

THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

"Miles to go before we sleep..."

BY DEAN KATHLEEN CASSITY

We're fast approaching my favorite time of the academic year--all those culminating events where we honor the many outstanding achievements of our students, faculty and staff members; consolidate our collective memories and accomplishments; make exciting plans for the year to come; and best of all, applaud our graduating seniors as they march across the stage to receive their diplomas and embark upon the next chapter of their lives. The 2018-19 year has been a busy one, characterized by change and, at times, uncertainty. It's also been a remarkable year of growth and achievement. I've witnessed the germination of many exciting new ideas, collaborations and opportunities, as well as remarkable accomplishments in so many corners of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Read on to learn more about the numerous accomplishments of WOU students in everything from Model U.N. to music, literature and more, along with many upcoming exciting events. We've made great progress and we're nearly ready to turn the page on another year, but we've still got "miles to go" before we can kick back and enjoy the Oregon summer. As we all "hunker down" to finish the work at hand this year, let's remember to stop and celebrate all we have achieved together and congratulate our fellow travelers on their own achievements. I'll look forward to seeing you all out on the field on graduation day, Saturday, June 15!



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MODEL U.N.: WAY TO REPRESENT WOU!

By Mary Pettenger

The WOU MUN club performed impressively at the recent Model United Nations of the Far West (MUNFW) conference in San Francisco, April 12-16, 2019. MUNFW is one of the oldest MUN conferences in the United States and we will be hosting our 70th session next year (almost as old as the real UN). WOU MUN has been attending MUNFW since 1956, so the club considers it "our conference."

Four students (Jacen Miller, Amber Holland, Jenny Rooper and Maddie Dohrer) chaired the United Nations Environment Agency committee, writing background guides over the past summer, undergoing hours of chair training, and running a committee with 60 students/delegates for four days of negotiations (one day ran from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.).

Sixteen students represented three countries (Nepal, Haiti and Kuwait) in seven committees. One student, Steven-Michael Richmond, won the award of "Rapporteur" (best delegate) in his committee (only seven students out of 400+ students were selected). All of the countries won a "best delegation" award for their research papers and conference performance.

Congratulations to all our WOU MUN students!

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

FAR WEST, SAN FRANCISCO

APRIL 12 - 16, 2019



Student and Alumni Successes

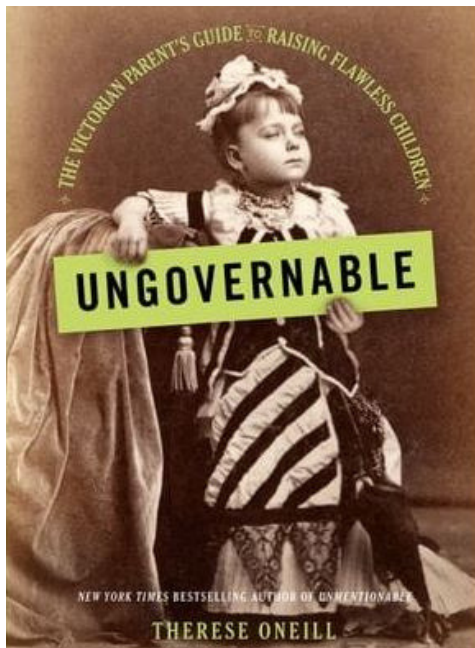
CAN VIDEO GAMES BE ART?: WOU STUDENTS EXPLORE A PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTION

By Erik Morgan Jr.

WOU philosophy students Erik Morgan Jr. (Senior) and Zoe Cawthon (Junior) recently attended the Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference in Forest Grove, Oregon. These two students are interested in pursuing Ph.D.'s in philosophy, so they were thrilled to get their first glimpse look into the academic world.

Erik was invited to the conference to give a talk on his essay "Can Video Games Be Art?" in which he argues that the medium of video games is capable of creating artistic expression. What he appreciated most about presenting at the conference was the lively Q&A session that followed his talk. The Q&A gave Erik a new theory to work on, and he plans on giving credit to that group of students in the book he eventually plans to write on the subject.

