

WSU TODAY

FACULTY, STAFF AND GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS • MARCH 3, 2006

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MARINE RESEARCH,
EDUCATION, OUTREACH

WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY

MEMORY LOSS

Research to understand, intervene

BY HOPE BELLI TINNEY
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

A black canvas notebook and a timer are the low-tech tools Eleanor Catlin is using to keep her independence. For the past year, she has been keeping track of her life hour by hour throughout the day. On the right page is her plan, where she writes down any appointments or errands she needs to do, and the left page of her notebook is what she actually does.



From left, Moscow residents Jay Scheldorf and Eleanor Catlin work with associate professor Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe and graduate student Michelle Kayne-Langill. (Photo by Robert Hubner, WSU Photo Services)

working closely with Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe, a WSU associate professor of psychology who not only is studying the effects of memory loss on everyday activities, but is developing interventions to help people cope with memory loss.

For Catlin, a kindergarten and elementary school teacher for 27 years, having that simple canvas notebook is the difference between being in control of her life and giving up control to someone else.

"I can go back and see when something happened," she said recently, flipping through her notebook at the sun-splashed dining table in her northeast Moscow home. But more than that, it helps her focus. When writing in her notebook, she said, "I just feel centered and alive."

Catlin, 71, still enjoys visiting with friends and family, watching television programs with her husband, going for walks around town, spending time with her grandchildren. But about four years ago, she was diagnosed with slow, progressive dementia.

While it is a difficult diagnosis to hear, Catlin said in some sense it was a relief to finally know what was wrong. "I felt understood," she said. "I don't feel judged negatively for it."

Notebook fills in gaps

(See "Memory," page 8)

Thursday,
Feb. 23: 11 a.m.,
lunch; 1:30 p.m.,
appointment at
WSU.

Over the past year Catlin and her husband, Jay Scheldorf, have had many appointments at the WSU Psychology Department, both as study participants and as clients at the Psychology Clinic.

They have been



Fifth-graders try to get their minds around the idea of eating Jell-O shaped like brains at a previous Kid's Judge! science fair at WSU. (Photo by WSU Photo Services)

Brains feel like mush? Student displays might explain why

A Jell-O brain feast and synaptic tag are just a couple of the displays to be exhibited by WSU's Neuroscience Program as it hosts the annual Kid's Judge! science fair on Tuesday, March 7, during Brain Awareness Week.

More than 100 area fifth-grade students will judge science models created by students, faculty and staff. Models provide a

hands-on learning experience for the visiting students, who will determine which are the most understandable and creative displays.

The event will be 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Ensminger Agriculture Pavilion. Read more about this annual program in a WSU Today article from last year at www.wsutoday.wsu.edu/completostory.asp?StoryID=1922.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Van Doren among five original faculty

BY LINDSEY VAN DE VANTER
WSU TODAY INTERN

This year's Women's History Month theme is "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams."

In the spirit of honoring women's achievements in society, it seems fitting to look at the life of a woman who influenced the early history of WSU, when the school — then called Washington Agricultural College — was just a one-story brick building on a lonely Palouse hill.

Nancy Van Doren was one of five origi-



nal WAC faculty members — and the first woman — when the college opened its doors in 1892. George Lilley, the first president of WAC, recruited Van Doren and two other staff members to the Palouse from South Dakota Agricultural College. Due to the limited number of staff members at the time, Van Doren played many roles. She was the college librarian, an English professor and preceptor of WSU's first dormitory, Ferry Hall, and later of Stevens Hall.

Van Doren's influence in the early WSU community was rewarded in 1908, when Van

(See "Van Doren," page 8)

President to address many topics

President V. Lane Rawlins will host his spring semester dialogue with the WSU community at noon Tuesday, March 7, in the Regency Room on the second floor of the CUB.



V. Lane Rawlins

Among the topics he plans to address are:

- Academic initiatives
- Private fund raising
- Government relations
- University funding and budgets

Questions will be taken after the presentation. A live videostream will be available online. For that link, and for more interaction with WSU leaders, see www.wsu.edu/dialogues-forums.



