Provost’s Message

As we approach the end of winter quarter, I want to update you on a number of important initiatives in Academic Affairs. Many of these are highlighted in the sections that follow, but one is particularly worthy of special notice.

I am pleased that Eastern Washington University will host the 2015 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). I want to thank Ron Dalla and his colleagues (Judd Case, Kelley Cullen, Greg duMonthier, Debbie Fockler, Kayleen Islam-Zwart, Sarah Keller, Dave McKay, Erin Morgan, Tom Shaffer, Kevin Decker, Shawn King, David Early, Teresa Conway, Brian Lynn, and Leslie Swannack) for developing this successful proposal. As you know, EWU has a longstanding tradition of engaging students in research. This is highlighted each year at our annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium. In addition, EWU traditionally sends more students to the NCUR conference than any other university in the state of Washington. The active involvement of our students in research and creative works is part of the DNA of EWU. I want to express my appreciation to you for your willingness to engage our students in these types of activities.

Looking ahead to April 16 - 18, 2015, we can expect nearly 3,000 students and faculty to attend the conference. As you can imagine, hosting an event of this size will pose many challenges and require all of us to make decisions that are supportive of the larger goal of hosting a successful event. We want the attendees to leave the conference with a much greater appreciation for the high caliber of work that is done at EWU. The conference also will be a great opportunity to recruit graduate students in many fields. I look forward to sharing more details of this event in the months to come.

Faculty Merit Awards

Beginning in Academic Year 2006 – 2007, an expanded Merit Award program has been used to recognize and reward outstanding contributions made by EWU faculty in teaching, scholarship, creative endeavors, and service. Nominated by their respective college personnel committees, Merit Award winners are selected by the Research, Service, and Scholarship Committee, composed of faculty representatives throughout Eastern’s academic areas and JFK Libraries. Names of the winners for the 2011 – 2012 academic year follow.

Outstanding Faculty Awards

In Teaching -
Kirk Damon Aiken, Marketing
Darcy Bradley, Education
Andrea Castillo, Biology
Christopher Kirby, Philosophy
Nadean Meyer, Librarian III
Yves Nievergelt, Mathematics
Jeffrey Stafford, Communication Studies
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
Bojian Xu, Computer Science

In Scholarship/Creative Activity -
Kirk Damon Aiken, Marketing
Nicholas Burgis, Chemistry/Biochemistry
Veronica Elias, Public Administration
Sara Goff, Theatre
Christopher Howell, English/Creative Writing
Igor Klyukanov, Communication Studies
Jamie Manson, Chemistry/Biochemistry
Nadean Meyer, Librarian III
Gregory Spatz, English/Creative Writing
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
In Service -
Darcy Bradley, Education
Thomas Hancock, Biology
Maria Hernandez-Peck, Social Work
Christopher Kirby, Philosophy
Samuel Ligon, English/Creative Writing
Nadean Meyer, Librarian III
LaVona Reeves, English
Jeffrey Stafford, Communication Studies
Harm-Jan Steenhuis, Management
Justin Young, English

Distinguished Faculty Awards
In Teaching – Darcy Bradley, Education
In Scholarship/Creative Activity – Sara Goff, Theatre
In Service – Maria Hernandez-Peck, Social Work

Professors of the Year
Darcy Bradley, Education
Nadean Meyer, Librarian III
Jeffrey Stafford, Communication Studies

President’s Award
Nadean Meyer, Librarian III

Congratulations to this year’s Merit Award winners, whose work within their academic disciplines and with Eastern’s students makes a vital contribution to academic rigor and excellence at EWU.

Spotlight on Nadean Meyer, President’s Award Winner

Congratulations to Ms. Nadean Meyer, Learning Resources Librarian for the EWU Libraries. Ms. Meyer was the recipient of not one, but five Merit Awards for 2011 – 2012. In addition, she was the only faculty member to receive the President’s Award.

“We are proud of Nadean and her accomplishments,” said Ted Otto, Interim Dean of Libraries. “I commend her for her level of service and for an extraordinary year.”

The Research, Service, and Scholarship Committee selected Ms. Meyer as one of ten recipients of 1) the Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching; 2) the Outstanding Faculty Award in Service; and 3) the Outstanding Faculty Award in Scholarship/Creative Works. These awards recognize excellence in the relevance, significance, and positive impacts of teaching, service, and scholarship/creative work practices.

