Academic Affairs: Update—Fall 2012

A newsletter published by the provost for the faculty and staff of Eastern Washington University

Provost's Message

Fall 2012 is well under way, and we have another record enrollment with 12,587 students at all locations for EWU! Gains in new freshmen accounted for much of the increase. Our first-time freshman enrollment is 1,572 – the second largest freshman class in school history. In addition, student retention (i.e., freshman to sophomore) has improved, with more students continuing at EWU. As we engage the new strategic plan, I look forward to working with you in exploring innovative ways to improve programs and to serve students better in their educational pursuits.

Many exciting developments have taken place in Academic Affairs since spring 2012. Most prominent among these has been the creation of a learning commons in JFK Library. The mission of the commons is “to provide a collaborative intellectual setting that inspires excellence in learning.” The Learning Commons has co-located such things as the Writers’ Center, the Multimedia Commons (formerly the MARS lab), and the Program Leading to Undergraduate Success (PLUS), all of which are underscored by JFK’s many services in support of students’ academic excellence. Daily student presence in the Learning Commons shows a high degree of use.

In addition, we are searching for a Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs (VPUA). The VPUA will oversee a number of programs related to student success. The new unit will consolidate and coordinate the activities of the Academic Success Center, General Undergraduate Academic Advising, and the Office of Undergraduate Studies. Based on the premise that ongoing collaborations among departments are more likely to result in positive student success outcomes, the unit’s goal is for students to receive an array of accessible and unduplicated services in response to their individual needs. Undergraduate Studies will support this unit through the ongoing efforts of Mark Baldwin and Helen Bergland. Mark will continue to coordinate the work of key undergraduate committees such as UAC and GECC. Helen will assume an enhanced role in working with faculty by assisting them in developing effective ways to engage in ongoing program assessment.

I am pleased to introduce and welcome to EWU Molly Ayers, Director of Community Engagement, and Ben Meredith, Executive Director of E-Learning and Off-Campus Programs (ELOC).

Molly will be meeting with department chairs and deans to benchmark our service learning and outreach efforts. She will have offices at Riverpoint and Cheney to allow for greater access for all faculty and academic programs. A primary goal is to increase community engagement through learning opportunities for our undergraduate and graduate students.

Ben will be working with faculty to develop on-line programs. ELOC also will create faculty development programs to provide assistance to faculty who want to utilize e-learning in their classes. The work of ELOC will be coordinated with an e-learning unit headed by Dave Dean in OIT. Among other things, we hope to have several additional degree programs ready for e-launch in 2013-14.

Molly can be reached at 359.2792/808.5473 (cell) mayers1@ewu.edu; Ben’s contact information is 359-6010/389-8434 (cell) bmeredith@ewu.edu.

As you can see, EWU continues its ongoing pledge to enhance its long tradition of academic excellence and to broaden its base of initiatives geared toward the success of its students. I thank you for your commitment to our university and our students; I hope you have a productive 2012-13, and I look forward to working with you to further our goals.

Best wishes,

[Signature]
New Faculty

I am pleased to report that we have 33 talented and enthusiastic new faculty who have joined our ranks. Faculty members include Xiao Hong (Shelly) Fan, Accounting and Information Systems; Bayyinah Jeffries, Africana Studies; Kimberly Richards, American Indian Studies; Lindsay Jones, Chemistry/Biochemistry; David Overstreet, Art; Dan Tappan, Computer Science; Roberta Greene, Nathan Skuza, and Vidhura Tennekoon, Economics; Lisa Warner, Education; Poukong Manikoth and Travis Masingale, Engineering and Design; Christopher Ewing and Carolyn Hansen, JFK Libraries; Joy Bjerke, Summer Huber, James Leigh, and Peter Lowe, Mathematics; David Nielson, Modern Languages and Literatures; Phillip Doyle and Sheila Woodward, Music; Jessica Stimmel and Natalie Hughes, Physical Education, Health and Recreation; Jennifer Harris and Jillene Seiver, Psychology; Kathryn Abram and Susan Burwash, Occupational Therapy; Richard Palmer, Physical Therapy; Biswas Bipasha, Peter Fawson, Cyndi Sculley, and Deborah Svboda, Social Work; Margo Hill, Urban and Regional Planning; and Jessica Willis, Women's and Gender Studies. This effort represents an ongoing commitment by EWU to strengthen our academic programs. We look forward to successful outcomes and welcome new faculty in fall 2012.