Mom's Weekend
Bill Engvall



WASHINGTON STATE
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BEASLEY PERFORMING ARTS COLISEUM
Saturday, April 8, 2006 8:30pm
All Tickets \$35.00

Tickets available at all TicketsWest outlets including Beasley Coliseum, Cougar Depot, U of I North Information Center and Albertson's in Lewiston
1-800-325-SEAT or online beasley.wsu.edu



Keith Bloom



Don Frame



Charii Higgins



Tom Johnson



Dee Dee Torgeson

PRESIDENT'S EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Staff honored for productivity, workplace and community service, problem-solving

BY CYNTHIA KING
WSU TODAY

Five WSU employees will receive President's Employee Excellence Awards at the Celebrating Excellence recognition banquet March 24, part of WSU's annual World Class. Face to Face. Showcase festivities to honor the outstanding achievements of faculty and staff across campus.

The awards recognize outstanding contributions to WSU by administrative professional and classified employees from across the state. Each recipient is awarded a plaque and \$2,500 provided by the WSU Foundation.

Nominations focus on outstanding contributions made by the employee toward increasing the productivity of the unit; innovative problem solving; positive working relations with students, the public, and co-workers; and community service.

The winners are:

• Keith Bloom, assistant director, Capital Planning and Development.

Bloom is able to find creative ways to accomplish what others say can't be done, said one of his nominators. His tenacity, dedication to quality and ability to get the right people together to address difficulties on construction projects has ensured that projects are completed well, on-time and within or under budget, said others.

He contributes a sense of humor to the workplace and is "the epitome of a team player." He has assumed a lead role in managing and mentoring the student intern program implemented by his department five years ago.

Bloom serves on the Pullman City Council, is a small business owner and has helped organize a Christmas dessert auction at Capital Planning and Development that in its second year (2005) raised \$3,500 for two Pullman social aid agencies.

• Don Frame, systems specialist III, Information Technology, WSU Tri-Cities.

When faced with a task, Frame asks "How can I help?" said one nominator. He's not concerned about whether or not it falls within his job description. He cheerfully and willingly helps other Tri-Cities employees with their telephone and computer-related needs, working with them until he knows just what they need and never making the electronically challenged feel stupid. If he doesn't know an answer, he'll get more information or provide other contacts — and in a timely manner.

Frame regularly goes outside his job description to assist faculty in their grant work (typically designing and building electronic instrumentation). He shows a welcome interest in students, said one nominator, and a willingness to help engineering students in the lab.

He earned the Tri-Cities' top employee award in 2004.

• Charii Higgins, veterans affairs coordinator, Registrar's Office.

Higgins is instructive, kind and a patient listener with WSU's military students, whom she calls "her kids," said one nominator. She also is fierce and relentless in cutting through roadblocks that may hinder these students from getting the help they need.

She has led efforts to ensure WSU student veterans receive the tuition

For more information and to make reservations for the March 24 luncheon or banquet, see the Showcase website at www.showcase.wsu.edu.

waivers due them. She successfully pushed for expansion of the WSU Veterans Memorial and the establishment of faculty liaisons to mentor returning student veterans.

Higgins arranges counseling for military students who need it, mentors work-study students on how to best serve veteran students and has been known to host Thanksgiving dinner for "her kids" in need.

• Tom G. Johnson, scientific instructional technician supervisor, Department of Physics & Astronomy.

Johnson is critical to the teaching mission of his department, where he is responsible for lecture demonstrations that help students "see" and understand difficult concepts, said one of

his nominators. In addition, he does such work as computer troubleshooting, website creation and management, scheduling student computer labs, tracking inventory and more. Despite the many demands on his expertise and frequent last-minute faculty requests, he is creative, collaborative, patient and good-humored.

Johnson regularly conducts spectacular physics demonstrations for visiting middle school and high school students and even takes the show on the road as a good-will ambassador for WSU throughout the state.

• Dana "Dee Dee" Torgeson, administrative manager, Department of Philosophy.

Torgeson is the lone office professional for her department but she handles her wide-ranging duties productively and efficiently and with the highest level of quality, said a nominator. In addition to all the usual office management, she has responsibility for computers, publications and Web pages. She "helps faculty look good" by designing posters and websites for them.

She took the initiative to get training as an academic adviser when she knew the department needed one. Her helpful, approachable interaction with students is credited in large part for the growth in majors seen by her department.