The keynote speaker for the conference was delivered by Dr. Susan Haack of the University of Miami. Both Erik and Zoe were able to meet Dr. Haack after the speech, and Erik was even able to get a picture with her as proof of meeting the world-renowned philosopher.



WOU GRADUATE ACHIEVES LITERARY SUCCESS

WOU graduate Therese Oneill has just published her second book, *Ungovernable: The Victorian Parent's Guide to Raising Flawless Children*, and it's getting rave reviews. The *Washington Post* describes the book as "an entertaining look at Victorian-era parenting advice . . . Oneill's irreverent guide is a reality check for those who might romanticize the era of strict self-discipline and unchallenged parental authority."

Her first book, *Unmentionable: The Victorian Lady's Guide to Sex, Marriage and Manners* (2016) became a *New York Times* bestseller. "Hilarious, horrifying, shocking, and revelatory . . . one of my favorite reads," hailed the critic, Laurie Notaro.

Oneill graduated from WOU in 2004 with BA in English-Writing and a minor in psychology.

"I loved my main fields of study, but being forced to take those general education requirements—stuff normally you would never touch—is one of the best ways to learn how the world fits together like an endless puzzle," explained Oneill. "I write about history, society and culture all mixed up with humor. I am extremely lucky in that what I want to write is also what people want to read."

Therese Oneill lives in Monmouth with her husband, Sean Oneill (a Hamersly Library technician) and her children.

For more information on Therese Oneill: www.writerthereseoneill.com.

APRIL FOOLS JOKE?? NOPE!!!

Imagine the reaction of Dr. Margaret Manoogian and her students when they were greeted by this classroom on the first day of their course in Death, Dying and Grief--April Fool's Day!

(No, it wasn't a joke...)

{Location: Anthropology Forensics Lab, HSS 329}



WOU MUSIC STUDENTS EXCEL IN RENO JAZZ FESTIVAL

By James Reddan, Assistant Professor of Music

Western Oregon Voices represented the Music Department and WOU extremely well at the Reno Jazz Festival in April, 2019. The adjudicators praised the ensemble for the extreme precision, clear diction, musicality, and intonation.

Three students were awarded medals for Outstanding Musicianship based on their solos and improvisation at the Reno Jazz Festival!

Left to Right:

Brandon Franko

Chloe Miller

Tristin Thomas



Upcoming Choir Events

- Tuesday, May 14, 10:00 a.m.: Chamber Singers perform for opening of daily session on floor of the Oregon Senate
- Saturday, May 18, 7:00-9:00 p.m.: Western Oregon Voices performs at TapRoot in Salem
- Tuesday, May 28, 5:00 p.m.: Chamber Singers perform on campus with Wind Ensemble for the Memorial Day Celebration
- Thursday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.: Chamber Singers perform at Academic Excellence Showcase
- Sunday, June 2, 3:00 p.m.: Western Oregon Voices performs their final concert for the year in Smith Hall
- Tuesday, June 4, 7:30 p.m.: Concert and Chamber Singers perform their final concert for the year in Rice Auditorium. In addition to their individual sets, the ensembles will combine to perform Beethoven's choral masterpiece, Choral Fantasy, Op. 80 with Professor Diane Baxter playing the concerto, and combined faculty, students, and community members in the 40-person orchestra, all in anticipation of Beethoven's 250th birthday

Peter Sears Poetry Awards

SHARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STUDIES

The English Studies Department is pleased to announce the winners of the 2019 Peter Sears Poetry Prize.

The competition received over 60 poems from students. An English Studies committee selected 10 poems that were forwarded to the final judge, Jennifer Richter, poet and professor at Oregon State University. The three winning poems are attached.

