Fall 2012

Arts & Letters, The Magazine of Potter College at Western Kentucky University

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Potter College, Western Kentucky University

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Welcome to the fall issue of the Potter College magazine, Arts & Letters! The 2012-2013 academic year is off to a great start here in the College. We’re especially happy to welcome 11 new tenure-track faculty members this fall, including our first tenure-track appointment in Arabic. At a time when many universities are losing faculty lines, I’m happy to be able to say that we have more full-time faculty members in Potter College than ever before, and we’re taking advantage of our growth to launch exciting new majors like Arabic and Chinese that will prepare our students for a global society. Our new colleagues are joining a highly accomplished faculty, and we’ll introduce you to our most recent faculty award winners. We’re particularly proud that a Potter College instructor has received the University Teaching Award for the second year in a row.

This issue will also give you a sense of how active Potter College is across the campus and out into the community. You’ll get a glimpse of how our Theatre program is connecting with the young people in the Warren County Juvenile Justice Center, and you’ll get an introduction to our new and growing Film program. I think you’ll get a chuckle out of the creative and popular programming that we’re doing in our residence halls to introduce students to the light-hearted side of our disciplines. And you can travel with our award-winning students to study in Italy and Japan, and step on stage with a recent graduate as she makes her first appearance in a Broadway show.

In short, the energy and creativity of our faculty, staff, and students are making Potter College one of the most exciting places to be on any college campus. If you want to know more about what we’re doing, “like” us on Facebook for regular updates on College news. And be sure to visit the online version of Arts & Letters for more information, images, and video.

DAVID D. LEE, Dean
Potter College of Arts & Letters
## Contents

**Message from the Dean** ..........................  Left
David Lee

**Visual Arts**

HRL + PCAL = Real Education: WTF?! Series  ........  4
Jennifer Markin

Film in the Digital Age  ..................  8
Ted Hovet

**Theatre**

Theatre in Diversion  ..................  11
Carol Jordan

**Visual & Performing Arts Calendar**  ........  14

**PCAL Faculty Awards**

Susann Davis (*Modern Languages*)
David Bell (*English*)
Sonia Lenk (*Modern Languages*)
Patti Minter (*History*)
Barbara Deeb
Dawn Winters  ..................  16

**Alumni Spotlight**

Emily Althaus  ..................  19
Julie Pride

**PCAL Student Awards**

Rebecca Akers, Zach Conkle, Sarah Fox,
Sara Newport, Mario Nguyen  ........  20

**Somewhere New**

Study Abroad with Potter College of Arts & Letters  ....  23

**Arts & Letters Departments**

News from PCAL Departments  ........  26

**New Faculty Profiles**  ..................  29

**International Research Notes**  ........  32
The internal and interpersonal experiences students have while in college can have a profound impact on their development as people, as professionals, and as members of society. Students learn from faculty in and out of the classroom, and especially from faculty within their areas of academic interest. However, much of a student’s traditional academic exploration takes place in general education, entry-level survey classes. In this setting, a student learns much but doesn’t often have the opportunity to discover the diversity of faculty interests or to explore all of the faculty expertise that rarely makes it to the classroom.

In the spring of 2012, Potter College of Arts & Letters and WKU’s Housing & Residence Life department developed a new opportunity to foster greater interaction between faculty and students. Called WTF?! PCAL, the series featured student-nominated Potter College faculty who had the chance to leave their classrooms behind and meet students in the residence halls to discuss diverse ideas and experiences. The title came from the days of the seminars, which all fell on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday afternoons.

WTF?! PCAL allowed students to interact with their professors in a relaxed setting and to see them as real people, while faculty could connect with students in a new, unique way. Discussions and activities centered around seminar-style topics, such as the role of comic books during World War II or how running moonshine led to a multi-billion dollar communication-centered industry.

Kate Hudepohl, an associate professor in the Folk Studies & Anthropology department and the series’ first presenter, described how her session “If You Loved Me, You’d Let Me Eat Your Brains: How Cannibalism Saved the World” epitomized the series’ concept: “[u]sing humor and fascination with the exotic as hooks, I also discussed larger themes such as the politics of labeling, the importance of a cross-cultural perspective, the significance of pure and applied research, and the value of a multi-disciplinary approach to solving problems.”

Other sessions explored the visual storytelling and experiential learning processes common in Potter College. For example, Jeanie Adams-Smith, an associate professor in the School of Journalism & Broadcasting, used photographs to take students to the heart of Old Havana, Cuba. She described her adventures in Cuba in 2006 and 2007 just as Fidel Castro was turning 80 years old and the...
country was restless for change. According to Adams-Smith, “The questions from the students were great—we discussed [topics from] my access as a United States citizen to what kind of equipment I used. I feel the students left with a little taste of a different culture through my eyes.”

Scott Stroot, a professor in the Theatre & Dance department, led an improvisational performance exercise designed to move students into an un-selfconscious, playful mind/body state of being, with the ultimate goal of helping performers develop their instincts for “getting out of their own way” or “getting out of their heads.”

At another meeting in the series, Ching-Yi Lin, an assistant professor in the Music department, taught the basic essentials of violin playing to a room full of college students who had no violin-playing experience whatsoever. By the end of the lesson, the McCormack Hall lobby was filled with students plucking away in unison to Lin’s instruction—with a good deal of laughter thrown in.

For each WTF?! PCAL session, Katie Corbin, a 2009 Potter College graduate with a B.F.A. in Visual Arts with a Graphic Design concentration and the current Marketing Coordinator for WKU Housing & Residence Life, created a poster to illustrate and advertise the event. In keeping with the series’ tone Corbin “wanted the images to be shocking, yet sophisticated.” In addition to the main images in each design, Corbin buried clues in the background and added layers to the session posters. This was best demonstrated in the poster for the session by Kristina Arnold, associate professor in the Art department, “Why Are There Always Naked People in FAC,” which focused on the use of the human form in art and how both artists and the public discern what art is. Corbin explained, “While the naked doll doesn’t give you much information about the topic, the light sketches borrowed from Michelangelo, Rembrandt and others around the border help distinguish the topic.”
Corbin admits this was her favorite series to design and to attend, and presented an opportunity to revive the skills she learned as a Potter College major: “Going into this project, I could distinctly hear the voices of WKU Graphic Design instructors Matt Tullis and Jeff Jensen in my head, reminding me of how to organize images and information for a series. My digital printmaking course with Laurin Notheisen also played a big role in the development of how I layer images and use texture.”

The success of the series and excitement by both faculty and students has ensured that WTF?! PCAL will return in Spring 2013. The small group discussion and activities in the series epitomized the potential of higher education to foster an enjoyment of learning for the sake of knowledge as opposed to grades, and to create life-long learners and provide a whole lot of fun.

Jennifer Markin began her higher education career at Southeast Missouri State University where, as a non-traditional student, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication with an emphasis in Journalism, while working as the managing editor of her campus paper and a full-time Hall Director. During graduate school at the University of Mississippi, she continued her student services career as a Hall Director while she earned her Master of Arts degree in Higher Education Administration with an emphasis in College Student Personnel. After completing her graduate degree, Jennifer chose to come to WKU to work for Housing and Residence Life (HRL) because of the strong commitment to student success at WKU. After serving for two years in HRL, she transitioned to her current role as the Coordinator of Student Services for Potter College of Arts & Letters, working with the recruitment and retention of students for the College.

2012 SERIES SESSIONS & PRESENTERS

“If You Loved Me, You’d Let Me Eat Your Brains—How Cannibalism Saved the World” with Dr. Kate Hudepohl, Folk Studies & Anthropology Department

“Real Clothes for Imaginary People: From Avant-Garde to Zombie” with Shura Pollatsek, Theatre & Dance Department

“From Moonshine to Millions: The Evolution of Stock Car Racing” with Dr. Angie Jerome, Communication Department

“Happiness Isn’t True Happiness Unless There Is a Violin Playing Goat” with Dr. Ching-Yi Lin, Music Department

“French Toast or How about Something French Instead?” with Eddy Cuisinier, Modern Languages Department

“Twinkle Monsters” with Scott Stroot, Theatre & Dance Department

“If You Are a 90-Year-Old Woman Who Smokes a Cigar, You Are My BFF—A Look at Cuban Culture From the Viewpoint of a Visual Storyteller” with Jeanie Adams-Smith, School of Journalism & Broadcasting

“When Hairy Met Sally: Why the Schlub Is as Good as It Gets for Some Hollywood Beauties” with Dr. Molly McCaffrey, English Department

“Why Are There ALWAYS Naked People in FAC?” with Kristina Arnold, Art Department

“The Legless, Armless Man with the Crayon in His Mouth” with Dr. David Bell, English Department

“Why Didn’t Superman Just Beat Up Hitler? Comic Books and World War II” with David Serafini, History Department
Why study film?
After all “film,” the thin strip of celluloid that brought the first moving pictures to audiences back in 1895, is being supplanted by digital technology. Many current movies that we view, stream, or create never appear on celluloid, but instead get processed through computer hardware and software that the early pioneers of film could never have imagined.