Torgeson helps with the Combined Fund at WSU and raises funds for cancer research in the community.

For more information on the awards, contact the Office of the President at 335-6666.

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Faculty, staff and graduate students are invited to submit ideas, information and photos for consideration.

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WASHINGTON STATE
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World Class. Face to Face.

SHOWCASE 2006

Research, creativity result in patents

BY HOPE BELLI TINNEY
UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Research at WSU resulted in 15 separate patents in 2005, involving the expertise and commitment of 21 different faculty members, according to Keith Jones, director of WSU's Office of Intellectual Property Administration.

These accomplishments will be recognized during Showcase 2006 on March 24.

"This is obviously very important to the work of the university," Jones said. Receiving a patent can be a crucial step toward commercialization of a product, procedure or plant

that can make a difference in people's lives.

"We don't do this for financial gain," Jones said, although it is nice if it happens.

"We're here to serve the faculty," he said. "Very often it's their desire to see their research move out of the lab and be put to a practical purpose."

Find information on these patents, by their numbers, at www.uspto.gov/patft/index.html.

- (plant variety) PV 200300348 Dieter von Wettstein U.S. Patent No.:
- 6,759,048, Doug Jasmer, Travis McGuire
- 6,790,621, Katrina Mealey (PI), Steve Bentjen

- 6,787,343, Rodney Croteau (PI)
- 6,813,024, David Kramer (PI)
- 6,825,017, John Browse (PI), James Wallis
- 6,818,755, Rodney Croteau (PI), Mark Wildung
- 6,811,997, James Petersen
- 6,846,659, Rodney Croteau (PI), Mark Wildung
- 6,857,224 B1, Lawrence Schrader (PI)
- 6,855,669, Norman (Rick) Knowles (PI), Lisa Knowles
- 6,854,337, Julie Tarara, Francis Pierce (PI), Marvin Pitts, John Ferguson (USDA)
- 6,878,861, John Browse (PI)
- 6,884,921, John Browse (PI)
- 6,911,330, Michael Costa (PI), Laurence Davin, Norman Lewis

WSU AT LARGE

Research, safety, education part of outreach

WSU at Large is an occasional feature of WSU Today that highlights people and programs at one of the 70-plus outreach sites that the university operates throughout the state.

BY CHRISTINA MILLS
WSU TODAY INTERN

Washington is well known for its marine life and, with the help of Washington State University's Grays Harbor Marine Resources Program, related natural resource industries are flourishing.

Aligned with the Washington Sea Grant Program at the University of Washington since 1979, the Marine Resources Program (MRP) provides research, technical assistance and education to marine workers and surrounding communities to improve marine industries and conservation.

Steve Harbell, county director and marine resources agent for WSU Extension in Grays Harbor and Pacific counties, said the program has been vital to supporting and advancing Washington's marine economy.

"We're in a position to sustain these industries and help them overcome challenges," Harbell said.

Tackling issues head on

Enabled by its strong academic core, the MRP utilizes research as a key ingredient for understanding and confronting industry dilemmas.

"It is important for us to have knowledge of industry research," Harbell said. "From there, we can bring information to people who can then get involved in the process of research."

Among the biggest challenges facing the marine industry are pests choking out estuary systems and burrowing shrimp species.

An estuary — a water passage where the tide meets a river current — is a critical breeding ground for shellfish and juvenile marine species. However, invasive species such as Spartina or cordgrass are drastically impacting estuary habitats. Likewise, burrowing shrimp species alter intertidal areas, which can diminish habitat quality.

Since fish and shellfish cultivation produces more than 65 million pounds of fish and shellfish annually for a \$50 million value to the Washington economy,

problems such as Spartina and burrowing shrimp can blunt production and profits.

Understanding gained by researching these critical issues can lead to solutions such as the testing and application of physical, chemical and biological controls, and mariner and community education.

Buoys safety

In addition to the advantages that research provides, the MRP offers technical assistance to support other critical components of the marine industry, including weather forecasting, vessel maintenance and stability, marketing assistance and trade adjustment assistance.

"We essentially provide a way for fishermen to be safe, to maintain their vessels and equipment, and to market their products," Harbell said.

