *The Intrinsic Value of Endangered Species* with Routledge Studies on Ethics and Moral Theory in the spring of 2016. Smith argues that a species' intrinsic value stems from its ability to flourish and advocates for preserving endangered species.

Karen Camarda, associate professor in the **Physics and Astronomy** department, helped lead the Women in Science Day for middle school girls in early October. Mark Smith planned and hosted Ad Astra Kansas Day at Washburn. Brian Thomas co-authored an article published in *Astrobiology*. Jacob Peterson received a B.A. in Physics (summa cum laude, 2009) and a J.D. at Washington University (cum laude, 2012). He is currently an attorney at Clark, Mize, and Linville Chartered in Salina. Physics major Brock Snyder coauthored an article published in *Astrobiology*.

Professor Bob Beatty was the WTE mentor for **Political Science** majors Jack Van Dam and John Shively (*shown on next page*) for a special research project that focused on studying how British candidates campaign when TV advertisements are banned. Van Dam and Shively travelled to the UK for the May



## POLITICAL SCIENCE    SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY

7, 2015, general election and spent time with candidates from the three major parties. Political Science Assistant Professor Linsey Modellmog headed a study abroad program this summer to the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands to study domestic politics of European nations and international relations. Mark Peterson, Political Science Department Chair, won Honorable Mention in the Best Editorial/Commentary category of the Kansas Association of Broadcasting's annual awards competition.

Assistant professor RaLynn Schmalzried Schmidt joined the **Psychology** department in the Spring 2015 semester and Assistant Professor Cindy Wooldridge joined the department in the fall. Michael McGuire was awarded with the Herrick Faculty Award of Outstanding Service. In the past year, 17 students presented their research at conferences. Gary Forbach has retired from the department.

The **Sociology and Anthropology** department sent Professor John Paul to Iceland, where students studied the culture and political economy, as well as enjoyed glaciers, waterfalls, and the beautiful surreal landscape (*shown above*). Professor Sharla Blank will accompany students to India with Art Professor Azyz Sharafy during the 2015-16 winter break. The Sociology/Anthropology Club adopted the theme, "Social Injustice/Social Inequality Awareness" for the 2015-2016 academic year and kicked off the year with the film *Pride* followed by a discussion. Club members are collaborating with

## THEATRE

other student organizations on a Voter Registration Drive on and around the Washburn campus through mid-October with the goal of 1,000 new voter registrations, as well as other related events.

The 2015-16 **Theatre** season will feature "Into the Woods" by Sondheim/Lapine Nov. 6-8; it's a re-telling of well-known fairytales, retooled and woven with lyrical wit and cleverness that is theatrical, thoughtful and wise. "The Nether" by Jennifer Haley will come in late February. This suspenseful drama will examine the moral responsibility in accessing virtual worlds without consequence. Finally, in April, the department will present "This Is Our Youth" by Kenneth Lonergan, which shares the story of 48 hilarious but bittersweet hours in the lives of three disaffected, pot-smoking, rebellious teenagers, lost souls in the dawn of 1982 and the Reagan era. Theatre Professor Paul Prece reprised his popular Art and Theatre in London course, which meant taking students to see theatre productions and the arts of London this summer (*shown above*).





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