Yet to call what we see in a movie theater or on a mobile device a “film” is not simply an outdated habit. Movies today, even if digital, strive to recreate the effects first perfected on film. Those who make movies—or study them—still must understand the traditional qualities of cinematography, sound, editing, and narrative that produce an inspiring work of art or a thrilling piece of entertainment. And the importance of movies as a cultural touchstone that defines—and perhaps influences—our lives has only increased as “film” has become more global, more easily available, and more high tech.
As assistant professor of Broadcasting Ron DeMarse puts it, “In today’s world, film is ubiquitous. Every industry uses video, and therefore, every industry needs professionals with strong cinema skills and the ability to tell compelling stories. WKU's film major gives students the chance to pursue their dreams, but also to develop skills—employable skills—for a variety of careers.”

When WKU created the film major in 2010, the goal was to take film seriously as a medium of art and communication that has a future as well as a past. The film major introduces students to the technological and artistic choices that have fascinated filmmakers from Thomas Edison and Georges Méliès in the 1890s to Martin Scorsese and Kathryn Bigelow today. Students in the major encounter the past and future of cinema by studying great films from around the world and by experiencing each stage in the process of filmmaking.

“In today’s world, film is ubiquitous. Every industry uses video, and therefore, every industry needs professionals with strong cinema skills and the ability to tell compelling stories.” - Assistant Professor of Broadcasting Ron DeMarse

Matthew Martin, who in 2012 was one of the first WKU students to graduate with a film major, says that “the combination of film studies and more production-oriented classes is what drew me to the major in the first place.” Matt, who is now pursuing film projects in the Bowling Green area, explains that “being able to approach the subject matter from the perspective of both a viewer and a creator is the most fulfilling thing about the program. I was able to look at film through a social and historical context as well as be exposed to the equipment and tools needed to produce my own films. That's something that really sets it apart from other majors.”

Students in the film major take a series of required courses in areas such as cinematography, editing, production, scriptwriting, and even acting. In addition, they choose among several elective courses in film history, film genres, and world cinema. Dustin Downey, another recent WKU alum, says that while studying film “I was either watching films and critiquing them, or out with friends making them. As a film student, what else can you ask for?” Dustin, back on the Hill as an Assistant Coach for WKU Women’s Soccer, works with Outrider Entertainment, a successful digital production company in Kentucky. “Western Kentucky University provides countless educational avenues for anyone looking to make a career in the film industry,” says Dustin. “Whether behind the camera or in front of the lens, WKU offers courses that allow students to learn everything they need know before they enter the working world of film.”

The film major is housed within the WKU School of Journalism & Broadcasting, but it is not a traditional academic department with a single disciplinary focus. Students in the film major can take classes in a variety of disciplines, including Anthropology, Theater, Political Science, Modern Languages, Broadcasting, and English, in addition...
to the core courses given the FILM designation. This interdisciplinary approach is one of the main appeals for many students who are pursuing the major. “Many interesting classes are available for film majors to take, and a few of my favorites have been animation, scriptwriting, and world cinema,” says Junior Honors student and film major Jaclyn Melcher. “These and other classes have broadened my perspective on the field, and have only made me more convinced that I'm right where I belong.”

Blake Garrison, a WKU Junior in the Honors College, agrees. “To be completely honest, when I came to WKU I hadn’t the slightest that I would eventually find myself immersed in the film program.” But once he experienced a few film classes, he was hooked: “finding the Film major was an awakening of sorts. I found myself caring about the things I was learning and wanting to learn more. I had the chance to create, the chance to study what others had created, and the chance to trace human culture through the most popular artistic and entertainment medium of the last 100 years.”

The film major also offers students many opportunities to hone their skills and pursue their passion outside of the classroom. “Since coming to WKU, I have been involved with the film club and film festivals and have met several people who are as passionate about film as I am,” says sophomore Jayme Powell. “I have been blessed with many opportunities because of this film major, including the opportunity to Study Abroad this summer in Germany. The film major at WKU has brought me several steps closer in chasing my dream.”

In the 18th Western Kentucky Film Festival held this past May, dozens of WKU students submitted their films in genres ranging from documentary to animation and from experimental films to comedies and dramas. Senior Film major Andrew Yontz, who won multiple awards at the Festival including Best Screenplay for We’re Gonna Blow Up the Moon, says “The Western Kentucky Film Festival was the perfect opportunity for me to show off what I’ve been working on here at WKU. The publicity and praise that I received was exactly what I needed in order to feel like I was truly growing as a filmmaker.”

Inside and outside of the classroom, the WKU Film major creates a challenging but supportive environment for its students. For 2012 graduate Jarred Halcomb, “the most rewarding aspect of the program was certainly the networking it encouraged between impassioned students and knowledgeable faculty. WKU has created a department which endows young, creative individuals with the tools as well as the intellectual perspectives to cultivate an artistic sensibility.”

With 122 majors in only its third year of existence, the WKU film major is poised to make a lasting mark on the WKU community and beyond.

Dr. Theodore Hovet earned his B.A. from Macalester College (1987) and his M.A. and PhD in English from Duke University (1990, 1995). He has taught at WKU since 1995. Shortly after arriving at WKU he worked with several colleagues in Potter College to develop a film studies minor, which began in 2000. In 2010, thanks to coordinated efforts in English, the School of Journalism and Broadcasting, and Potter College, WKU now has a film major. Dr. Hovet regularly teaches courses in the film minor/major, especially Film Theory, World Cinema, and History of Narrative Film. He also teaches composition and Introduction to English Studies.
“I’m really shy. I don’t like to perform in front of people.” The young woman looked at her classmates nervously. It was the end of the first class session of WKU’s new Theatre in Diversion program, an innovative partnership between the Departments of Theatre & Dance and Sociology and the Warren County Juvenile Justice Center. Eighteen low-level juvenile offenders had signed on to take a theatre class as an alternative to more traditional forms of community service. Over the next ten weeks, they would learn the basics of theatre and write and stage three original one-act plays. “You’ll be okay,” the instructor assured the anxious student. “Acting can be scary, but it gets easier the more you do it.” She nodded, but looked unconvinced. The rest of the students chatted, giggled, or retreated sullenly to the corners of the room.

As a naturally collaborative medium that encourages role playing, teamwork, and self-expression, theatre provides many ways to engage students. Nationally, Theatre in Diversion programs connect at-risk teenagers with positive adult role models while exposing them to new educational opportunities. Across the Commonwealth, universities and community arts organizations have successfully administered such programs, which provide a new model for rehabilitating and redirecting juveniles who have committed minor offenses. Last summer, Crystal Bohlander, a WKU
alumnus who works with the Administrative Office of the Courts in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, approached WKU about creating a local program. Crystal’s proposal was to design the Diversion course as a collaboration between the Theatre & Dance and Sociology departments. Named in honor of noted professor and local actress Patricia Minton Taylor, the program would capitalize on WKU’s academic and artistic strengths. Theatre students would have the opportunity to design and teach curriculum in a hands-on practicum setting, while Sociology students would use their research skills to analyze the overall effectiveness of the program.

As Dr. Jerry Daday, the professor overseeing the Sociology component, noted, “Sociology students can take several courses that focus on the causes of crime and delinquency and how the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems handle offenders. Typically, these courses are theoretical and focus on empirical research. Therefore, they don’t provide our students with the opportunity to see how these theories might apply to a real world situation. The theatre in diversion program gives my sociology students the opportunity to do this.”

Dr. Daday and Crystal Bohlander agreed to team-teach the class and, thanks to a generous PIE grant (Provost’s Initiative for Excellence) from WKU’s Office of Academic Affairs, secured funding to support the program. After much planning, they began the spring semester with eleven WKU Theatre & Dance students, six WKU Sociology students, and eighteen diverted youth. The first day saw a room with eighteen youths looking nervously around, wondering what they’d gotten themselves into.

Shy or not, the diverted youth engaged in the drama activities with remarkable commitment. They played theatre games, created characters, staged scenes, and even crawled through a maze of tape for a drama scavenger hunt that required them to use the entire theatre building as their stage. Some grumbled about being forced to be there, but they proved increasingly willing to take risks and try new things. Eventually, after a few sessions, one student probably voiced the thoughts of others, saying that she was actually having fun. “I look forward to coming here,” she said. “I thought it would be boring, but it’s actually kind of cool.”

After several weeks of introductory activities, the young people began to write original scenes to present in their final showcase performance. Each student presented story ideas that ranged from heart-felt domestic dramas to crime thrillers to post-apocalyptic science fiction. The class then voted on the pieces that they wished to stage. The young woman who initially had been so shy eventually wrote an original story that told the story of a wife attempting to shield her children from an abusive, drug-addicted husband. She chose to perform the central role of the wife.

When the night of the showcase performance arrived, the participants were jittery and excited. Many had never been on stage before, and they worried that they would forget their lines, miss an entrance, or break out of character. “There are a lot of people here,” one student whispered. He was right. Family members, friends, and community supporters packed into the WKU theatre.