The availability of technical assistance has decreased the risk often associated with ocean fishing.

According to the MRP website, the more notable improvements are the outreach programs, made possible through the Coastal Storms Initiative, which have provided support for the installation and maintenance of a second weather buoy at the mouth of the Columbia River. The buoy has been an asset to forecasting marine weather and sea conditions for fishermen.

Additionally, technical assistance workshops offered through WSU Extension enable commercial salmon fishermen to be eligible for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, which provides compensation due to foreign import competition.

"These programs assist the industry in sustaining solid levels of production so it can thrive and contribute to the state," Harbell said.

Beyond the sea

With more than 60 percent of the



Steve Harbell, left, works with a fisherman who is learning to properly hook up the hydrostatic release on a life raft. (Photo courtesy of Steve Harbell, WSU Gray's Harbor)

nation's edible seafood on the line, education remains a prime factor in driving industry prosperity.

The MRP has trained and certified more than 1,500 fishermen in first aid; vessel safety; onboard equipment safety; fire, flood and man-overboard safety; and proper fishing procedures for tribal and commercial fishermen, Harbell said.

Such intense education has led to significant changes in the ways fishermen prepare for emergencies, which annually saves many lives, \$800,000 in vessels and \$1 million in fishing gear, Harbell said.

Educational opportunities also are extended to local communities, children and consumers, including:

- shellfish harvesting information to shoreline property owners, enabling local individuals to generate additional seafood bounties and revenues;
- youth camp and after-school programs emphasizing marine life and conservation;
- courses in seafood quality control, handling, safety, nutrition and preparation;
- daily radio broadcasts detailing cur-

rent marine issues; and

- publications explaining industry news and developments.

"We're trying to get information out in lots of different ways to different groups," Harbell said.

Into the future

Though significant staffing and facilities growth are not expected due to budget limitations, Harbell sees the future of the MRP as a continuation of existing projects — especially those in technical assistance and education — to improve industry function and success.

New projects, such as seafood retailing and marketing programs, likely will be developed as well.

"We're always looking for new opportunities and needs in the industry," Harbell said.

Grays Harbor and Pacific counties, he said, "grow more oysters and clams than anywhere on the West Coast and have products available on the eastern side of the state that we didn't have 10 years ago. If you like seafood, you're being well served by the marine sector in Washington."

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economist focuses on 'the rest of the story' — incomes

BY DENNIS BROWN
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN
AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES

One of the most pertinent barometers of local and regional economies often is overlooked, according to economist Gary Smith, whose office is based out of WSU's Puyallup Research and Extension Center.

"Without question, personal income is far and above the best available local indicator of general purchasing power," Smith said. "Therefore, it is central to tracking and comparing what's happening in the local economy over time and in comparison to other counties and regions."

"It's easier for people to look at the local economy in terms of jobs or wages and salaries generated by jobs. Or they look at demographics. You can easily count people and jobs, but when you look at incomes (household totals from all sources), people start feeling uncomfortable (with disclosing or investigating personal information) and step away from it."

"The income side not only brings into view earned incomes from the workplace, but also incomes that result from people owning assets — including dividends, interest and rent — as well transfer payments, such as government pensions, social security and



Extension economist Gary Smith.

unemployment insurance."

Smith says a lot of income that enters a region is not directly related to jobs, but when that income is spent locally, it then generates jobs and enhances the sales-tax base for local governments.

"When somebody from WSU retires and stays in Pullman, they are no longer employed in the workforce but they are bringing a lot of dollars into Pullman as a result of their retirement pensions and the

incomes from the other assets they own."

He said only 63 percent of the personal income in Whitman County is earned income; the remainder is derived from property income and transfer payments. "This is not at all unusual. In fact, it's pretty typical."

When Smith joined the WSU faculty in 1983, he began publishing economic reports on individual counties in Washington utilizing personal income data compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

He created the Northwest Income Indicators Project website, <http://niip.wsu.edu>, in 1998 to take advantage of the new Internet technology. Now, visitors can generate and publish customized reports containing graphics, tables and narratives examining economic trends drawing from the data compiled by the Regional Economic Information System of the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The website encompasses 197 counties across the Pacific Northwest. The annual data spans 35 years from 1969 to 2003. Users can make state-to-state comparisons nationwide.