Take Flight in Four

The Student Affairs – Academic Affairs partnership initiative “Take Flight in Four” offers a four-year graduation strategy as a foundational element of overall student success. Students who participate in Take Flight in Four will receive priority registration and early advising, will benefit from best practices for student retention, and will be encouraged to offer feedback and input. Required strategies are (1) to create a four-year pathway to graduation with advisors prior to fall quarter; (2) to complete all developmental courses by the end of the first year (an underlying university policy); and (3) to plan on taking either summer session or on-line courses to ensure graduation timelines. Recommended strategies are (1) to be flexible with course schedules; (2) to live on campus the first year; and (3) to connect with campus support resources. Not limited to incoming freshman, the Take Flight in Four strategy also can be used for programs requiring more than 180 credits; however, more summer courses and online courses might be required. Because 72% of EWU students report working while in school, they will be reminded, during the advisement process, of the need to commit to out-of-class study as an element of academic success. Flight plans, which are four-year degree pathways, are under development for a variety of academic programs. Take Flight in Four is projected to begin in fall 2013.

Many Paths Lead to Student Success

In striving toward greater student success – persistence, retention, and graduation – the Academic Affairs Division supports greater access to and increased utilization of student support services, the engagement of faculty and staff in their ability to foster student success, and an expanded campus-wide commitment to student success. A current goal is to create a system that improves student performance in developmental courses to accelerate progress to degree. An internal reorganization of Academic Affairs has flattened its administrative structure, resulting in more centralized advising to ensure coherence and consistency. Companion initiatives are Destination EWU with the Community Colleges of Spokane, the Student Success Committee in the Academic Senate, a Student Success working group staffed by the Academic Success Center staff, departmental flight plans, course sequencing, a review of general education, a redesign of the math core curriculum with ALEKS, and Learning Commons’ offerings.

EWU a Finalist for Hosting NCUR 2015

In August, from the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), EWU received word of its selection as one of two finalists to host the 29th National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in spring 2015. Founded in 1978, the Council on Undergraduate Research has a membership of more than 900 colleges and universities. The council’s mission of promoting and supporting high-quality faculty and student collaborations in research and scholarship is in keeping with EWU’s own emphasis on faculty and student-driven research and creative works, as evidenced by the university’s annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium, which will celebrate its 16th anniversary in 2013. In early October, an EWU team traveled to LaCrosse, WI, to make a detailed presentation to the CUR Conferences’ Committee. Results are expected within the next four weeks.

Other Divisional Highlights from the Colleges, JFK Libraries, and the Office of Global Initiatives

EWU faculty, staff, and students can be proud of the strong academic tradition and rich variety of experiences offered by our colleges, JFK Libraries, and the Office of Global Initiatives. Selected highlights follow.
College of Arts, Letters and Education — CALE

Patterson Hall Renovation Reaches Half-Way Mark

Long known as home to the college then named Arts and Letters (CAL) and later as Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences (CLASS), Patterson Hall first opened for classes in 1970. Named for Don Patterson, EWU president from 1954 to 1967, Patterson Hall has reached the half-way mark in a two-phase, four-year renovation process.

Patterson was originally constructed as two separate buildings, leading to renovation and funding strategies that maintain the idea of separate structures. The first phase of the project has included adding new office wings on three sides of the building, while the second phase of the project will include the modernizing of 105,000 square feet of classroom space. Other changes include the addition of classroom technology and a revamping of Patterson’s heating, mechanical ventilating, and air-conditioning systems. When the Patterson Hall renovation is complete (predicted for summer 2014), faculty and staff of the college – now Arts, Letters and Education – will move back from their interim quarters in Martin Hall and Robert Reid Lab.