Of Nicole Caldwell's first place poem, Professor Richter writes:

"'Coming Home' is stunning—a powerful reminder that not everyone is lucky enough to hear any ease or relief in that title. The poem's single-sentence momentum propels us through each stanza—mirroring beautifully the fluidity with which the speaker moves between familiar and foreign lands, peace and wartime, what's hidden and exposed, seen and imagined—till we're delivered to the devastating last line that resonates far beyond the page."

Coming Home

They shipped us home,
never telling us enemies would follow,
crouching in fever dream jungles, watching
our gun boat slide by,

or that there's no waking from scanned riverbanks,
shifting eyes and hidden barrels, that in all the waters
of the world, we'll see heads of unlucky brothers,
bobbing obscenely

in the ripples we cast, graying skin stretched tight
across skulls like membranes across the rice drums
we sometimes heard through rattling palms,
that even eyes clenched shut,

won't convince us they're only rocks.

--Nicole Caldwell



*First Prize: Nicole Caldwell,
"Coming Home."*

**Second Prize: Tricia Manzano,
"This Too Will Take Some
Time."**

**Third Prize, Laura Wildfang,
"Fly Fishing Romance."**

Link to All Poems

A black and white photograph of a stack of papers. The top page has the word "Poetry" written in a cursive script. A pen is visible at the bottom of the stack.

WOU ALUMNI JUSTIN MARTIN MAKES TRIBAL POLITICS REAL

By Dr. Mark Henkels



The Autumn 2016 PS 425 class with the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. In Winter 2019, the class spent more time visiting the Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center on the reservation.

This Winter term, as he has every other year for the past decade, WOU Public Policy and Administration graduate Justin Martin brought his business to campus as a co-instructor of “PS 425: Native American Politics and Policy.” While the instructor of record is Dr. Mark Henkels, his former professor and advisor, Justin makes sure the course is grounded in the reality of Indian Country. His willingness to volunteer this time and energy epitomize the value Justin places in giving back to his community.

Justin is the owner of Perseverance Strategies, a lobbying firm in Salem whose clients include the Grand Ronde Tribe. Helped greatly by his co-worker (and WOU grad) Nichoel Holmes, Justin lined up a wide range of guest speakers and activities for the course. This winter, PS 425 students heard about tribal sovereignty and law from former Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul DeMuniz and Grand Ronde tribal attorney Rob Green; about how Alaska Natives are adjusting to climate change from WOU alumni Roben Itchoak; and about life in Congress and the challenges of promoting health and political mobilization among Native Americans from Michelle Singer, the manager of the Portland-based Healthy Native Youth Project.

The class was topped off, as usual, by Justin and Mark taking the class to the Grand Ronde tribal headquarters and the Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center, and treating the students to dinner at the Spirit Mountain Casino.

Justin is also been an important connection for many Western graduates working in and around the state capitol. His teaching and mentoring has created a legacy that will stretch into the future. Steven Michael Richmond, a current Western Oregon sophomore, writes, “I can't stress how thankful I am that you introduced me to Justin Martin. I think he's someone that I will work with a lot in my future.”

FACULTY CORNER

FELLOWS' SEMINAR

By Dr. Isidore Lobnibe

During spring term, Dr Isidore Lobnibe of the Department of Anthropology spent six weeks on a fellowship at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study in South Africa. Dr Lobnibe was the only Africanist researcher from North America invited to join a small group of anthropologists and historians from Europe and Africa, led by Professor Deborah James of the London School of Economics (LSE), to explore the phenomenon of a new African middle class in comparative perspective.

The team joined several other fellows from around the world during the 2019 fellowship year at the Institute. The team of which Dr. Lobnibe was a part draws on life histories and fictional representations, alongside other social science methods, to ask (if not answer) questions like the following: How does being or self-identifying as middle class affect ideas of citizenship, political affiliation, and new forms of associational life? How does "doing middle-classness" differ from or intersect with other forms of class "doing" and other ranges of identification, such as gender, kinship, religion or ethnicity? What are the intersecting dynamics of precarity and stability involved? And how can we analyze people's own experiences of hope and disappointment, success and failure?