In addition, Ms. Meyer was named as one of the Professor of the Year award winners, honoring faculty who have made the greatest contributions to the university through outstanding performance in two or more categories of teaching, scholarship/creative works, and/or service. Of all the Professor of the Year award winners, she also was named the President’s Award recipient, recognizing her as having made the greatest individual contribution to the university through outstanding performance in two or more categories of teaching, scholarship/creative works, and/or service in 2011 – 2012.

Library Faculty Chair Suzanne Milton, in her letter of support for the nomination, stated that “Nadean has and continues to successfully promote the foundational goals and mission of the EWU Libraries, which fully underscore and support the academic mission. Her ability to engage faculty and students and to promote critical thinking skills, diversity awareness, and to foster collaborative approaches to pedagogy is noteworthy.”
During 2011 – 2012, Ms. Meyer had several featured projects, including the Maurice Sendak exhibit and programs with the Jewish community, embedded instruction with the Athletic Training program for evidence-based clinical practice research skills, the acquisition of K12 databases for education students, and a Native American Youth resources grant and project with local tribes.

If you would like the extensive list of projects and contributions made by Nadean Meyer in 2011 – 2012, please contact the Libraries’ administrative office at 359-2264, alaskowski@ewu.edu.

**26 Days of Kindness**

The Eastern Washington University Community has mounted an extraordinary response to NBC News reporter Ann Curry’s call for 26 acts of kindness in memory of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings. The 26 Days of Kindness initiative, coordinated by EWU’s Office of Community Engagement, has brought together faculty, staff, students, and alumni in random acts of kindness. An initial listing of the acts follows; additional details and dates are posted on the Office of Community Engagement website: [http://www.ewu.edu/about/community-engagement/office-of-community-engagement.xml](http://www.ewu.edu/about/community-engagement/office-of-community-engagement.xml). It’s not too late to launch a 26 Days’ initiative; any area or individual who would like to do so would be welcome to contact Ms. Molly Ayers, Director of Community Engagement, at 359-2792 or 808-5472.

- Donation drive for the Crosswalk Teen Shelter (Student Activities Involvement and Leadership (SAIL) and Career Services)
- “Happiness Counts,” a presentation by John DeGraff, co-founder of the Happiness Initiative (JFK Libraries and CALE/PEHR)
- Stuffed animals for Sally’s House (Office of Global Initiatives)
- Household goods’ drive for the Mission Community Center (Office of Community Engagement)
- 26 pairs of socks and gloves for the Cheney Clothing Exchange (Office of the Provost)
- $26 from 26 units for Give It Up 4 EWU Scholarships (Office of Grant and Research Development)
- INBC blood drive (Alpha Omicron Pi)
- Valentines from the Academic Success Center
- Valentines with the Domino Project (Delta Sigma Theta)
- Hot chocolate and hugs in the PUB (Alpha Kappa Psi)
- Second Harvest food drive, volunteer income tax assistance (VITA), and KSPS pledge campaign (Beta Alpha Psi)
- Student appreciation study snack (College of Business and Public Administration)
- “Ask Us” booth in the PUB (Office of Undergraduate Studies and the Transfer Center)
- EWU Police appreciation dinner (Dressler Hall)
- Graduate Studies open house with 26 varieties of treats (Office of Graduate Studies)
- $26 for 26 people to the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery: please contact Carol King if you would like to be a donor (JFK Libraries and the Learning Commons)
Updates on Student Success and Retention

**Student Success and Retention Committee:** Known as the SSRC, this working group has partnered Faculty Organization leaders, university administrators, faculty, staff, and students to research issues related to student success and retention and to propose strategies to better meet the needs of students through enhanced advising, planning, and additional support services. The SSRC has selected general education reform and the first-year experience, faculty development, advising, and mentoring as current areas of focus. Working subcommittees for each area are being formed with research and reporting to follow. Faculty Organization President, SSRC Co-Chair, and EWU Professor Sam Ligon says:

> The SSRC is the most energizing and intellectually engaged committee I’ve ever been a part of. There's all this excitement in the meetings as faculty, students, administrators, and staff imagine, discuss, argue about, and debate various possible directions for university growth and development. Leaving these meetings, I'm always sort of stunned to think that we can be part of a significant, positive transformation of the university, especially regarding general education requirements—and just what we believe an EWU education should mean or should look like—as well as how faculty can play a more significant mentoring role in our students’ education, how advising can be more effective, and what a first-year experience program might look like. And all these areas of focus feel so interconnected, Gen. Ed. and mentoring and first-year experiences and advising and faculty development and student success and retention. The SSRC will be reporting to the senate in spring regarding our work this year. Next year we'll engage faculty across the university in various discussions regarding student success, what that might mean, how we currently facilitate success, what we might be able to do better, and how. I think every member of the committee is looking forward to these discussions.