"I am looking at your site now, and it is literally mind blowing," wrote Evelina Tainer Loescher, chief economist at Econoday and author of "Using Economic Indicators to Improve Investment Analysis."

"How many years did it take you to put this up? It is amazing."

WHAT'S HAPPENING

For more of What's happening, please see pages 6-7

VANCOUVER PUBLIC AFFAIRS LECTURE

Attorney General Ashcroft addresses security, civil liberties

Former Attorney General John Ashcroft will speak on national security and civil liberties at WSU Vancouver's Fourth Annual Public Affairs Distinguished Lecture Series at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at Skyview High School, 1300 NW 139th St., Vancouver. The series is sponsored by Associated Students of WSU Vancouver and the Thomas Foley Institute for Public Policy and Public Service. A reception will follow in the Student Center.

Tickets are available for \$10 +



John Ashcroft

The series brings nationally recognized speakers to WSU Vancouver and southwest Washington to address issues of the day. WSU Vancouver

fees through all Tickets-West outlets. Tickets can be charged by phone at 800-992-TIXX, or on the Web at www.tickets-west.com.

alternates the partisan background of the selected speakers in order to accommodate a variety of political views.

A panel discussion on balancing national security and civil liberties in a post 9/11 world will be held from noon-2 p.m. on the WSU Vancouver campus prior to the evening lecture.

For more information about the lecture series or the panel presentation, contact Carolyn Long at (360) 546-9737 or long@vancouver.wsu.edu.

Managers conference set for Aug. 10

In a new initiative to provide supervisors and managers with current information regarding personnel and resource and risk management, Human Resource Services (HRS) will sponsor a one-day conference, Managing in Cougar Country, on

Aug. 10 in the Smith CUE building.

Presenters will include Steve DeSoer, director of HRS; Mike Tate, vice president for Equity and Diversity; and Len Jessup, president of the WSU Foundation.

Participants will select ses-

sions to attend from a number of topic offerings. The conference is free; complimentary lunch, beverages and snacks will be provided.

For a schedule and to register, go to www.hrs.wsu.edu and click on the Managing in Cougar Country icon.

WSU NEWS BRIEFS

\$1.5M NSF grant to spark interest in engineering

WSU researchers have been awarded a three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation that seeks to improve student interest in math in secondary grades and to help understand the factors affecting student interest in engineering and science careers.

These questions have become of increasing importance in the last few years as the number of American students entering engineering has stagnated. Leaders in industry and academics are increasingly concerned that without maintaining interest and competitiveness in the hard sciences, mathematics and engineering, the United States will lose its leading edge in the global marketplace.

The project will be conducted by researchers in the College of Engineering and Architecture and the College of Education through the recently established Engineering Education Research Center, which works to empower educators along the engineering pipeline to work more effectively. Researchers include Denny Davis, Gerald Maring, Sandra Cooper, Guy Westhoff, Jennifer Beller and Janae Landis.

Ex-dean accepts post at North Carolina State

James J. Zuiches, a professor in community and rural sociology and a former dean of the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences, will assume duties as vice chancellor for extension, engagement and economic development at North Carolina State University on March 15.

He will retire from WSU in March. A public reception is scheduled 3-5 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, in the Lewis Alumni Centre.

In 1995 he was selected from among four finalists to serve as the dean of the former College of Agriculture and Home Economics and director of both Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Research Center. He served in that post until 2003, when he stepped down.

March 10 deadline for faculty roster updates

All faculty names will be included in the 2006 WSU catalog, but if faculty want the rest of their information to be accurate, they'll want to review and update it at the Human Resource Services homepage at www.hrs.wsu.edu. Click on Faculty Roster under News and Events.

Roster information includes name, title, department, degree earned and institution from which it was earned.

Additions or deletions must be e-mailed to Stephanie Hood at shood@wsu.edu.

The deadline for updates is March 10.

Grad student funding applications due April 17

Applications from graduate students for the Natural Resource Conservation Endowment Fund are due at noon April 17 to the Office of Grant and Research Development. For more information, see www.ogrd.wsu.edu.