TIMBERLINE REVIEW

*Submitted by Maren
Anderson*

Maren Bradley Anderson has taken the position of Editor-in-Chief of the *Timberline Review*, an all-volunteer literary journal operated by Willamette Writers. As the Editor-in-Chief, she has final responsibility for the journal, including approving each stage of the production, managing the editors, reviewing processes, responding to staff questions, assisting where necessary, and ensuring the journal is up to standards and run properly. The *Timberline Review* has open submissions each fall, starting September 1.

What people say about the
Timberline Review:

"In the *Timberline Review*, each poem and story is a beacon calling to the best in us to read deeper, climb higher." — Kim Stafford, poet

"Rarely does a new literary journal begin with such high quality..." — Eric M. Witchey, freelance writer/editor

"New Pacific Northwest Lit Mag Reminds Readers of the Joys of Art for Art's Sake" — Melissa Oliveira, *The Review Review*

<http://timberlinereview.com/>



PRESS RELEASE SHARED BY
WILLAMETTE HERITAGE CENTER

**2019 Oregon Heritage Excellence
Award Accepted by WHC Curator,
Kylie Pine**



“The award recipients represent the extraordinary efforts to preserve Oregon’s heritage... They also serve as models for others on how to develop new ideas, approaches, and innovations.” – Beth Dehn, coordinator for the Oregon Heritage Commission

Medford, Oregon – April 25, 2019 marked an extraordinary night for Kylie Pine and the Willamette Heritage Center as the curator went on stage at the Oregon Heritage Summit in Medford to accept her Oregon Heritage Excellence Award.

Two long-time WHC supporters, Elisabeth Walton Potter and Lola Hackett, nominated Pine for “going above and beyond her professional capacity as curator at Willamette Heritage Center to impact the community through teaching, volunteer work, board service, and publications related to local history.”

Pine was joined by six fellow recipients: Building a Better Community: The Canby Women’s Heritage Trail, Cultural Resources Department of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, David Dittman, Ann & Owen Nicholson, Richard & Judith Wagner, and Salem Depot.

Special guests included Gary Buck and Harold Hartman from the Siskiyou Smokejumper Base Museum, who shared a history moment about southern Oregon. Presenters were Oregon Heritage Commissioner Chelsea Rose and former KDRV news anchor Ron Brown.

The Oregon Heritage Excellence Awards are a project of Oregon Heritage, part of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Media Contact: Liz McIntire, Marketing and Events Specialist
503.583.7012 lizm@willametteheritage.org



Left to right: Nominator, Lola Hackett; WHC Executive Director, Michelle Cordova; Mother, Debra Pine; Award Recipient, Kylie Pine; Father, Richard Pine

Congratulations to Kylie Pine!

Kylie Pine teaches Anthropology 360 (Museum Studies) each Winter term here at Western Oregon University. The program and students benefit enormously from Kylie's presence on our campus. The class is open to all.



WOMEN IN STEM

By Dr. Kristin Latham

Dr. Breeann Flesch in Computer Science, Dr. Leanne Merrill in Mathematics, and Dr. Kristin Latham-Scott in Biology received a small grant from the WOU Foundation this year to develop a presence for Women in STEM on campus.

This project facilitates a community of student, faculty, staff, and community women in STEM via student-centered activities and hosted seminar speakers. Activities focus on historical women in STEM, strategies to overcome obstacles to success in STEM, career paths for women in STEM, and dealing with discrimination/harassment in workplaces. Events are open to students, faculty and staff of any gender and in any STEM field. Our students feel especially supported when they see faculty and staff attend. Evidence suggests that women in STEM fields face unique challenges at each stage of school and careers. Creating opportunities to talk through these challenges, providing tools and strategies, and introducing current STEM scientist role models from both on and off campus helps retain and support our STEM students and better prepare them for success in their careers.