**Reorganization Links Offices and Services for Enhanced Student Success:** The Office of Undergraduate Affairs, General University Academic Advisement, TRiO (a collection of programs to serve and assist low-income and first-generation college students and individuals with disabilities), and PLUS (Program Leading to University Success) have been realigned to report directly to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs and Student Success. The reorganization will strengthen collaborative ties and align the work plans of areas dedicated to enhancing student success and retention at EWU. Three new directors—Carmen Perez-Frayne, Ver Linda Washburn, and Keith Klauss—will oversee TRiO, PLUS, and EWU’s new transfer center.

**Transfer Center and Destination Eastern:** EWU’s transfer center establishes and maintains a systematic approach to course equivalencies, evaluates transcripts, enhances and delivers academic alignment, and manages the institution’s articulation process. In addition, the center provides centralized offerings in student support and academic expertise and offers a one-stop location for transfer students and transfer questions. As a result, incoming students can be more effectively supported, and staff and faculty can refer their transfer-related questions to a single source. The transfer center will help to position EWU to attract and serve a larger market share of this growing student population.

Each year nearly one thousand transfer students are admitted to EWU, and more than half of them come from the Community Colleges of Spokane (CCS). Destination Eastern, an early admission initiative, is a partnership between Eastern Washington University and CCS to improve graduation rates and reduce time-to-degree for students transferring to EWU. Students will receive assistance in aligning their CCS courses with their EWU majors while becoming familiar with EWU resources prior to transfer.

By identifying students early who intend to transfer to EWU, Eastern admission advisors can direct students towards specific majors and help with course selection that meet program prerequisites and graduation requirements within the structure of the Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA). The destination program allows students to be proactive in their four-year academic planning, to access EWU’s degree
audit system, and to manage their time and finances efficiently while progressing toward degree completion.

By all indicators, the EWU/CCS destination program will inaugurate a collaborative initiative that can be taken out to other EWU teaching sites in the state. As well, the destination initiative has gained the interest of the Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling (PNACAC). In May 2013, Transfer Center Director Keith Klauss, the EWU Admissions Office staff, and CCS colleagues will make a presentation on the destination initiative at PNACAC’s annual conference. The presentation will highlight the initiative’s uniquely collaborative nature among EWU’s divisions of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs and the Community College System.

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)

As noted on the NWCCU website, “Regional accreditation of postsecondary institutions is a voluntary, non-governmental, self-regulatory process of quality assurance and institutional improvement. It recognizes higher education institutions for performance, integrity, and quality to merit the confidence of the educational community and the public. Accreditation . . . qualifies institutions and enrolled students for access to federal funds to support teaching, research, and student financial aid.”

EWU’s 2013 self-evaluation report, a response to a recommendation from last year’s accreditation site evaluators, was submitted to NWCCU on March 1, 2013. Following a site visit to EWU in 2012, NWCCU evaluators found the university to be in substantial compliance with accreditation standards but asked for additional clarification on benchmarks for indicators and ratings of objectives in relation to fulfillment of the university mission.

In committee meetings and through a series of open forums, EWU’s 2013 report has been reviewed on a university-wide basis by faculty, staff, students, and central administrators. The 2012 and 2013 reports are accessible through the following link: http://access.ewu.edu/provosts-office/ewu-accreditation-home-page/nwccu-reports-and-guidelines.xml.

President’s Equipment Fund Nets Gains for Academic Areas

In fall 2012, EWU President Rodolfo Arévalo earmarked $450,000 in one-time funds as a way for academic areas to augment or replace outdated equipment and software. Priority was given to proposals directly related to components of the university’s strategic plan: student success; responsiveness to community and societal needs; engagement with community groups, businesses, organizations, and government; and programmatic visibility. All colleges and JFK Libraries received funding.

- **College of Arts, Letters and Education:** Video/still equipment package (Theatre and Film); Bod-Pod (Physical Education, Health and Recreation); and a Steinway Concert D grand piano (Music).
- **College of Business and Public Administration:** PC and server for the GIS planning lab and large format reproduction machines (Urban and Regional Planning).
- **College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work:** PolyCom system and updated testing and observation rooms (Psychology); and classroom video equipment (Anthropology).
- **College of Science, Health and Engineering:** Autoclaves and Zeiss compound microscopes (Biology); FTIR spectrometer (Chemistry/Biochemistry); augmentative and alternative communication assessment center (Communication Disorders); polarizing light microscopes (Geology); real-time ultrasound equipment (Physical Therapy); and a Power Mat platform (Occupational Therapy).
- **JFK Libraries:** Enhancements for instruction room L23 in JFK Library and laptops for instruction.
With the new Steinway concert grand, from left to right, are Ms. Sharlene Rivers, Ms. Kendall Feeney, EWU piano faculty member, and Dr. Travis Rivers, EWU professor of music emeritus and long-time chair of the Music Department.