Notes from Around the College

- **Art:** On October 10th, sculptor and stop-motion animator John Frame, the first artist in the Art Department’s 2012 – 2013 Visiting Artist Lecture Series, presented a lecture, slides, and a showing of his film *The Tale of a Crippled Boy: Three Fragments of a Lost Tale* to a standing-room-only EWU audience. For more than fifteen years, the Art Department’s lecture series has brought prominent artists to the EWU community and the Spokane region. “A question of permanence” is this year’s theme for the series, which will showcase three artists’ work as individual investigations of time, permanence, and the human experience.

- **English:** Professor of English Paul Lindholdt has been awarded a Washington State Book Award for *In Earshot of Water: Notes from the Columbia Plateau*, his recent work of literary nonfiction published by the University of Iowa Press. Fellow author Kathleen Dean Moore noted that reading this work “is to learn again how to listen, how to forgive, and ultimately, how to love life that is sometimes as cruel as it is beautiful.” A specialist in American literature, environmental studies, and creative writing, Lindholdt joins EWU Creative Writing Professors Greg Spatz (*Wonderful Tricks*) and Christopher Howell (*Light’s Ladder*), previous WSBA winners in fiction (Spatz 2003) and poetry (Howell 2005).

- **Music:** Music Department faculty and students have set forth a prodigious slate of instrumental and choral performance events for fall quarter 2012. From jazz ensembles to chamber music to vocal and choral concerts to a full orchestral repertoire, music lovers cannot fail to find a large selection of excellent performances. Selected upcoming events are a choral concert on November 28th, 7:30 PM, at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral in Spokane; a wind ensemble and orchestra concert on November 29th, 7:30 PM, in the Showalter Auditorium; and “An Evening of Theatrical Music,” presented by EWU’s Music faculty on November 30th at the Bing Crosby Theater in Spokane. These are only three among many events; a full schedule may be viewed at [http://www.ewu.edu/cale/programs/music/music-events-calendar.xml](http://www.ewu.edu/cale/programs/music/music-events-calendar.xml).

- **Physical Education, Health and Recreation:** The 2012 – 2013 issue of *DiscoverE*, EWU’s research magazine, has showcased the recent research and scholarship of PEHR faculty members Jon Hammermeister and Jeni McNeal. Dr. Hammermeister’s work examines the physical and psychological fitness of soldiers as evidenced by performance outcomes in basic training. The article “The Influence of Mental Skills on Motivation and Psychosocial Characteristics” (McGraw, Pickering, Ohlson, and Hammermeister) was published in the January 2012 issue of *Military Medicine*. As the lead strength and conditioning consultant for the U.S. Diving Team (which won four medals (one gold) at the 2012 games after twelve years without an Olympic medal), Dr. McNeal has studied the use of peristaltic pulse compression pants to speed recovery and reduce inflammation in athletes undergoing periods of extreme training. In addition, she is studying the use of thermal imaging technology as a new way, not only of diagnosing injury, but also of detecting the potential for injury in world-class athletes. Dr. McNeal has published peer-reviewed articles on both projects.
CBPA Welcomes New Dean

Martine Duchatelet has been named Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration and Executive Dean of EWU Spokane at the Riverpoint Campus. She joined Eastern on June 1, 2012. Prior to coming to EWU, Dr. Duchatelet served as Dean of the School of Management at Purdue University Calumet for six years; she holds a doctorate in economics from Stanford University as well as bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Brussels University. Dr. Elizabeth Tipton served as interim dean between the retirement of Dr. Niel Zimmerman on March 31st and the new dean's arrival.