The WKU students gave their groups a final pep talk, and the lights in the theatre dimmed. Scene by scene the kids’ stories came alive. Students who had barely spoken for the first few weeks strode confidently onto the stage. Soon aliens and humans battled for control of the universe. Later, a neglected young man struggled with the aftermath of a devastating crime. There were serious moments and comic ones, a few missed lines, and occasional stumbles, but every one of these young individuals performed. The shy student was no longer reserved. In her role as the abused wife, she stood up to her husband, passionately defended her children, and guided her story to a hopeful ending.

Later at the cast party many of the participants commented that the program had not felt like punishment. They had made new friends and enjoyed working with college students. Several

“It should also serve as a reminder of the great value of the arts in the lives of all children.”
only successfully completed the program, but enjoyed the whole experience. We look forward to continuing our partnership with WKU through Theatre in Diversion.”

The Theatre in Diversion program is an excellent example of the way that Potter College uses traditional disciplines to create novel ways to reach out to the community.

Carol Jordan is thrilled to be starting this fall as a full-time instructor in the Department of Theatre & Dance with a focus on Children’s Theatre, Theatre Education, and advising. She completed her M.A. in Theatre Education at Emerson College in Boston and has spent the past fifteen years teaching theatre at every level from kindergarten to college. She has directed nearly forty amateur and professional productions, including multiple shows with the Capitol Arts Youth Theatre ranging from Tartuffe to Les Miserables. Her most recent project is developing and directing an original musical based on Shakespeare’s The Tempest.
**Choral Winterfest**
Faculty Recital with Ken Stein, organ
Pipes and Pics: a Multi-Media Organ Recital
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**Jazz Band**
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**Symphonic Band**
Chandler Memorial Chapel, 3:00 p.m.

**Faculty String Quintet**
Baker Chamber Players
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**Southern Kentucky Choral Society**
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**The Symphony @ WKU**
Faraway Places
FAC Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

**Faculty Recital with Andrew Braddock, viola**
A Viola Recital
Faculty Recital with Andrew Braddock, viola
FAC Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**October 8, 2012**
Lift Your Hand: Music for Cello and Piano
Faculty Recital with Sarah Berry, cello
FAC Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

**October 12, 2012**
Symphonic Band Concert
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**October 14, 2012**
Chorale, Men’s Chorus & Women’s Chorus
Van Meter Auditorium, 4:00 p.m.

**October 20, 2012**
A Viola Recital
Faculty Recital with Andrew Braddock, viola
FAC Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**October 21, 2012**
Autumn Collage: Chamber Music on the Hill
Faculty Scholarship Benefit Recital
FAC Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

**November 2, 2012**
Faraway Places
The Symphony @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**November 9, 2012**
Southern Kentucky Choral Society
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**November 11, 2012**
Baker Chamber Players
Faculty String Quartet
Chandler Memorial Chapel, 3:00 p.m.

**November 16, 2012**
Symphonic Band
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**November 17, 2012**
Jazz Band
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**November 18, 2012**
Pipes and Pops: a Multi-Media Organ Recital
Faculty Recital with Ken Stein, organ
Chandler Memorial Chapel, 3:00 p.m.

**November 30, 2012**
Choral Winterfest
Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 7:30 p.m.

**December 1, 2012**
Holiday Jazz
Faculty Recital with Marshall Scott, trumpet, John Martin, guitar, and friends
Intrumental Rehearsal Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**December 7, 2012**
Holiday Pops
The Symphony and Choirs @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**December 8, 2012**
Nutcracker for Kids
The Symphony @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

**December 12, 2012**
Performer of the Semester Recital
FAC Recital Hall, 1:00 p.m.

**January 25, 2013**
PRISM, a smorgasbord of student ensembles
Van Meter Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

**January 27, 2013**
The Personalities of the Oboe
Faculty Recital with Kristin Polk, oboe
FAC Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

**February 17, 2013**
Saxophone Traditions
Faculty Recital with John Cipolla, saxophone
FAC Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**March 7, 2013**
Concert Band and Wind Ensemble
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**March 8, 2013**
Lin-Papadimitriou Duo Recital
Ching-Yi Lin, violin, and Dimitri Papadimitriou, guest pianist
FAC Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

**March 22, 2013**
Famous Fifth
The Symphony @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**March 24, 2013**
Chorale, Men’s Chorus & Women’s Chorus
Van Meter Auditorium, 4:00 p.m.

**April 7, 2013**
Beethoven: Spring, Tempest and Variations
Faculty Recital with Sylvia Kersenbaum and Donald Speer, piano, and Ching-Yi Lin, violin
Van Meter Auditorium, 3:00 p.m.

**April 13, 2013**
Jazz Band
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**April 14, 2013**
Baker Chamber Players
Faculty String Quintet
Baker Arboretum & Downing Museum, 3:00 p.m.

**April 19, 2013**
Concert Band and Wind Ensemble
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**April 21, 2013**
Wayne Will Explain
Faculty Recital with Wayne Pope, baritone
FAC Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.

**April 26, 2013**
The Symphony and Choirs @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**April 28, 2013**
Men’s Chorus, Women’s Chorus and Southern Kentucky Children’s Chorus
Van Meter Auditorium, 4:00 p.m.

**May 6, 2013**
Performer of the Semester Recital
FAC Recital Hall, 1:00 p.m.

**May 9, 2013**
Bon Voyage
The Symphony @ WKU
Van Meter Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

For more information: www.wku.edu/music Music Office:
(270) 745-3751

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**Children’s Theatre Series**

**Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre**

**October 12 – 14, 2012**
**Two Dogs:** The Amazing Adventures of Ferdo and Foofo
by Edith Weiss
Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre
Friday at 4:00 pm/Saturday at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm - Sunday at 3:00 pm

**November 2 – 4, 2012**
Ama and the White Crane
by Maureen A. O’Bole
Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre
Friday at 4:00 pm/Saturday at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm - Sunday at 3:00 pm

**December 7 – 9, 2012**
Greek Gods
by Whitney Hendry and her ensemble of players
Gordon Wilson Lab Theatre
Friday at 4:00 pm/Saturday at 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm - Sunday at 3:00 pm

ALL TICKETS $5.00

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**Theatre & Dance**

**September 27 – October 2, 2012**
**Les Liaisons Dangereuses**
by Christopher Hampton
Russell H. Miller Theatre, FAC
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday & Tuesday at 8:00 pm
Sunday at 3:00 pm
Adults $15/Students $12
Recommended for mature audiences

**November 8 – 13, 2012**
**Urinetown**
Music by Mark Hollman
Lyrics by Mark Hollman & Greg Kotis
Russell H. Miller Theatre, FAC
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday & Tuesday at 8:00 pm
Sunday at 3:00 pm
Adults $18/Students $15
March 26, 2013
Thirty-eight years after the first broadcast of A Prairie Home Companion, storyteller and author Garrison Keillor continues to entertain audiences with his idiosyncratic brand of humor. Keillor was presented with the National Humanities Medal by the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1999. (Seating vouchers will be issued for this event.)

April 11, 2013
GRAMMY Award-winning Chanteclere—called "the world's reigning male chorus," by the New Yorker magazine—presents The Siren's Call. This program celebrates the Sea with music from New Zealand, Hawaii and China complemented by Chanteclere's signature treatments of Gregorian Chant and Renaissance music.

For more information: wku.edu/culturalenhancement

Art Exhibitions

Main Gallery

August 27 – October 2, 2012
Paintings and Drawings by the artists of Carter's Tattoo Co.

Not all the artworks made by the artists represented in this exhibition are permanently etched into someone's skin. This exhibition showcases work on paper by the artists of Bowling Green's Carter's Tattoo Co: Brad Aurbrooks, Wes Carter, Adam Compton, Jerrad Derosset, Robert Gregory and Wesley Sandlin.

October 12 – November 7, 2012
Student Juried Exhibition

This competitive juried exhibition will showcase a selection of work created by students in the WKU Department of Art in the areas of Painting, Drawing, Graphic Design, Printmaking, New Media, Sculpture, Ceramics and Weaving.

November 14 – December 15, 2012
Fall Graduating Seniors Exhibition

Also in Corridor Gallery

This group exhibition presents the work of the Department of Art's Fall 2012 Seniors graduating in both the Studio Art and Graphic Design tracks.

Fall Graduating Seniors Exhibition

Friday, Nov. 30: Reception in conjunction with the Bowling Green Green Gallery Hop

Friday, Dec. 15: Reception in conjunction with Commencement

January 22 – February 28, 2013
The Resonance of Place: Paintings by Sarah Wiseman

Sarah Wiseman's works on paper exist somewhere in the realm of both drawing and painting, pulling from each discipline's tradition and visual language to "capture the spaces in-between" an individual's moments of intense experience and the instant these experiences dissipate, leaving only echoes and memories. Thurs., Feb. 28: Artist Lecture & Reception

March 7 – April 11, 2013
Exhibition of video art from the Center for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan (CCAA), curated by Rahraw Omarzad

This exhibition shows new video work created by students and faculty of the Center for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan, including work created by Dr. Rahraw Omarzad, CCAA director. The CCAA is unusual within Afghanistan in that it was created by and serves a large number of Afghan women artists. This exhibition is presented in conjunction with the PCAL Internationalization Conference and WKU Research Week.