The program provides seed money for WSU graduate student research and projects related to, but not limited to, energy, small-scale agricultural concepts, community education, wildlife conservation and/or recovery, related psychological and sociological studies, domestic and international studies and other projects related to conservation of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources.

Rent a rower during weekends

For two weekends in March, members of the WSU men's crew team will dedicate their muscle to their spring Rent-A-Rower event. It's a popular way for people in the Pullman and Moscow community to get a variety of work projects done, and an important fund-raising effort for the team.

Available weekends are March 4-5 and 11-12. Crews of any size can be hired for \$10 per rower per hour. E-mail mensrowing@wsu.edu to submit your work request. For more about the team, visit www.cougarcrew.com.

AWARDS & HONORS

If you or someone you know has received an honor, please e-mail the information to Cynthia King at cynking@wsu.edu.



Terrell Young

The 50-year-old professional association of reading teachers, researchers, administrators and students has members in the United States, Canada and nearly 100 other nations.

The Inland Northwest Sportswriters and Broadcasters recently honored Rod Commons, assistant director of athletics/director of media relations, with a 25-year award for outstanding contributions to athletics.

The exercise physiology and metabolism degree at WSU Spokane — the only program of its kind in the Northwest — recently was endorsed by the American College of Sports Medicine. Widely considered the gold standard in health and fitness certifications and professional memberships, ACSM is the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world. The degree program's curriculum was endorsed as meeting the academic standards needed to prepare students for health, fitness and/or clinical exercise training and positions.

Ryan M. Hare, professor in music and theatre arts, has been awarded a 2005 Artist Trust/Washington State Arts Commission fellowship recognizing creative excellence and accomplishment, professional achievement and continuing dedication to the artistic discipline.

The Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival has awarded two Meritorious Achievement Awards for WSU's fall production of Romeo and Juliet. Richard Slabaugh, professor in music and theatre arts, received one for set design and Stan Brown, music and theatre arts instructor, received the other for direction.



John Irby

John Irby, associate director of undergraduate studies for the School of Communication, has been selected as a 2006 American Society of Newspaper Editors Institute for Journalism Education fellow. One of 15 professors selected from across the U.S., Irby will work in a large newspaper newsroom for six months this summer.

Jennifer Scriggins, French horn instructor in music and theatre arts, has been appointed editor of the Northwest Horn Society newsletter.

Ruth Kirk, author of more than 30 books on natural history, archaeology and ethnography, received the \$1,000 Humanities Washington Award. Kirk has opted to donate her award to the WSU Department of Anthropology Scholarship Fund, which benefits advanced students based on excellence and leadership.



Susan Armitage

History professor Susan Armitage has been appointed by the governor to the 15-person advisory committee for the Women's Consortium, a group funded by the legislature to gather and publicize women's history in Washington.

The College of Liberal Arts has named its fall 2005 award winners. Psychology professor Michiyo Hirai, foreign languages professor Christopher Lupke, and English professor Aimee Phan received awards for initiation and completion grants; psychology professor Marsha Gartstein and political science professor Ed Weber received Edward R. Meyer projects awards; Karen Lupo, professor of anthropology, received the Edward R. Meyer grant development award; and Troy Wilson, Ph.D. candidate and teaching assistant in anthropology, received the Boeing Graduate Fellowship in Environmental Studies award.



Rod Commons



Stan Brown

Hazard mitigation planning project discussed March 17

If WSU wants to remain eligible for some federal homeland security funding, it must complete a hazard mitigation planning project. The project will begin March 27 with a request for information from each WSU operating location statewide. Extension Engaged will feature a broadcast discussion of the project before a live audience 10-11 a.m. Friday, March 17, in FSHN T-101; those attending should be seated by 9:50 a.m. and turn off cell phones.

Guests will include Chris Tapfer, emergency management coordinator for WSU's Office of Business Affairs; Linda Fox, dean of WSU Extension; and Mike Gaffney and Nick Lovrich of the Division of Governmental Studies and Services. DGSS is part of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice Program devoted to providing applied research services to federal, state and local government agencies in the state.

The first focus of the hazard mitigation planning project will be to conduct a hazards inventory and vulnerability assessment. Draft mitigation plans will be developed, then feedback will be sought from business, local government and citizens.