MBA News

- The MBA program has developed a dual degree program with the University of Applied Sciences in Schmalkalden, Germany. 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. This opportunity is a home tuition exchange program. All classes are taught in English. Interested students should contact Roberta Brooke.
- In an effort to improve student learning and to assure continuous improvement, the college, in partnership with Cengage Learning, has implemented a pilot writing assessment program for the MBA program. Using Cengage's Write Experience artificial intelligence software, MBA students are assessed at intake and throughout the program, depending on their initial scores. The software also provides tutoring and editing assistance to improve writing skills and is available to students for practice at their own pace. Eventually all students must pass the writing test in order to be eligible for the oral exams.
- The MBA program is offering a new course, Strategy, Competitiveness and Economic Development, taught by Dr. Harm-Jan Steenhuis. EWU is one of just seven universities in North America authorized to teach this course, based on materials developed by the Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness at Harvard Business School. The course is open to the public and explores the determinants of regional and national competitiveness and economic development by focusing on the productivity of firms operating in the region. It examines competitiveness from the perspective of firms, economic clusters, regions, nations, and groups of neighboring countries.

Meet the Pros – Accounting

The second installment of a lecture series developed by the Accounting Advisory Board, on “What does it take to become successful?” was offered on October 3rd from 6:00 – 7:00 PM at Riverpoint in the Phase I Classroom Building Auditorium. Panelists Gini Hinch, EWU Career Services; Alice Hardin, Red and Associates; and Jeff Wibert, Family Homecare, discussed resume preparation, interview skills, and additional tips for success in the job application process. Slides from this presentation will be made available on the CBPA website.

T. R. Reid Event

On November 13th, T. R. Reid, correspondent and reporter for The Washington Post, NPR and PBS, and author of The Healing of America, will lead a panel of regional experts in a discussion of how the Inland Northwest is meeting the challenges of health care. The event, to be held at the Spokane Convention Center from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, is free and open to the public and will conclude with a book signing session. Earlier in the day, a box lunch event will be held at 11:00 AM at the Riverpoint South Campus Facility. RSVPs by phone or e-mail should be directed to Sharlene Bozanich (sbozanich@ewu.edu or 828-1226).

Inland Northwest Business Plan Competition

Open to graduate and undergraduate students from EWU, Whitworth, and SCC, the Inland Northwest Business Plan Competition offers students a competitive venue for polishing their written and oral skills in creating and presenting viable business plans. Students may enter their plans in one of three categories: Student-Generated Ideas, Community-Based Plans, and Social Enterprise Plans. In the 2012 competition, Community-Based Plan category, EWU students Eden Hendrix and Chrysan Huntley won second prize for “Fresh Abundance,” and Don Pratt and Kelly Hancock were awarded third place for “Focal Length Productions.” EWU student Micah Buska won third prize in the Student-Generated Idea category for “Drunken Noodle.” Congratulations!
The Veteran's Electrical Engineering (EE) Program opened the doors for its first cohort of students in the spring of 2012. The program was developed with support from an NSF grant successfully written under the leadership of Dr. Michael Brzoska, before he retired as Associate Dean of Computing and Engineering Sciences in the fall of 2010. The objective of the program is to draw from educational support available to veterans through the Post 9/11 GI Bill, EWU's previous success as the first regional university in the state to offer a B.S. in Electrical Engineering, and the high praise EWU has received for being a “Military Friendly School,” as classified by GI Jobs Magazine for four consecutive years.

The Veteran's EE Program includes the same rigorous requirements and coursework as the existing ABET-accredited EE program but offers core courses on a compressed, 36-month schedule of four academic quarters per year. An additional/optional summer bridge program offers an accelerated sequence of algebra and pre-calculus coursework to prepare students for the regular twelve-quarter sequence of EE coursework.

The development of the Veteran’s EE Program is consistent with Eastern’s strategic plan for 2012-2017 and relates to goals within each of the plan’s four key focus areas: Student Success, Institution of Innovation, Community Engagement, and Visibility. For more information on the program please visit [www.ewu.edu/cshe](http://www.ewu.edu/cshe)

**EWU Continues to Host FIRST Robotics Competitions**

Again this year, EWU will host two of the world’s most energetic and educational robotics events! For more than 20 years, FIRST events have excited and challenged young people by combining the excitement of sports tournaments with scientific problem solving and strategy challenges. Washington FIRST Robotics (FIRSTWA) is a non-profit organization that helps students learn about science and technology.

