

The University of Montana Western
Academic Newsletter
Fiscal Year 2006-7 Block 7 Issue
April 13, 2007

Accomplishments

O. Alan Weltzien, Professor of English, has had the following accepted for publication:

1) along with three other academics, Weltzien co-wrote an article, "Conversing *Brokeback Mountain's* Varied Spaces and Contested Desires," forthcoming in *Intertexts*, an online academic journal housed at Texas Tech University

2) "Gary Snyder, Alan Hovhaness, and Writing the Blast," a long, cross-disciplinary article about ways in which poetry and music have represented Mt. St. Helens, has been accepted for publication in *ISLE (Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment)*.

3) in the new issue of (online) *Drumlummon Views*, Vol.1 No. 3 (Fall/Winter 2006-07), a review of Sid Gustafson's *Horses They Rode* and an essay, "High, Wide, and Greening: A Survey of Montana's Environmental Literature." The latter represents an expansion of a lecture Dr. Weltzien gave at the Helena BookFest in October, 2006. http://www.drumlummon.org/html/toc_3.html

4) an essay, "Annie Proulx and the Case for Geographical Determinism," which will be part of a critical book devoted entirely to Annie Proulx (2008 or 2009).

Dr. Gary Lundy's poem, "the wondering. woman. sticking," has been accepted for publication in the January, 2008, issue of "*The Poetry Explosion Newsletter*" (*The Pen*). The editor wrote about his poem: "What a use of the period, enjambment and phrasing!"

Another of Dr. Lundy's pieces (a "story") "exorcism: the bliss of happiness" has been accepted for publication in the ezine "cherry bleeds." and may be accessed at <http://www.cherrybleeds.com/words/guest/gary-apr07.html>

Roger Dunsmore has published eight poems in *Drumlummon Views*, the on-line Journal of Montana Arts and Culture, of the *Drumlummon Institute*, edited by Rick Newby, Helena, Mt. in the third issue, vol. 1, # 3, Fall, 2006/Winter 2007. These poems can be found in the same issue as Dr. Weltzien's book review mentioned above. http://www.drumlummon.org/html/toc_3.html

In January Shauna Basile, Cecil Jones, and Margareta Knopik presented at the annual conference of the Montana Contractors' Association in Billings. The three breakout sessions dealt with using the numbers to assess and control risk, planning for ownership transition (from one generation to the next), and building and retaining a diverse workforce (with special focus on Native Americans, Hispanics, and women).

NWCCU Visit

Dr. Danny Gonzales, Deputy to the President at Great Basin College will be on campus on April 19th representing the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) on a focused interim visit on the Montana Western's academic program assessment system. In preparation for that visit Sally Munday and David Moore, working with others across campus, have prepared a report that was submitted to NWCCU describing Montana Western's accomplishments in this area since the 2005 NWCCU visit. That report can be viewed at: http://www.umwestern.edu/administration/vcaa/accreditation/2007_Focused_Interim_Report_for_NWCCU.pdf.

Faculty Hires

Several new faculty hires have been made while a number of other searches are in or near the closing phases. Dr. Sid Gustafson has accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Equine Studies; Dr. Sara Glasgow has accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in Politics; Dr. Linda Lyon has accepted a tenure-track Associate Professor position in Botany/Environmental Interpretation; Laura Straus has accepted an Instructor position in Education/Literacy; and Kathy Shipman has accepted a one-year Instructor position to teach and coordinate Education Department offerings in Butte.

Other searches are currently underway in Equine Studies; Business/Marketing; Business/Economics; Art; Health and Human Performance; Music Education; and Biology/Biochemistry. An instructor may also be hired in Industrial Technology.

Fall and Summer 2007 Registration

Registration is currently underway for summer and fall 2007 classes. While it is still very early in the process, enrollment is currently up when compared with the same dates in the previous year.

Note:

This newsletter will be posted on the Provost's website at <http://www.umwestern.edu/administration/vcaa/newsletters/> Back issues can also be found at the same site. It will also be mailed to Dillon community members who express an interest in receiving it. The purpose is to have a central, broadly distributed information resource to keep people informed about Western, its programs, and its faculty, staff, and students. If you have information that you believe would be appropriate for this newsletter please send it to Karl Ulrich in the Provost's office, k_Ulrich@umwestern.edu