The broadcast will be available via videostreaming from <http://caheinfo.wsu.edu> using RealPlayer or WindowMedia player. For questions, contact program host/producer Scott V. Fedale at fedale@wsu.edu or 335-2952.



Soundworks

Seattle sculptor and composer Trimpin sets up his exhibit in the Museum of Art gallery at WSU Pullman. The show will run through April 9. (Photo by Shelly Hanks, WSU Photo Services)

What's Happening

PERFORMANCES/LECTURES/ART/MUSIC/EVENTS/CLASSES

March 3 - March 18

Exhibits

Soundworks by Seattle sculptor and composer Trimpin, Museum of Art, through April 9. Hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thu., noon-4 p.m. Sun.

WSU Vancouver faculty, staff, students and families art on display through March 31, Engineering Life Sciences Building gallery, WSU Vancouver. Hours 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Thu., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri.

Works of artist/activist MB Condon, March 7-April 14, Student Services Building gallery, WSU Vancouver. Hours 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Thu., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri.

Tobe Harvey, Spokane painter, through March 3, Gallery II, Fine Arts 5072. Hours 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

One Year Later, 2005 Masters of Fine Art Alumni, March 13-31, Gallery II, Fine Arts 5072. Hours 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Border Monsters/Border Crossing Views, an exhibit of ceramics and prints by Angel Olegario Luna. CUB Gallery, through March 30 (closed for Spring Break). Gallery Hours Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Reflection, Eating Disorder Awareness Week. Take a look at yourself from a different perspective. Glenn Terrell Mall, through March 4, all day.

Conferences

Intro to service learning course construction, 9:15 a.m.-3 p.m., March 10, Eastern Washington University, \$25 including lunch, register by March 3 at www.wacampuscompact.org/events.html. Sponsored in part by Washington Campus Compact, of which WSU is a member.

Information technology forum, March 12-14, Todd Hall, free, see [http://infotech.wsu.edu/vpis/ITForumReg.asp](http://infotech.wsu.edu/vpis/IT%20Forum%202006%20program%20draft.pdf).

Northwest critical access hospital conference, March

23-24, Spokane, \$35, register at www.ahec.spokane.wsu.edu. Sponsored in part by WSU and WSU Extension.

Northwest rural health conference, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., March 22, Spokane, \$210-\$240, register at www.ahec.spokane.wsu.edu. Sponsored in part by WSU and WSU Extension.

Border Monsters

Ceramics and prints by angel Olegario Luna are on exhibit at the CUB Gallery through March 30 (closed for Spring Break).

Theory in the architecture curriculum, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., March 30, Audian theater, Pullman. Interdisciplinary effort between architecture, English, philosophy, education and communication disciplines. Keynote address on architecture and place by Yale philosophy professor Karsten Harries. Contact Ayad Rahmani at 335-7393 or arahmani@mail.arch.wsu.edu.

Continuums of service for service learning professionals, April 19-21, Bellevue, Wash. Sponsored in part by Washington Campus Compact, of which WSU is a member. Register and get more information at www.acadweb.wvu.edu/campcomp.

Latinos and Latinas in the Pacific Northwest, all day, May 4, Smith CUE 202, 207, 209. Free, though contributions are suggested. Registration information at www.josealamillo.com/latinonorthwest.htm. Sponsored by the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies and Comparative Ethnic Studies and Women's Studies at WSU.

Managing in Cougar County, for managers and supervisors,



all day, Aug. 10, Smith CUE, free. Registration information at www.hrs.wsu.edu. Sponsored by WSU Human Resource Services.

Friday, March 3

Track & field, Idaho meet, all day, University of Idaho.

Budgets workshop, 7:30 a.m., Murrow 55, part of series for department chairs, directors.

Supervisors/managers workshops, 8:45 a.m.-noon, Lighty 405, info and registration at www.hrs.wsu.edu/utills/ShowPage.asp?page=391.

Baseball vs. Gonzaga, 2 p.m., Lewiston, Banana Belt Tournament. For tickets, see <http://wsucougars.collegesports.com/tickets/basebl01.html>.

Saturday, March 4

Track & field, Idaho meet, all day, University of Idaho.