April 17 – May 11, 2013
Spring Graduating Seniors Exhibition

Also in Corridor Gallery

This group exhibition presents the work of the Department of Art's Spring 2013 Seniors graduating in both the Studio Art and Graphic Design tracks.

Saturday, May 28 – September 7, 2012
WTF PCAL?

In the Spring of 2012, WKU Potter College of Arts and Letters and Housing & Residence Life partnered to present the "WTF" Series in which Potter College faculty showcased an area of study or interest that they do not usually have the opportunity to talk about in the classroom. For each "WTF" topic, a poster was created to illustrate and advertise the event. The poster designer, Katie McCurdy Corbin, is a 2009 graduate of Potter College's Department of Art.

September 13 – October 12, 2012
Stacy Curtis: Illustrations

Stacy Curtis is an award-winning cartoonist, illustrator and printmaker who draws editorial cartoons, comics and illustrations for various publications and web sites. Stacy has illustrated several children's books including "The Seven Habits of Happy Kids" written by Sean Covey, the Raymond and Graham chapter book series written by Mike Knudson, the Meghan Rose series written by Lori Z. Scott, and "Snack Attack" written by Stephen Kroskey. Some of Stacy's clients include Simon & Schuster, Scholastic, Highlights Magazine, and The Chicago Tribune.

October 17 – November 7, 2012
The Transatlantic Slave Trade Routes of the 1700s: a Photographic Journey, curated by Dr. J. Akuma-Kalu Njoku

Dr. J. Akuma-Kalu Njoku, WKU Associate Professor of Folk Studies, presents photographs and artifacts illustrating the significance of the exchanges that occurred among Glasgow (Scotland), Arochukwu (Nigeria), and Virginia (United States) in relation to the transatlantic trades in slaves and tobacco in the 1700s.

January 22 – February 20, 2013
Amanda Dillingham: Regenerate

Amanda Dillingham's oddly precise drawings blur the line between characteristics of the human form and reproductive species, such as tapeworms, earthworms and starfish. They ask the viewer to consider the ways in which they themselves “regenerate” -- either as a reaction to social constructs or through a shifting construction of self.

March 1 – April 9, 2013
Todd Camplin: Drawings

Todd Camplin's drawings and digital prints explore the relationship between text and image. Using poetry, quotes and greeting cards as a starting point, Camplin obsessively deconstructs and reorders the words and letterforms, creating layered images that both leave behind hints of the source words and give the viewer a completely new object for contemplation.
David Bell
Research/Creative Activity Award

David Bell, Department of English, won the Potter College Research & Creative Activity Award. Professor Bell was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and attended St. Catharine of Siena grade school. He spent countless hours at the Westwood Public Library developing his love of reading. As a child, one of his favorite books was *King Arthur And His Knights* by Mabel Louise Robinson.

Dr. Bell attended college at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. In his twenties, Bell worked a series of odd jobs before deciding that he had had enough of the mundane world and went to graduate school for creative writing. He received an M.A. from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and a Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati. During graduate school, David wrote a few as-yet-unpublished novels and sold some short stories to journals large and small—*Western Humanities Review, Backwards City Review,* and *The Edge: Tales of Suspense.*

After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Bell briefly taught at Miami University in Ohio, and St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, North Carolina. He came to WKU in 2007. Bell is the author of four novels, including *The Hiding Place* and *Cemetery Girl,* both published by NAL/Penguin. He also co-edited the short fiction anthology *Commutability: Stories About The Journey From Here To There.* Professor Bell’s work has been nominated for the Kentucky Literary Award and has been translated into several foreign languages including French, Italian, and Mandarin. He sees his writing and teaching as inextricably linked and mutually informative, and works to bring his creativity into the classroom.

Susann Davis
College & University Teaching Award

Susann Davis, an instructor in the Department of Modern Languages, has taught beginning and intermediate Spanish at WKU since 1999. She has also served as the department’s academic advisor since 2003. Ms. Davis earned a Bachelor of Arts from Montana State University, and a Master of Hispanic Studies from Auburn University. She has presented at state and national conferences including the Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA), the Southern Conference on Language Teaching, and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.
Sonia Lenk
Public Service Award

Sonia Lenk, Department of Modern Languages, won the college Public Service Award. Dr. Lenk explains that the value of education and giving back was instilled in her by her parents. As a Spanish and Latin America Studies professor, she feels an obligation to help ensure that students get as much exposure to Hispanic culture as possible to further develop their language and cultural skills. Lenk spearheaded the Hispanic Initiative Project with Dr. Holli Drummond, from the Department of Sociology, Dr. Courte Voorhees, from the Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility, Dr. Bernard Strenecky, from the Honors College, and 18 Honors students from WKU. This program helped develop three projects to facilitate access to higher education among Hispanic youths.

In addition, Lenk has focused her attention on the health needs of the region’s Hispanic community by organizing efforts with different volunteer organizations, institutions and professionals, and upper-level Spanish students, who served as interpreters for the Free Health Fair for Hispanics in Horse Cave, Kentucky. Lenk is currently working with Chaz Arnold, a Pre-Med and Spanish major, to start a yearly Health Fair for Hispanics in Bowling Green. She has also directed a Study Abroad program in Ecuador that brought together students with Mestizo, Indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian communities, to put in place projects that will improve their well being and allow students to be civically-engaged, global citizens. Finally, she co-founded and organized the series “Tracing the Unexplored,” which explores topics of importance to Latin America and the Hispanic population in the United States from different perspectives. Professor Lenk’s work truly embodies the spirit of Potter College.

This fall Ms. Davis finishes her term as the Immediate Past President of the KWLA. In her seven-year tenure with the organization, she coordinated professional development workshops and collaborated with teachers across Kentucky to improve language learning. She has played a key role in the creation of the KWLA World Language Showcase. Ms. Davis worked closely with other leaders to transform the former Foreign Language Festival into a proficiency-based event focused on what students can do with their language skills. The first regional and state showcases were held in Spring 2012.

In 2005 and 2007, Ms. Davis led programs to Mexico for secondary education teachers. She also has taught in student programs in Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, and Mexico. For Summer 2013 she is planning a program in Salamanca, Spain. Ms. Davis has been nominated for the Potter College Award for Excellence in Advising or Teaching nearly every year since 2003. In 2006 she won the College Advising Award. This year she won both the College and University awards for Excellence in Teaching. “Thank you for broadening my views, my mind, my life. Thank you for creating an environment dedicated to learning. Thank you for the Halloween candy that one time. And thank you for simply being one of the greatest teachers and life examples I could ask for,” says a former student of Ms. Davis.
Patti Minter  
**Student Advising Award**

Faculty Regent and historian Patti Minter won the Potter College Student Advising Award. Her major scholarly interests are law and race relations, and she regularly teaches courses on American Legal History, the Civil Rights Movement in America, and the History of the South. She frequently takes students to London for study abroad courses on English history and law, visiting common law courts, centers of legal training such as the Inns of Court, as well as places where the international slave trade flourished and significant events in the movement to abolish slavery occurred. She has published her work on law and race relations and recently co-edited and contributed to a collection of essays on Southern legal history. *Signposts: New Directions in Southern Legal History* is forthcoming from the University of Georgia Press in Spring 2013. She is currently finishing a book on the origins of segregation law in the South.

Dr. Minter has coordinated pre-law advising at WKU since 1995, and has advised and coordinated the Legal Studies minor since its creation in 2010. Her advising philosophy combines her expertise in teaching and researching law with her desire to help students become competitive for law school; her interdisciplinary approach both in pre-law advising and Legal Studies exposes students to a variety of scholarly approaches to studying legal institutions, human behavior, and critical thinking. A former advisee, Judge Erica Lee Williams, says in a letter supporting the award, “Dr. Minter changed my life. She CHANGED MY LIFE.”

Barbara Deeb  
**Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award**

WKYU-PBS Producer and host Barbara Deeb received one of two Potter College of Arts & Letters Adjunct Teaching Awards for 2012. The two-time Emmy award winning broadcast journalist brings her unique blend of passion and expertise to the classroom. Since 2005, Deeb has taught aspiring on-air broadcasting students each spring in the BCOM 326 Broadcast Performance Class through the School of Journalism & Broadcasting.

A graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Mass Communications and Public Relations and a minor in journalism, Deeb has worked as an on-air talent in both the commercial and public broadcasting arenas. The majority of her professional career has been spent as the host of the public affairs program OUTLOOK, and the monthly television magazine program MAINSTREET, produced from the studios of WKYU-PBS on the WKU campus. In 2006, she received a regional Emmy for her hosting work on OUTLOOK, and two years later took home the coveted statue for her work producing a documentary on the Horse Cave, Kentucky, native and internationally renowned artist Joe Downing. Deeb’s career includes a stint as an exchange journalist working with ZDF, Second German Television in Mainz, West Germany. She has also trained International journalists from Indonesia, Cambodia, Egypt, and Jordan as part of a collaboration between WKU and Internews, Washington, D.C. The veteran broadcaster is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in Leadership Studies at WKU.

Dawn Winters  
**Part-Time Faculty Teaching Award**

Dawn Winters, Department of English, also won an Adjunct Teaching Award. Ms. Winters is originally from Dayton, Ohio, and writes, “WKU has become my home in the last ten years. Both my B.A. and my M.A. were earned at WKU, and I love putting them to use in both of my jobs and in my latest endeavor as an Ed.D. student. My literary interests are in speculative and post-colonial fiction, but I don’t ever find myself saying no to any good read. As clichéd as it sounds, my students inspire me to teach, especially when I can turn one or two on to fiction. I live with my partner, Sarah, and our menagerie of animals that includes a Boxer named Roxy, a Pug named Mops, and two cats named Crookshanks and Yoshi. When I’m not teaching, working, or taking classes, my interests include traveling, cooking, and knitting.”
Alumni Spotlight: Emily Althaus

Emily Althaus, a 2009 WKU graduate from Louisville, KY, made her Broadway debut this summer with the opening of the revival of *Harvey*. Althaus understudied the roles of Myrtle Mae Simmons and Ruth Kelly. Althaus, who majored in performing arts, was very active during her time at WKU, appearing in numerous productions for the Department of Theatre and Dance, including roles in *Sweet Charity* and *As Bees in Honey Drown* and as the title character in the musical *Violet*. Since leaving WKU, she has also toured the United States in a two-person show titled *A Night of Well Adjusted Ladies* with WKU alum Megan Venzin.

Althaus was interviewed by Julie Pride, WKU Theatre and Dance Accompanist and Publicist. Pride worked with Ms. Althaus on several productions at WKU.

**JP:** What has surprised you about the industry?

**EM:** That's a hard one. I learn something new all the time. I'm surprised how much there is to know. It's interesting that professional actors, even established ones, carry a sense of unemployment, wondering where their next job will come from. Frank Langella wrote a wonderful piece about this for the *New York Times*.

**JP:** What would you say to yourself as a freshman at WKU?

**EM:** Oh, so many things. You must have tenacity, and you must be willing to invest in other people.

**JP:** How did your WKU education experience help you?

**EM:** I got a great education. The professors are invested in you. Their instructions are focused and they get to know you, which helps if they need to call you out.

**JP:** What is your hidden talent?

**EM:** Sketch comedy shows. Sign me up for a sketch comedy show, they are the most exciting thing.

**JP:** At WKU, actors also learn technical skills for behind-the-scenes work. Have you had the chance to use those skills?

**EM:** Oh yes, my apprenticeship at Williamstown Theatre involved doing whatever needed to be done. I got my Equity card for the show *Three Sisters* and part of that job was moving things.
MARIO NGUYEN, Fulbright Award

Mario Nguyen, a native of Dallas, Texas, majored in public relations and minored in marketing at WKU while competing as a full-scholarship recipient for the WKU Forensics Speech and Debate Team. During his fourth year, Mario worked as the Research and Communications Coordinator for the Economic Development Department at the Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce. After graduation, Mario was awarded a Fulbright García-Robles Binational Business Grant to Mexico City for ten months. In Mexico, he is currently taking MBA courses at the Instituto Autónomo de México, one of the top business schools in Mexico. Mario is also working as the Venture and Fellowship Coordinator at Ashoka Social Entrepreneurs, an international venture capital firm dedicated to solving social problems through impact investment and global networking. Through Ashoka, Mario has helped to support entrepreneurs tackling issues such as rural development, access to clean water, microfinance in impoverished and indigenous groups, and improved access to health care. Mario hopes that this understanding of international business will help him with his future goal of serving as a business immigration attorney, in which capacity he plans to migrate businesses in and out of the U.S.

REBECCA AKERS, Gilman Scholarship

Rebecca Akers-Kuczek, of Glasgow, Kentucky, is a graphic design major in WKU’s Department of Art. She recently returned from international study experiences in Japan, where she studied the history of Japanese art, visited historic Buddhist sites, and began studies in the fine art of Sumi-e painting. Rebecca explains that she has always been immersed in art; her mother is a painter and provided Rebecca materials to make her own creations. The trip to Japan was a long-held dream of hers, made possible by funding support from the Gilman Award. Akers-Kuczek wanted to have a life experience far different from the one she knew. She accomplished that mission, and hopes to return for further studies, perhaps through a Japanese Exchange and Teaching program or a Fulbright scholarship. Rebecca states that her “time in Japan was amazing, and I’m really thankful to the scholarship program for making it possible.”

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SARA NEWPORT, Gilman Scholarship

Sara Newport hails from Oakland, Kentucky, just north of Bowling Green. Her older brother’s school art projects and doodles intrigued Sara, sparking her initial interest in art, and soon she began making her own projects and doodles alongside him. Sara enjoys many traditional forms of art, particularly printmaking, but for career interests she chose to pursue a major in graphic design. Part of the appeal of WKU for Sara was the opportunity it provided to help her fulfill her lifelong dream of traveling. She and a good friend traveled to Japan and fell in love with the culture, and thanks to the Gilman Scholarship and other grants that paid for food, tuition and travel costs, she had few expenses. She now refers to Japan as a second home and, given the opportunity, Sara would return to explore other Asian countries. When asked what would make her happiest in the future, she responded saying being a book illustrator, making prints, and continuing her travels.

The Gilman Scholarship Program offers awards for undergraduate study abroad and was established by the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000. This scholarship provides awards for U.S. undergraduate students who are receiving Federal Pell Grant funding at a two-year or four-year college or university to participate in study abroad programs worldwide.

SARAH FOX, Fulbright Award

Sarah Fox is a double major in English Literature and Music, and an Honors student, and a Presidential Scholar at WKU. The daughter of Brian and Susan Fox of Russellville, Sarah graduated from the Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts in 2009, the Kentucky Governor’s Scholars Program in 2010, and Russellville High School in 2011. Sarah is the first student from WKU to be selected by the US-UK Fulbright Commission to attend a Fulbright Summer Institute for Undergraduates. She spent this summer studying at Newcastle University in Newcastle upon Tyne, England. Her studies there centered on editing the works of the 18th century Lake District poet, Susanna Blamire, using Blamire’s original manuscripts stored in the archives at the Dove Cottage and Wordsworth Museum. Her work has subsequently been published on the Dove Cottage website. Sarah traveled extensively in northeast England during her time at Newcastle. Her interest in religious history prompted many exciting visits to cathedrals and priory ruins. At WKU, Sarah is the pianist for the WKU Chorale, the University’s premier touring ensemble, and the WKU Opera Theatre. She is also a proud member of the TrebleMakers, the women’s a capella singing group on campus. In addition to her studies, Sarah has a passion for gifted
education and has worked for the Center for Gifted Studies at WKU. She enjoys tutoring elementary-aged English immersion students and dreams of opening an arts school for underprivileged students. During her stay in Newcastle upon Tyne, Sarah learned about successful arts rejuvenation projects that have helped revitalize the city, and anticipates incorporating what she has learned into her life-long goal of using the arts to help others.

ZACK CONKLE, Hearst Scholarship

Zack Conkle is a 2012 graduate of Western Kentucky University with a degree in Photojournalism and a minor in History. His work allowed him to qualify for the 2012 Hearst Journalism Competition in San Francisco where he placed 2nd in the Multimedia Category and received a $4000 scholarship. He also received an additional $1000 scholarship for having the best multimedia story of the year, entitled “The Only Sure Thing.” Conkle enjoys telling oddball stories. Whether it’s about 99-year-old Tyrus Cobb Bailey, of Arab, Alabama, who’s had his self-built casket sitting in his living room for twenty years, or about Dana Jackson, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, who married for the fourth time on her 100th birthday, he just can’t pass up good stories. The entire process of finding and convincing folks to allow him to document their stories thrills him. He feels that the profession in which he finds himself immersed is simply too good to be true. He has spent time with firefighters, doctors, roller derby girls, horse farmers, centenarians, boxers, ballerinas, teachers, and luthiers, just to name a few. He is currently working as a photo intern at a newspaper in Toledo, Ohio, called The Blade, until December. His work has also been recognized by College Photographer of the Year and Photophilanthropy.