On May 2, our last speaker for the year was Dr. Emma Dutton, speaking on her nonlinear career path and her current job in forensics/police department testing standards, for which she travels the U.S. and to other countries. Look for our speaker series next year, which will continue to intentionally provide successful female role models for students, and outline paths to success in STEM before and after graduation.

EVENTS

- 5/14: 5:30-7:30 pm, Xicha Brewing Company, Salem: Alumni & Friends After Hours
- 5/14: 7:30 pm, Smith Hall: Chamber Music at WOU
- 5/15: 12:00 pm at WUC, Willamette Room: Creating a Sustainable Future lecture series, featuring Aaron Wolf
- 5/16: 7:30 at Smith Hall: Salem String Quartet
- 5/17 & 5/18: 8:00 am-1:00 pm at WUC: Nuestra Fiesta Latina
- 5/17: 4:00-6:00 pm at Main Street Park: Out of Darkness Walk
- 5/22: 12:00-12:50 pm at HWC, Room 105: Social Science Symposium
- 5/22: 10:00-11:50 am at Willamette Room: Guest Speakers Chaplain Rodney Berg and Treavor Walraven
- 5/22: 11:00 am-1:00 pm at WUC patio: MAIFEST
- 5/28: 7:30 pm at Smith Hall: Chamber Ensembles & Guitar Ensemble
- 5/30: All Day at WUC: Academic Excellence Showcase
- 5/31: 7:30 pm at Smith Hall: Early Music Ensemble
- 6/1: 7:30 pm at Smith Hall: Percussion Ensemble
- 6/3: 7:30 pm at Rice Auditorium: Jazz Orchestra & Latin Jazz Ensemble with Victor Barranco
- 6/4: 7:30 pm at Rice Auditorium: Concert Choir & Chamber Singers
- 6/5: 7:30 pm at Rice Auditorium: Western Oregon Symphony
- 6/6: 7:30 pm at Rice Auditorium: Western Oregon Wind Ensemble
- 6/7: 7:30 pm at Smith Hall: Western Oregon Voices
- 6/8: 7:30 pm at Rice Auditorium: Smith Fine Arts Presents Kelly Willis
- 6/10: 4:00 pm at Smith Hall: Music Department Awards & BBQ
- 6/13: 4:00-6:00 pm at Rice Auditorium: The Rosa Lee Show
- 6/13: 7:30 pm at WUC, Pacific Room: Lavender Graduation
- 6/15: 9:00 am at McArthur Stadium: Commencement

Western Oregon UNIVERSITY
Together we SUCCEED

Aaron Wolf
Wednesday,
May 15, 2019

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES: SUSTAINABILITY SPEAKER SERIES

Creating a Sustainable Future
Noon • Werner University Center • Willamette Room
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

In the West, we are generally trained to base our approach to managing water conflicts on rationality, and tools typically focus on what is measurable and quantifiable. If only we could see the tangible benefits of cooperating, we are taught, we simply would. Over Aaron Wolf's 20 years as a facilitator and scholar working through and studying conflicts over shared water resources around the world, he has come to appreciate both the limitations of the rational models on which we in the West base our understandings of conflict and cooperation and the wisdom, constructs, and practical tools of the world's faith traditions in working toward deep and healthy interactions around contentious issues.

Wolf draws lessons from a diversity of faith traditions to transform conflict. True listening, as practiced by Buddhist monks, as opposed to the "active listening" advocated by many mediators, can be the key to calming a colleague's anger. Alignment with an energy beyond oneself, what Christians would call grace, can change self-righteousness into community concern. Shifting the discussion from one about interests to one about common values—both farmers and environmentalists share the value of love of place—can be the starting point for real dialogue. These and other practical lessons will be presented.

If you have a disability that may require some accommodation in order to participate in a WOU activity, please notify Disability Services: 503-838-8250 or ods@wo.edu at least three days in advance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT DEAN KATHLEEN CASSITY AT 503-838-8226 OR CASSITYK@WOU.EDU.