Updates from the Office of Global Initiatives, the Colleges, and the Library

EWU faculty, staff, and students can be proud of the strong academic tradition and rich variety of experiences offered by our international initiatives, our academic areas, and JFK Libraries. Selected highlights follow.

The Office of Global Initiatives (OGI)

Kara LaSota, International Immigration and Retention Specialist, was presented with a djellaba by the Aneel family during their recent visit to campus from Saudi Arabia. What an honor!

Dual Degree Student to Present at NCUR

Dual degree student Sthefanie Hernandez Salomo from Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas in México has been selected to represent EWU during the 2013 National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR) being held in LaCrosse, Wisconsin in April 2013. Her presentation is entitled “The Relationship between Sexual Assault History and Substance Misuse.”

Study Abroad Update

Twenty-one EWU students currently are studying or interning in various countries around the world, including Argentina, Costa Rica, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, New Zealand, Peru, Rwanda, and Spain. The student in Jordan also happens to be the president of Eastern's Study Abroad Club.

- EWU's third recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship is in Buenos Aires interning for a soccer team. Since May of 2012, three students have received Gilman scholarships for a combined total of $13,000. Ten students will apply for the upcoming Gilman cycle.
- The upcoming Study Abroad Fair is Wednesday, April 10, from 9 - 2 in the PUB MPR. Eastern faculty members are encouraged to attend!

Immigration and Retention Activities

OGI is conducting several immigration-related workshops during winter quarter for international students, including events focused specifically on F1 employment and OPT (Optional Practical Training). In partnership with the Campus Police and other campus stakeholder units, a winter safety tips information session also was offered.
IREX Program Participation

Eastern has been selected as a host institution for the 2013 IREX Global UGRAD Pakistan program, which is funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and administered by the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX). The UGRAD Pakistan program provides a short-term undergraduate study opportunity in the United States for a diverse group of emerging student leaders from underrepresented sectors in Pakistan.

As part of this program, EWU is hosting Pakistani undergraduate student Najeeb Ullah for winter and spring 2013. A native of the Balochistan province, Najeeb is a student of Political Science at Government College University in Lahore. He is one of 113 students across Pakistan selected through a highly competitive, merit-based process for a life-changing opportunity to spend six months at a university in the United States.

In addition, Eastern Washington University was selected to host Mr. Dmytro Lobanov, director of the Center of Employment for Students and Graduates, from Karazin Kharkiv National University in Ukraine from January 31 through March 19, 2013. Eastern was selected to host Mr. Lobanov in support of the University Administration Support Program (UASP) administered by IREX. Ms. Virginia Hinch, Eastern’s director of Career Services, serves as Mr. Lobanov’s administrative advisor, and OGI provides logistical support.

Visiting Scholars

Eastern is currently hosting two scholars from 1+2+1 Sino-American Dual Degree Program partner institutions:

- Li Wanli, English Language and Literature, Hefei University of Technology, Anhui, China
- Zhu Lihui, International Affairs, Lanzhou University of Finance and Economics, Lanzhou, China

1+2+1 scholars contribute to the university’s community by observing classes, collaborating with faculty, participating in cultural exchanges through presentations, and promoting cross-cultural exchanges among EWU and international partner institutions.

College of Business and Public Administration — CBPA

In January 2013, CBPA/EWU-Spokane Executive Dean Martine Duchatelet joined local business leaders for the “Business Talks” radio show on KTRW AM 630. Dean Duchatelet discussed EWU and CBPA programs as valuable resources for local businesses. Kent Adams and Tom McArthur are the hosts of Business Talks.

In March 2013, Dean Duchatelet, Roberta Brooke, MBA director, and Shiu-Hsin Lin, ELI instructor, will travel to China to recruit students. They will visit Guangdong University of Business Studies, Hainan University, Huaqio University, Dailian University, and the Inner Mongolia University of Technology.

The college recently had its undergraduate and graduate business programs successfully evaluated by its accrediting agency, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-International. In addition to identifying areas of strength, the AASCB will return in 2014 to assess improvements.