The Hearst Journalism Awards Program was founded in 1960 to provide support, encouragement, and assistance to journalism education at the college and university level. The program awards scholarships to students for outstanding performance in college-level journalism, with matching grants to the students’ schools. Learn more at http://hearstfdn.org/hearst_journalism/index.php.
Somewhere New

Study Abroad with

Potter College of Arts & Letters

A Hybrid Study Abroad Program: Live, Study, and Work in Europe

Dr. Soleiman Kiasatpour, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, led a group of six WKU students on a study abroad trip to Belgium from May 27-July 13. Students elected to take his “Islam and Politics in Europe” class and another course at Vesalius College, Brussels, or to intern with one of several international organizations. Belgium, like many European countries, has a large Muslim population that comes mainly from Turkey and Morocco. In Belgium they face many of the same challenges as immigrants anywhere else in the world, including the need to balance integration in their new homes with a desire to maintain their cultural and political identity.
Brussels, which is almost a quarter Muslim, serves as an ideal location to study the intersection of Islam and politics. One of the key features of the program is that Dr. Kiasatpour’s course was open to students from other universities, which allowed WKU students to study alongside European and other American students. This diversity provided an environment for students to learn more about the politics and culture of the region.

Students visited mosques in Brussels and Amsterdam and had the opportunity to meet with one of the City Councilors of Amsterdam, who is originally from Morocco. The City Councilor highlighted some of the key issues facing his constituents, including unemployment and discrimination. Another feature of this program is competitive international internship opportunities. Derek Noem and Courtney Krebs, International Affairs majors, and Laura Myers, an International Business major, interned with the European Parliament, an international law firm, and a four-star hotel, respectively, giving them opportunities for on-the-job problem-solving in an international setting. Other students chose to take a second class on the European Union, where they visited different European Union agencies and heard guest lectures from policymakers. In addition, most of the students lived with Belgian families the entire time, which enhanced the overall study abroad experience for many of the students.

**Study Abroad: Media in Germany**

Faculty-led Study Abroad programs offer short-term opportunities to extend the student learning experience beyond the WKU campus. Recent graduate Emily Patton recalls her summer trip to study the media in Germany: “Every time I try to reflect on my experience, I can’t restrict it to a few thoughts or moments, and that’s the beauty of it. I think back on when I took my first train ride on my own, understood the words of a German newspaper, or met someone [from] across the world [who] isn’t all that different from me. All of those things empowered me, gave me a sense of confidence and knowledge that I revisit every day in daily life and in my job today. It was an out-of-the-classroom learning experience that was one of the best decisions I’ve made in my life.”

A collaborative effort between Dr. Laura McGee, chair of the Department of Modern Languages, and Jo-Anne Ryan, from the School of Journalism & Broadcasting, the Media in Germany study abroad program provided students an opportunity to explore and compare the diverse world of the German news and entertainment industries through site visits and face-to-face discussions with German journalists and media experts. Students pursued projects related to their career plans, which entailed meeting individually with industry professionals. Broadcast major Trent Brock writes, “I really learned a lot from the Professional Interest Project at CNN International in Berlin. It showed that dedication and hard work pays off. It also opened my eyes to a new potential job opportunity of working abroad.”

After traveling to three major cities—by plane, train, subway, bus and boat—the students lived with host families in Berlin for the remainder of the trip. Film major Jayme Powell blogged on the course web page, “I was nervous about leaving the group at first, but I have loved every moment with my host family. My study abroad experience to vastly improve my spoken German and explore journalism from somewhere entirely new.”

— Emily Patton
has been beneficial to me in more ways than I can mention. I have learned a lot by just being immersed in the culture here in Germany.”

“You learn about a new culture, new foods, values, and best of all, you meet new people that you might have otherwise never met in your lifetime just because you chose to take a chance and hop on the airplane – spectacular!” reflects Michelle Dille, Major in Organizational Communication.

Western iMedia-Paris

When Western iMedia staff head overseas, it is less a study abroad opportunity than an intense business trip. Such was the case when nine specially trained “fusion journalists” in the School of Journalism & Broadcasting’s exclusive Collaborative Capstone arrived in Paris in late May to produce global coverage of the 2012 NEWS! World Summit, which ran from May 30 to June 1.

They had to hit the ground running as soon as they landed - time zones, jet lag and cultural acclimation not withstanding. They worked three 22-hour days in a row, solving the inevitable technical complications and managing weather disruptions without pause, and presenting the unflappable demeanor of media professionals throughout. They might squeeze in some sightseeing and sample the local cuisine, but no matter what, they had to get the story.

During the course of international meetings of top news media editors, technologist and executives, WKU’s iMedia team wrote, blogged, tweeted, posted, Facebooked, photographed, video-produced, aggregated, curated and otherwise provided comprehensive coverage of the Global Editors Network’s annual gathering. Six more iMedia fusion journalists in the States edited, contextualized and tweaked code in the background. In all they generated 2,200 interlinked pieces of content across seven media platforms.

The innovative media-rich story environment they created at www.news-worldsummit.org/2012/ is specially designed to adapt for tablet and mobile phone users, who comprise more than sixty-five percent of the digital audience. The site continues to attract hundreds of visitors per day. Their work has so far reached a worldwide audience topping 242,000 in 171 countries. That compares to the roughly 330 participants from forty countries who were on site for the three-day event in the fabulously ornate hall at the Paris Hôtel de Ville (city hall) on the right bank of the Seine.

The trip was funded with a commission from Global Editors Network (GEN) and additional support from the SJ&B and WKU Honors College.
International Student Teaching

In partnership with the WKU Study Abroad and Global Learning Office and the College of Education and Behavioral Science Student Teaching Office, the Art Education program at WKU is expanding its international reach and sending pre-service art teachers to complete their student teaching overseas. So far, five students in the WKU Art Education program have completed their international student teaching overseas: Natasha Bridges at Kyung Hee Elementary, Seoul, Korea; Katie Hudson and Natalie Davis at The Long Eaton School, in London, England; and Monica Crawford and Chen Huang in Barcelona, Spain.

WKU Art Education Student Featured on WBKO

Natasha Bridges, who recently completed the WKU International Student Teaching Program at Kyung Hee Elementary School in Seoul, South Korea, was featured on the “View from the Hill” news segment of the WBKO, Bowling Green, Kentucky. The interview focused on how she taught Art and English to non-English speaking students while student teaching abroad. In recent years, WKU has opened many doors for P-12 pre-service teachers by placing them in teaching positions overseas.

Hanyang and WKU Student Exchange Program

Three students from the Department of Art, Alex Aguirre, Lauren Perkins, and Ethan Hughes, traveled to Korea for a month of art, language, and culture classes with a mix of students from all over the globe to participate in the Hanyang International Summer School. This marks the second year of a student exchange program between WKU and Hanyang University. WKU’s Department of Art hosted a Hanyang Art Education student in Spring 2012, and anticipates more incoming Hanyang students in the future.

Kiln

In the fall of 2012, WKU’s Department of Art will begin offering wood firing as part of its ceramic art curriculum and community outreach efforts. Under the guidance of Assistant Professor Lindsay Oesterritter and Master Kiln Builder Professor Ted Neal of Ball State University, students and community members will build and fire a wood-fueled kiln. Along with using a renewable fuel source, this process creates unique and subtle surfaces that display the interactions of flame, wood, and clay during the firing. Ash from the wood firing fluxes into a glaze-like surface on the wares. The history of this technique began in Asia centuries ago and continues to influence current ceramic practices around the world.

The kiln site will be housed within a newly constructed building located on WKU’s Farm. Envisioned as the first step toward a future “Kentucky Folk Arts/Heritage Center,” the kiln and its programming will connect visiting artists, students, and community members to an age-old process ripe for new explorations.
POLITICAL SCIENCE

What’s UR Tag?
Each presidential election year, the Department of Political Science and the Political Engagement Project (PEP) develop a theme for the University community. This year the theme “WhatsURtag?” is meant to inspire this social media savvy generation of students to engage in issues that concern them. The Department and the PEP want students to express themselves in the tradition of graffiti artists and visual art that has been prevalent throughout American history. They have set up a Facebook account, What’s Your Tag?, a Twitter account (@whatsurtag and #whatsurtag) for students to follow current events, to learn about PEP activities and to engage in the political process this election.

Faculty Research
Dr. Timothy S. Rich (Political Science) published “The Timing of Split-Ticket Voting Decisions in Mixed Systems: Evidence from South Korea” in the Asian Journal of Political Science 20.2, September 2012. This paper used Korean language survey data on the 2008 National Assembly election to identify what motivates ticket-splitting. In Korea’s National Assembly elections, voters elect a district candidate (much like the U.S.) and vote for a party for seats filled by proportional representation. Rich’s analysis found that ticket-splitting was more likely by late deciders. In addition, among split-ticket voters, late deciders were more likely to irrationally split their vote (e.g., one vote for a progressive and one for a conservative). Both patterns endured even after controlling for factors such as whether a voter’s preferred party ran candidates for both seat types.

Volunteerism
This past summer, political science and international affairs student Allison Feikes volunteered at Jitihada Support Limited day orphanage in Arusha, Tanzania. At the orphanage, she taught first graders who knew English as a second language. She also organized a fundraiser that generated $600 toward the purchase of school supplies and food for the children of Jitihada.