The Regional FIRST LEGO League Competitions, to be held January 12th and 13th, 2013, will involve teams of young people (ages nine – fourteen), programming LEGO robots to overcome a set of challenges on a table-sized field of competition. Volunteers are needed for judging the event, and all EWU community members are welcome to participate. Please contact Lorna Kropp at lkropp@cet.com.

The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC), for young people of high-school age, involves applying skills of programming and electrical and mechanical engineering. Teams create complex, 200-pound robots to compete on a basketball-sized court. EWU will host a kick-off event at Showalter Hall on Jan 5th, 2013; then teams will work intensely for the robot building period, culminating with the exciting tournament in front of an audience of thousands at EWU’s Reese Court, April 5th and 6th, 2013. To volunteer for the kickoff or the main tournament, or for more information on the FRC, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Dale Garraway at dgarraway@ewu.edu or FRC Regional Chair Christian Hansen at chansen@ewu.edu.

**Computer Science Launches Revised Graduate Degree**

This fall quarter, EWU’s Department of Computer Science initiated coursework, research, and projects that are part of its newly revised Master of Computer Science degree program.

Based on input from the department’s Professional Advisory Board, a seventeen-member group with representatives from Itron, Ascentium, NextIT, and many other information technology companies large and small, the department has adapted its MS in CS to more precisely fit the needs of Inland Northwest regional industry. The major revisions include adding an option for industry-based projects, as well as adding a graduate-level course in contemporary data topics, in which data mining and data modeling join traditional theoretical and applied material on database design and implementation. In order to reflect the rapid expansion of knowledge in the computer field, each of the four required core subject courses has been expanded from four to five credits. Additional input from industry is contained in the required "gateway course," a weekly research colloquium that features EWU faculty, faculty from other regional universities, and regional and national industry speakers. This quarter, speakers from Intel, the University of Idaho, and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories are highlighting the series.
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work — CSBSSW

A New Major in Race and Culture Studies

The Race and Culture Studies major will launch in winter 2013 as the result of the collaborative efforts among the Africana Education, American Indian Studies, and Chicano Education Programs. Interdisciplinary and comparative approaches will make the major very unique through a core curriculum that emphasizes interconnectedness and common struggles of historically marginalized populations from a global perspective. Students will choose from the three areas of emphasis (Africana Studies, American Indian Studies, and Chicano Studies) for more in-depth exploration of the historical and contemporary experiences of the specific populations. The major has a strong social justice orientation that promotes activism and social change. As a result, students will develop cultural competency and a deeper understanding of diversity, race, and our changing demographics, all of which are desirable to employers in both private and public sectors. In conjunction with the major, a new Race and Culture Studies minor also will be added into the offerings for our students. Announcements will be forthcoming about events planned for this academic year to celebrate the inauguration of the new Race and Culture Studies major.

Statewide Community Engagement for the School of Social Work

By joint agreement, Eastern Washington University, the University of Washington, and the Department of Social and Health Services have established an Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence to provide a comprehensive educational, training, and professional development system for the state’s child welfare workforce. At EWU, the Alliance will be implemented by the CSBSSW School of Social Work. The Alliance is a groundbreaking collaborative that combines the education and research expertise of social-work programs from EWU, UW-Seattle, and UW-Tacoma, the state agency for child welfare (DHS Children’s Administration), and a public-private partnership (Partners for Our Children), all of which are committed to discovering and deploying innovative solutions to improve outcomes for children and families in our state. We are designing a seamless, comprehensive training and professional development system based on research-informed knowledge and skills. Training begins during graduate education and follows social workers throughout their careers in child welfare. The training and professional development will be delivered through a mix of online sessions, webinars, and in-person training. Eastern Washington University will play a key role in expanding the child welfare training infrastructure for social workers into Eastern Washington. The collaborative will target training for social workers, front line supervisors, managers, administrators, foster, adoptive, and relative caregivers, and other key community partners involved with the foster care system. The state’s Children’s Administration provides services to approximately 9,500 children in any given month, serving approximately 7,800 families. About 800 – 1,000 of those children receive services while living at home, and the rest receive services while in foster care.