The college’s Master in Public Health program has received final approval from review bodies internal to the university. Next will come the opportunity for external review and commentary via the Interinstitutional Committee on Academic Program Planning (ICAPP) and pending approval from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).
MBA News
MBA full-time-equivalent student numbers were up an overall 45% from winter quarter 2012.

- Professor Dr. Peter Shuster and Herr Joachim Bach, from the University of Applied Sciences in Schmalkalden, Germany, visited EWU recently in promotion of the new MBA/MA dual degree option created for CBPA's MBA students. All classes at the German university are taught in English. Students can earn both the EWU MBA and the Schmalkalden MA in International Business and Economics in as few as six quarters: four quarters at EWU and two quarters at Schmalkalden. Two EWU MBA students will be studying at Schmalkalden in spring and summer 2013, and two students from Schmalkalden will come to EWU during the same time period.

- CPBA has been named an outstanding business school by the Princeton Review, which features EWU in the 2013 edition of its annual guidebook, The Best 296 Business Schools. The book has a two-page profile of Eastern’s MBA program and includes write-ups on EWU’s academics, student life, and admissions.

Student Activities in Urban and Regional Planning

- Under the leadership of Gregg Dohrn, faculty in residence, second-year graduate students have prepared a management plan for publically-owned lands in Pend Oreille County as part of their advanced planning studio project. The plan included a detailed inventory and analysis of more than 200 county-owned parcels.

- As part of a University District master planning project, graduate planning students will be documenting public and private investment that has occurred since the U-District was created and identifying vacant and underdeveloped parcels that are suitable for development or redevelopment.

- Graduate planning students prepared a St. Aloysius School master plan to guide future development activities on the campus, which is located near Gonzaga University. The plan included recommendations for the siting of a new gymnasium and an early childhood learning center. St. Aloysius Principal Kerrie Rowland said of the students, “We were impressed with your Master’s students: their enthusiasm, their listening skills, and their care and their hard work on behalf of our community—and the final product prepared by students and the options for us to consider were exemplary!”

Other Student Achievements

- In February 2013, CBPA students from Eta Phi, EWU’s chapter of the national professional business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi, attended the Principled Business Leadership Institute conference in Reno, Nevada. Eta Phi received a Circle of Excellence award and an Annual Chapter Report Increase award. In addition, student Susanna Kang, Eta Phi president, won a national Innovator of the Year award.

- Assistant Professor of Economics Kelley Cullen is pleased to announce that all three of the undergraduate economic students who submitted abstracts to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) this year had their papers accepted for presentation in LaCrosse, Wisconsin in April. Kelley will be accompanying the students as ambassadors for the Economics Department, the college, and EWU.

College Events

- In November 2012, the E. Clair Daniels Symposium (Management Information Systems) was held at the Spokane Club. KPMG Manager Nancy Pasternack spoke on the topic of “Who is the Typical Fraudster?”

- On March 1, 2013, CBPA hosted its seventh annual Healthcare Management conference, focused on insurance mandates, healthcare reform, and their impact on the Inland Northwest. Keynote speakers were D.J. Wilson, president and general manager of KGW NewsChannel 8, and Antony Chiang, president of Empire Health Foundation.
• On April 4, 2013, CBPA will host a Celebration of Entrepreneurship breakfast at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park. Mr. Ron Schneidmiller, president of Sterling International, Inc., a Spokane Valley company that markets green products for trapping specific harmful insects, is the 2013 recipient of the annual Center for Entrepreneurial Activities award.

Faculty Notes
• Associate Professor of Marketing Damon Aiken was selected as one of three finalists for the 2013 Hormel Master Marketing Teacher Award. Now in its eleventh year, the award recognizes effective and innovative teaching methods in marketing education.
• The president of the Academy of Business Research has invited Professor of Management Jameel Hasan to critique the article “Critique of AACSB Publications: Impact of Research,” published in one of the academy’s journals. He has accepted and will present in March at the academy’s upcoming annual conference.
• Professor of Health Services Administration Mary Ann Keogh Hoss received the American College of Healthcare Executives Regent Award for 2012 at the Washington State Hospital Association ACHE breakfast, held in October 2012 in Seattle, in recognition for her service with the Washington State Healthcare Executive Forum.
• Professor of Urban and Regional Planning Gabor Zovanyi has recently published The No-Growth Imperative: Creating Sustainable Communities under Ecological Limits to Growth (Routledge 2013).
• Professor of Management Information Systems Duanning Zhou was elected to a four-year term as chair of the Management Information Systems Department. He replaces Elizabeth Tipton, who has been appointed as the associate dean of the college.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work — CSBSSW

In keeping with its commitment to student success and student enrichment, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work offered the following study abroad trips in 2012:

Professor Bonny Bazemore (History) has brought a group of EWU history students to work on an excavation site in Cyprus every summer for the last few years.