MUSIC

New Master of Music Degree
In Fall 2012 the Department of Music began accepting students into a new Master of Music degree program. This degree will offer four concentrations. Two of those—Music Education and Conducting—will result in Kentucky teaching licensure rank change. A third program is Pedagogy, which brings Music Teachers National Association certification. The fourth is a Conducting degree that is a prerequisite to a doctoral degree. Dr. Robyn Swanson chaired the departmental committee that has brought this degree to fruition and implementation; she will serve as the program advisor.

International Reach
Dr. Paul Hondorp, Director of Choral Activities, and Dr. John Cipolla, clarinet specialist and saxophonist, have recently been involved in two international initiatives. Hondorp was the guest conductor for the Chinese University of Hong Kong Chorus where he conducted a program of American music and presented a choral methods workshop at the request of the Hong Kong Ministry of Education. Cipolla, President of the International Clarinet Association, has performed in Portugal, and planned and attended the International Clarinet Association Conference in Nebraska.

National News
At the national level, Dr. Robyn Swanson will serve as one of ten writers to develop the framework and music content for the Next Generation Arts Standards Project, sponsored by the National Association for Music Education and the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards. Dr. Mitzi Groom is a member of the national 18-member Accreditation Commission of the National Association of Schools of Music, and is one of three national members serving on the Endowment Trust Committee of the American Choral Directors Association.
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

New Programs
The Department of Philosophy and Religion recently added two new programs. In Fall 2010, the department implemented a new major in Asian Religions and Cultures. This interdisciplinary major has graduated its first students and now has approximately thirty students enrolled. The major builds upon the tradition of the study of religion at WKU, while requiring students to complete work in an appropriate language and to take courses in History, Political Science, Geography, and other departments. Several students have incorporated study abroad experiences into their academic program.

In the fall, 2012 semester, the M.A. program in Religious Studies welcomed its second class of students. This cohort has enhanced the intellectual life of the department while gaining important classroom experience through their work as teaching assistants. Several students who entered last fall are preparing their applications for some of the prominent Ph.D. programs in the country.

FUSE Grants
Three students in the Department of Philosophy and Religion received Faculty-Undergraduate Student Engagement (FUSE) grants. Daniel Shouse, in Asian Religions and Cultures, received a grant to work with Dr. Jeffrey Samuels on Buddhism, allowing Daniel to travel extensively in East and South Asia in summer of 2012. Joseph Southworth, in Asian Religions and Cultures, began work with Dr. Paul Fischer on ancient Chinese manuscripts. Adam Johnson, in Philosophy, co-authored a paper with Dr. Audrey Anton that they delivered at a conference in July, 2012 in England.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Welcome Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants
Modern Languages is pleased to once again host two new Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants. Rachid Abou Abdellah comes from the southern part of Morocco. He taught English as a Foreign Language at a middle school for eight years before coming to WKU. He looks forward to improving his language teaching skills and learning about American culture. He will teach first-year Arabic for the department. Isaac Muhando comes from Nairobi, Kenya, where he taught at an international school. He likes acting and directing, and was active in the drama program for four years while in college. He is interested in AIDS prevention in Africa, and served as a Peer Educator Supervisor for the organization “I Choose Life Africa.” He self-identifies as a leader who wants to continue to improve his leadership skills. He will teach first-year Swahili. This is the first time either Rachid or Isaac has traveled outside his native country.

Congratulations Ekaterina Myakshina
In October 2011, Russian Instructor Ekaterina Myakshina was recognized with the University’s highest honor for volunteers, the Distinguished Service Medal, for her volunteer work at the Kentucky Museum. In summer 2012, Dr. Laura McGee and Ms. Myakshina traveled to Russia to visit potential exchange partner institutions and to visit future Study Abroad locations. In 2012-2013, WKU will offer intermediate Russian courses.
New Faculty Profiles

Dr. Elizabeth Alsop
English

Dr. Elizabeth Alsop earned her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the City University of New York Graduate Center and her B.A. in Comparative Literature from Brown University. Her primary areas of specialization include modernist fiction, narrative theory, and film studies. She will teach courses in the Film major as well as classes in 20th-century British Literature and World Literature. Before coming to WKU, she taught literature and film at Hunter College and Queens College, and worked in the Writing Across the Curriculum program at York College. Last year, she helped to pilot the OpenLab, an open-source digital platform for teaching and learning at New York City College of Technology. She also served as a film curator at the Brooklyn Public Library. A former cookbook editor and avid home cook, she is especially looking forward to exploring Kentucky’s regional foods, particularly its barbecue.

Brent Björkman
Folk Studies and Anthropology

Brent Björkman completed his M.A. in Folk Studies at Western Kentucky University in 1998 and his B.S. in Social Studies from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. He will serve as Potter College’s first Research Assistant Professor and Director of the Kentucky Folklife Program, a state-wide organization that recently moved to the Department of Folk Studies and Anthropology. Björkman’s previous positions include serving as the Executive Director of the Vermont Folklife Center, as the first Associate Director of the American Folklife Society in Columbus, Ohio, and as a Folklife Specialist with the Kentucky Folklife Program in Frankfort. In addition, Björkman lent his expertise as a public folklorist to many national and state organizations, including the National Endowment for the Arts of the National Council for the Traditional Arts, Southern Arts Federation, Northwest Folklife, the Maine Arts Commission, the West Virginia Folk Art Apprenticeship Program, the Mississippi Arts Commission, the Illinois Arts Council and the Ohio Arts Council.

Dr. David DiMeo
Modern Languages

Dr. David DiMeo is originally from Boston, Massachusetts, but has moved very often, such that everywhere is home. He received his B.S. degree from West Point and then served in the U.S. Army for 26 years as Middle East Area Specialist and Arabic linguist. He earned his M.A. from Princeton University, with a thesis on the Muslim Brotherhood, and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in Modern Arabic Literature. He notes: “When I lived in the Middle East, I was amazed at the power of the written word and the influence of literary authors to move millions. I saw that understanding Arabic literature was a key to hearing the voice of change in Arab society.” His research focused on Egyptian writers who laid the groundwork for revolutionary change in the political and social system. “With the recent revolution in Egypt, the implications of their work have taken on a significance that seemed impossible a few years ago.” He comes to Kentucky from West Point, New York, where he had taught Arabic since 2000. He is married with two kids in high school and one Corgi at home. This year, he will teach Basic and Intermediate Arabic, but looks forward to expanding the Arabic offerings to advanced courses and study abroad opportunities in the very near future. He is a new but loyal fan of the Bowling Green Hot Rods and is interested in dogs and just about everything associated with them.

Lisa Long-Draskovich
Theatre & Dance

An educator, choreographer, dancer and massage therapist, Lisa comes to WKU from Los Angeles, where she earned her MFA in choreography from CalArts. She has danced professionally for Dallas Black Dance Theatre and the Riedel Dance Theater, and was a principal dancer with Dance Kaleidoscope, under the artistic direction of David Hchoho (the former rehearsal director of the Martha Graham Dance Company) for eight seasons. She holds a B.F.A. in ballet from Texas Christian University, and an A.A. from Swedish Institute. She has taught at CalArts, UCLA, and Butler University, and her choreography has been produced off-Broadway, at the Oregon...
Shakespeare Festival, Electric Lodge, New Works Festival, and for Rogue Machine Theater. Her work has been favorably reviewed by the *New York Times*, and *Backstage* described it as “imaginative and inspired.” Lisa is passionate about passing on her knowledge of technique, anatomy and love for dance to the next generation of dancers.

**Dr. Jerod Hollyfield**

**English**

Jerod Ra’Del Hollyfield earned a B.S. in Journalism and Electronic Media in 2005 and an M.A. in English in 2007, both from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University in May 2011. His research interests led him to pursue the dissertation project “Framing Empire: Victorian Literature, Hollywood International, and Postcolonial Film Adaptation,” which combines his specializations; literature, film, and postcolonial theory. Previously, Dr. Hollyfield taught English and digital media at LSU and the UT. His work has been published in *Atlantikos*, *CineAction*, *Film International*, and the recently released collection *World Cinema and the Visual Arts*. When not teaching and working on academic projects, he writes for *The Noisy Philistine* (www.noisyphilistine.com), a film and media blog devoted to discussions of digital technology in the globalized world. He also makes films largely set in Appalachia and on the Gulf Coast.

**Carol Jordan**

**Theatre & Dance**

Carol Jordan is thrilled to be starting this fall as a full time instructor with a focus on Children’s Theatre, Theatre Education and advising. She completed her M.A. in Theatre Education at Emerson College in Boston and has spent the past fifteen years teaching theatre at every level from kindergarten to college. She is particularly interested in providing high quality drama opportunities for at-risk teenagers, and partnered last spring with Dr. Jerry Daday in the Sociology Department and the Warren County Juvenile Justice Center to develop a Theatre in Diversion class as a community service alternative for low-level juvenile offenders. She has also directed nearly forty amateur and professional productions, including multiple shows with the Capitol Arts Youth Theatre ranging from *Tartuffe* to *Les Miserables*. Her most recent project is developing and directing an original musical based on Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*.