A New Psychology Department for EWU

September 1, 2012 marks a momentous occasion. After 35 years, the Departments of Counseling, Educational, and Developmental Psychology (formerly Applied Psychology) and Psychology have come together into one new Department of Psychology. The department chair is Dr. Jonathan Anderson. Located in Martin Hall 135, the new Department has a complement of 27 full-time faculty members with a variety of experience and specializations. Program offerings include an Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology, a Master of Science in Applied Psychology (Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling concentrations), a Master of Science in Psychology (Clinical and Experimental concentrations), a Post-Master’s Certificate in School Psychology, a School Counselor Professional Certificate, a School Psychology Professional Certificate, three majors (Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Applied Developmental Psychology, Bachelor of Arts in Education), and three minors (Counseling, Educational, and Developmental Psychology; Psychology; and Psychology/Elementary).

New Department Chairs and Program Directors in CSBSSW

In addition to Dr. Jonathan Anderson in Psychology, CSBSSW welcomes Dr. Sean Chabot, new Department Chair of Sociology and Justice Studies; Dr. Bayyinah Jeffries, new Director of the Africana Education program; and Dr. Raphael Guillory, new Interim Director of the Chicano Education program. Welcome!
John F. Kennedy Memorial Library — JFK

New Faculty

To better serve the goal of both student and faculty success, the Library has added two new faculty positions during the past academic year. New faculty are Carolynn Hansen (Metadata and Catalog Librarian) and Chris Ewing (Science and Emerging Technology Librarian). Ms. Hansen’s specialty in metadata for digital collections and archives will enhance the Library’s ability to mount Library online collections that will be available worldwide via the Internet. Mr. Ewing will be sharing his experience with web interfaces, mobile access devices, and social media to bring the Library’s collections and e-resources to students and faculty, all of whom are increasingly dependent on the latest technology.

Digital Repository

With a long-term goal of establishing an institutional digital repository for the intellectual output of the university, the Library has begun mounting masters’ theses on an information server internal to the university. At present, these graduate student documents are accessible via the campus network, but very shortly they will be accessible via the open Internet and will represent the initial steps toward an intellectual presence for EWU on the worldwide web. As of September 18th, theses submitted in winter quarter 2012 have been mounted. Those from spring quarter 2012 are currently in process.

Learning Commons

By the beginning of fall quarter 2012, a large portion of the main level of JFK Library had become the location of a Learning Commons, a flexible space rich in technology and available to the campus community for collaboration and exploration of various types of learning. Phase 1 of the Learning Commons includes the presence of the Writers’ Center, PLUS, Multimedia Commons, and the university Library. Most of the space will be shared and made available to students for collaborative projects and group study. A variety of meeting and study rooms will be schedulable for small and large groups. The designation “Phase 1” indicates that the plans for the commons are developing and fluid. Experience will determine future directions, but all involved are very optimistic that the concept will succeed.

Pilot Project – E-Books

After a summer of planning, the EWU Library is set to begin a pilot project that will offer interlibrary loan patrons the possibility of borrowing eReaders loaded with their requested texts, rather than print versions of the books. Beginning with ten “Kindle” readers from Amazon.com and ten “Nook” readers from Barnes & Noble, the program will offer EWU clients a choice between waiting for a print book to arrive from another library or having instantaneous access to the text on an eReader. The loan period will be the same, whether print or electronic. However, whereas the print book will have to be returned to the lending library, the electronic book will 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. The practice of purchasing an eBook instead of borrowing the print version from another library has been in use for several years by public libraries, primarily for popular literature. EWU is one of the few academic libraries to make this service available.