While working under the authority of the Department of Antiquities of the Republic of Cyprus, Dr. Bazemore has completed five seasons of rescue excavations and surveys in anticipation of the construction of the largest tourist complex in the Middle East. In all, she has uncovered 15 sites, some of which date back to 4000 B.C.

During these trips her team catalogues thousands of artifacts, which were unearthed during previous excavations. Future excavations involving as many as twenty EWU students will concentrate on the hilltop temple of Adonis, the young lover of the mythological green goddess Aphrodite.
In summer 2012, Professor Romel Mackelprang (Social Work), along with colleagues Professor Scott Finnie (Africana Studies) and Professor Kim Stansbury (Social Work), brought a group of students back to Ghana for a second time to engage in service-learning activities with local clinics and rehabilitation centers. The students kept a blog journal on their life-changing experiences. To find out more, see their blog: http://sites.ewu.edu/access4all/category/access-international/ghana-2012/.

In December 2012, Professors Joseph Lenti (History), Bob Dean (History) and Martin Garcia (Chicano Studies), along with Dr. Christina Garcia, Director of McNair Program, led a study-abroad trip to Cuba. The faculty and students who participated in the Cuba trip shared their experiences with the Spokane community through public forums. Students who went on the trip worked with Professors Lenti and Martin Garcia in fall quarter to learn about Cuban society and conducted research on various topics such as women’s rights, organic farming, aging, the effects of the US trade embargo on Cuba, and education. The faculty and students have shared their experiences from their Cuba trip on their blog: (http://ewugoestocuba.blogspot.com) and on KYRS “Thin Air” Community Radio.

John F. Kennedy Memorial Library — JFK

The EWU Libraries continue to be a busy hub on campus, sponsoring, hosting and/or collaborating on more than 80 events/displays in the past year.

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Oktoberfest

In October of 2012, the library hosted Oktoberfest “Twilight Masquerade,” its annual fundraiser, for a record-breaking gross profit of more than $57,000. This year’s Oktoberfest, which has a “Roaring 20s” theme, will take place on Saturday, October 12, 2013.

Learning Commons

Fall quarter also saw the opening of EWU’s Learning Commons at JFK Library. The event was marked with a ribbon cutting and open house hosted by President Arévalo. All current partners (Multimedia Commons, the Writers’ Center, and PLUS) report an increase in utilization of their services. This initiative continues to be dynamic, and discussion is underway for expanding its footprint.

Lower Level I-Desk Added to JFK Library

Getting library patrons to the proper location in the building is critical to their success in finding information. In response to increased student directional queries, a second “I-Desk” for quick questions has been added on the Lower Level.

Interlibrary Loan — E-Books

Interlibrary Loan patrons now borrow eReaders loaded with their requested texts rather than the books themselves. Currently ten “Kindle” readers from Amazon.com are available, and EWU clients can wait for print books to arrive from another library or enjoy instantaneous access to a text on an eReader. The loan period is the same; however, electronic books reside in “cloud” storage and may be accessed at any time by another EWU client. Experience has shown that a book used by one client, especially a student, is likely to be demanded again by another student. Interest in borrowing eReaders is so high among students that the Library is purchasing an additional fifteen Kindle readers.

Student Worker Appreciation in the Library

More than 180 student workers/tutors are employed in JFK Library and the Learning Commons. On Valentine’s Day, faculty and staff from the EWU Libraries and the Learning Commons whipped up 19 dozen cupcakes and set aside some time to thank the students, who received individualized cards signed by 40 faculty and staff (including the President), some fun pencils, cupcakes, punch, and miscellaneous giveaways. Photos were taken for a collage (see below) to serve as a reminder of what a positive force these students are. Thank you, EWU Libraries’ and Learning Commons’ student workers!

In Closing …

Despite all ongoing challenges, faculty and staff in the Division of Academic Affairs continue to sustain their commitment to academic excellence. We can celebrate many projects-in-progress as they come to fruition and improve the educational experiences of our students. I hope that you have had a very successful winter quarter, and I look forward to working with you to further our goals.

Best wishes,

[Signature]