**Dr. Eric Kondratieff**

**History**

Dr. Kondratieff earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Ancient History at the University of Pennsylvania, where he wrote his dissertation on *Popular Power in Action: Tribunes of the Plebs in the Later Republic*. While at Penn, he taught a wide range of courses in Greek and Roman history, archaeology, topography, and Latin. One of the co-authors of *Mapping Augustan Rome (Journal of Roman Archaeology, Suppl. 50)*, he has also published articles in Roman political culture and numismatics, a continuing research interest for nearly two decades. He is currently working on a revision of his dissertation for publication, and on articles exploring the intersection of Augustan coinage as commemorative art and as evidence for other commemorative art. His other research interests include Greek and Roman historiography, epigraphy, and economy.

**Dr. Jie Kong**

**Communication**

Jieyoung Kong received her Ph.D. in Communication from Arizona State University in 2012. She earned her M.A. in English Language Testing and in International Area Studies from Korea University. Her interest in intercultural communication led her to a dissertation project titled “Opening Fields Through Aikido: An Embodied Dialogic Practice at a Martial Arts Dojo”, an ethnographic study examining the transculturation process of a Japanese martial art tradition in the U.S. Although born in South Korea, Jieyoung is a global nomad who has lived in Surinam, Italy, Ethiopia, and Libya. She is new to Bowling Green and WKU and is thrilled to take part in the growing diversity.

**Dr. Lauren McClain**

**Sociology**

Originally from New York and Florida, Dr. Lauren McClain received her B.A. from State University of New York, Albany and moved to Ohio for her graduate work in Sociology at Bowling Green State University. She earned her Ph.D. in 2009 with a concentration in Family Demography and a minor in Quantitative Research Methods. She spent the last three years as
an assistant professor at Savannah State University in Georgia. Her dissertation and current research focus on father involvement, co-parenting, and relationship quality between new cohabiting parents. Dr. McClain and her husband, David, who live in Bowling Green with their two cats, Silva and Maizy, are expecting their first child in December.

Dr. Shannon Vaughan  
Political Science

Shannon K. Vaughan earned her M.P.A. from Appalachian State University in 2004 and her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky in 2004, and will teach courses in public administration. Her research interests include the impact of not-for-profit organizations on public policy, government-nonprofit relations, and ethics. Her published works include articles in *Public Integrity, Review of Policy Research*, and *the Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*. She has co-authored a book, *Managing Nonprofit Organizations in a Policy World*, with Dr. Shelly Arsneault, to be published by CQ Press in 2013. Prior to joining the faculty at WKU, she was an assistant professor and the assistant director of the MPA program at Appalachian State. She has also served as director of a small nonprofit organization and as a grants specialist for two regional planning organizations. She lives in Bowling Green with her husband, daughter, and Border collie.

Dr. Timothy Rich  
Political Science

Timothy Rich received his Ph.D. at Indiana University and his M.A. at Ohio University, both in Political Science. His teaching interests include East Asian domestic and international politics as well as electoral politics and comparative politics more broadly. His current research analyzes electoral reform in South Korea and Taiwan as well as English news in North Korea. He hopes to bring his experiences in East Asia into his Comparative Politics and East Asian Politics courses this fall and to encourage students to study abroad. Away from his career, he enjoys comedy, spending time with his wife and dog, traveling, and listening to music. As a native of St. Louis, he also enjoys baseball and looks forward to attending more Hot Rods games.

Dr. Nahed Artoul Zehr  
Philosophy and Religion

Nahed Artoul Zehr was born in Rehovot, Israel, and immigrated with her family to New York City in 1989. After two years in America’s “Big Apple,” she spent the rest of her formative years moving back and forth between Israel and Fort Dodge, Iowa. She earned a B.A. in both Religious Studies and Political Science from the University of Iowa, where she also completed an M.A. in Religious Studies. She received a Ph.D. in Religion from Florida State University in the summer of 2011. Dr. Zehr spent the 2011-2012 academic year as the Minerva Research Chair at the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, a graduate school for American and international military officers, where she taught a graduate seminar on the Islamic tradition. She has published a variety of articles on Islamic and Western concepts of “just war,” as well as on the War on Terror. Her research and teaching interests are at the intersection of religion, ethics, and international relations and focus primarily on Islam. At WKU, she teaches a variety of classes on the Islamic religious tradition, as well as general education courses. In her free time, Dr. Zehr likes to travel and to partake of good food, good coffee, and good wine. In addition, while still a novice chef, she has undertaken the task of (slowly) learning to cook her family’s traditional recipes. Dr. Zehr lives in Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband, Joel, and their Pekingese, Shadii.
Philosophy & Religion

Dr. Jeff Samuels spent three months at the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore where he conducted research and worked on a book length manuscript on Buddhism in Malaysia. While there, he presented a paper entitled “Buddhism and the Formation of a Transnational Identity in Malaysia,” conducted a seminar (with Dr. Liang Yongjia) on Ethnographic Fieldwork and Qualitative Research, and submitted a chapter of his manuscript to the Religion and Globalization Research Cluster. Dr. Samuels’ research was supported by a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship from the Asia Research Institute, an individual research grant from the American Academy of Religion, and a $3000 Potter College Faculty Scholarship grant.

Dr. Paul Fischer spent several weeks in early summer as a visiting lecturer at Wuhan University in China. His stay was part of a faculty exchange program between the School of Philosophy at Wuhan and the WKU Department of Philosophy and Religion. Dr. Fischer then spent much of the rest of the summer conducting research in China, supported in part by a $3000 Potter College Faculty Scholarship grant.

Political Science

Dr. Edward Yager and co-authors Dr. Cheryl Schonhardt-Bailey and Dr. Saadi Lahlou, both of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), have published “Yes, Ronald Reagan’s Rhetoric Was Unique—But Statistically, How Unique?” in Presidential Studies Quarterly 42.3 (2012). This work applied automated textual analysis to measure the thematic content of State of the Union addresses of all modern presidents from Woodrow Wilson through Barack Obama. The research found that Ronald Reagan’s speeches produced a statistically robust theme of civil religion not found with such magnitude in the other State of the Union addresses. A WKU summer research grant provided the means by which Dr. Yager served as an Academic Visitor to the LSE and worked with his collaborators on this project.

English

Elizabeth Winkler is working with Liberians to expand her 1998 dictionary of Kpelle, a Mande language, as well as to create an orthography so that it can also be used in a written form.

Deborah Logan spent four months in India and then two months in the United Kingdom for research related to a Fulbright grant.

Lloyd Davies spent the summer of 2012 retracing Lord Byron’s 1816 travels from London to Geneva, Switzerland, as part of a project on Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage. He visited, photographed, and wrote about various sites that are mentioned in the poem.

Ted Hovett researched late nineteenth century popular entertainment and early film history at the British Library in June of 2012. He found several sources that confirmed his hypothesis that cinema created restrictions in its technology to match models of display in earlier forms of entertainment.

Walker Rutledge travelled to Cuba on a scouting expedition for his upcoming Winter Term 2013 class, “Cuban Literature and Culture.”

School of Journalism & Broadcasting

POYI Latam is the largest and most prestigious photojournalism contest in Latin America. More than 700 Latin American photographers entered some 17,000 images in the first POYI Latam that was judged by a jury of top international professionals and educators during a week in Quito, Ecuador in 2011. Fifty-five thousand people worldwide visited and interacted with the contest’s judging via internet live-streaming.

Universidade Federal do Ceará (Fortaleza, Brazil) will host the judging of the second POYI Latam in April 2013. The mission of POYI Latam is to promote the best of Latin American photography and to inform the international community of Latin American culture. POYI Latam is a collaborative project between Pictures of the Year International (POYi) and Nuestra Mirada. POYi, created in 1944 by the University of Missouri School of Journalism, is the oldest and one of the two most prestigious photojournalism contests in the world. Nuestra Mirada is the largest website dedicated to Latin American photography and photographers.

International photographer Pablo Corral Vega and WKU’s School of Journalism & Broadcasting director, Loup Langton, created and direct POYI Latam.
We hope you’ve enjoyed this edition of Arts & Letters and are as excited as we are about the accomplishments of Potter College’s students, alumni, and faculty. Please make a gift today supporting the Potter College Dean’s Fund for Excellence. Your financial support will provide increased academic opportunities for students within Potter College, including student support for study abroad, research and creative activity, and innovative learning opportunities beyond the classroom. We greatly appreciate your gift. It’s an investment in the future.

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All events begin at 7:30 p.m. (CST) in Van Meter Hall and are open and free to faculty, students, staff, and the community. Seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Free seating vouchers are issued for Ailey II and Garrison Keillor only. Free seating vouchers are available beginning January 1, 2013 at wku.showare.com or beginning January 2, 2013 by calling 270-745-3121. All events are swipe-able and students can earn WellU points for attending.

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