Oktoberfest in the Library

On Saturday, October 27th, from 5:00 – 10:30 PM, JFK Library hosted Oktoberfest “Twilight Masquerade,” its tenth annual fundraising event. This year’s theme set the hauntingly attractive tone for a delicious meal from Just a Couple Moms catering, live entertainment from the Chris Grant Quartet, and a truly amazing performance by EWU Libraries’ Star Search winner and expert “yo-yo master” Kyler James Burnett. Masqueraders sampled tasty wines and brews from Latah Creek Wineries, Walla Walla Vintners, No-Li Brewhouse and Golden Hills Brewery, and competition was fierce at the ever-popular silent and live auctions, presided over by auctioneer Austin Booker. Preliminary results show gross proceeds of $50,000+; all monies raised go toward the Libraries’ Collection Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, journals, and electronic resources used by students, faculty and staff.
Office of Global Initiatives — OGI

International Task Force Update

Following two years of work, eight appointed representatives from Student Affairs and Academic Affairs submitted to President Arévalo an International Programs Task Force Report, which he approved in July 2012. This comprehensive report positions EWU to further develop our international programs in terms of capacity and quality. In addition, EWU’s executive leadership team recently approved a task outline that supports the recommended report actions via the assignment of project leads and timelines. The International Task Force Report is available for review via global.ewu.edu.

Study Abroad Update

The number of students going abroad has more than doubled since 2010. In fact, more than 100 EWU students studied abroad during the 2011-12 academic year – a new record! In addition, the following study abroad developments represent a sampling of the many milestones we have recently experienced.

• Following an extremely competitive process, two EWU students were awarded the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for fall 2012.
• This fall, 25 students are studying or interning in countries around the world. For the first time, Spain overtook Japan as the most popular study abroad destination for EWU students. Additional new destinations include Austria, Hungary, and Kenya, as well as non-traditional locations such as Chile and India.
• EWU’s first U.S. Student Fulbright Program participant completed her research in San Pedro de Atacama, Chile during the 2011-12 academic year.

International Partnership Update

On behalf of EWU, Dr. Arévalo signed a university-level MOU with Bogota, Colombia-based Juan N. Corpas University’s Vice Rector Dr. Luis Gabriel Piñeros Ricardo in July 2012. In addition to recognizing partnership work completed to date, this agreement provides a basis for additional institutional collaboration to include faculty and student exchanges, short-term English and Spanish language immersion programming, two-way faculty-led study abroad programs, and joint grant opportunities.

Dual Degree Programs

EWU currently administers the following four international degree programs: a 1+2+1 Sino-American undergraduate dual degree (administered via U.S.-based AASCU and CCIEE in China); a 2+2 undergraduate dual degree program in partnership with Mukogawa Women’s University in Japan; a 1+2+1 undergraduate dual degree in partnership with Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas in Mexico; and an MBA graduate program in partnership with Fachhochschule Schmalkalden, Fakultät Wirtschaftswissenschaften in Germany. With Russian partners, EWU is developing two additional dual degree programs: an undergraduate management degree with the Moscow Humanitarian Pedagogical Institute and a graduate communications degree with St. Petersburg State University.

Summer 2012 Short-Term Programs

OGI administered a four-week English Language and Cultural Program for native Spanish speakers from partner universities. Thirteen faculty and spouses from Juan N. Corpas University in Bogota, Colombia participated in this program with seven students from Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas in Mexico. In addition to taking part in scheduled summer English Language Institute (ELI) classes, participants also took part in customized listening and speaking courses taught by ELI faculty.

For the sixth year, Iwate Prefectural University (IPU) participated in a joint two-week graduate-level seminar hosted by EWU. Nine computer science graduate students and three faculty members from IPU joined three faculty members and four students from EWU in a review of student papers, presentations, and projects.

Sixteen 1+2+1 dual degree students from China and eight music students from Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas in Mexico completed the summer 2012 TOEFL preparatory course. This four-week program taught by ELI faculty focuses on preparing students to take the TOEFL English proficiency exam prior to enrolling in credit-bearing courses at EWU.