Women of Color Day luncheon, noon, CUB Cascade rooms, \$15, contact Women's Resource Center, 335-6849.

Baseball vs. Lewis Clark State College, 2 p.m., Lewiston, Banana Belt Tournament. For tickets, see <http://wsucougars.com/tickets/basebl01.html>.

collegesports.com/tickets/basebl01.html.

Common Ministry buffet/audition fund raiser, 5:30 p.m., Pullman Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, March 5

Film "Der Untergang" (The Downfall; 2005), 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203, part of series remembering Nazi death camp liberation.

Monday, March 6

"Gotterdammerung and Beyond," lecture by author Stanley Weintraub, 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203, part of series remembering Nazi death camp liberation.

Tuesday, March 7

Annual brain science fair, WSU neuroscience program, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Ensminger Agriculture Pavilion.

Building community through diversity, introductory session explains theory behind the National Coalition Building Institute community building model, 10 a.m., Lighty 405, register at www.hrs.wsu.edu/edis/Event/EventDetail.asp?eventID=19051.

President's dialogue, noon, CUB Regency Room.

Rethink conflict, Janina Robbins and Karen Kiessling, noon, CUB 123, part of Women & Leadership pre-forum series.

Liberation and displaced person camps, lecture by Laurie Whitcomb, WSU history, 4:10 p.m., Honors lounge, part of series remembering Nazi death camp liberation.

Baseball vs. Chicago State, 6 p.m., Bailey-Brayton Field. For tickets, see <http://wsucougars.collegesports.com/tickets/basebl01.html>.

Film "Rosenstrasse" (2003), 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203, part of series remembering Nazi death camp liberation.

Wednesday, March 8

Supervisors/managers workshops, 8:45-11 a.m., Alumni Centre Regents Room, info and registration at www.hrs.wsu.edu/utills/ShowPage.asp?page=391.

Baseball vs. Chicago State, 6 p.m., Bailey-Brayton Field. For tickets, see <http://wsucougars.collegesports.com/tickets/basebl01.html>.

Thursday, March 9

Organizational communication, noon, Lighty 405, Patty Sias, WSU. Followup to fall Leading to Greatness seminar.

Domestic violence and Stephen King during the feminist backlash, Amy Canfield, WSU history, 1 p.m., CUE 518, part of Women's History Month at WSU.

Baseball vs. Chicago State, 6 p.m., Bailey-Brayton Field. For tickets, see <http://wsucougars.collegesports.com/tickets/basebl01.html>.

Film "No Man's Land" (2001), 7 p.m., free, Honors lounge, part of Honors College speaker/movie series.

Choral concert, 8 p.m., Bryan theater.

Friday, March 10

Supervisors/managers workshops, 8:45-11 a.m., Alumni Centre Regents Room, info and registration at www.hrs.wsu.edu/utills/ShowPage.asp?page=391.

Musical response to the Holocaust, WSU music faculty, noon, Holland/Terrell Library atrium, part of series remembering Nazi death camp liberation.

Friday, March 17

Hazard mitigation planning project, Extension Engaged discussion, 9:50 a.m., FSHN T-101.

"The King and I," 7 p.m., Beasley Coliseum, by Pullman Civic Theatre, tickets \$12 and \$15 in advance, \$15 and \$20 at the door, 335-1514.

Saturday, March 18

Women's rowing, all day, Wawawai Landing on the Snake River.

"The King and I," 7 p.m., Beasley Coliseum, by Pullman Civic Theatre, tickets \$12 and \$15 in advance, \$15 and \$20 at the door, 335-1514.

Sunday, March 19

"The King and I," 2:30 p.m., Beasley Coliseum, by Pullman Civic Theatre, tickets \$12 and \$15 in advance, \$15 and \$20 at the door, 335-1514.

Author Weintraub speaks during Week of Remembrance

Renowned history and biography author Stanley Weintraub will be among the speakers during WSU's third annual "Week of Remembrance," March 5-10, to commemorate the liberation of Nazi death and concentration camps in Europe following World War II. Weintraub is the father of WSU communication professor Erica Austin.



Stanley Weintraub

Weintraub is known for histories of the American Revolution and both world wars, as well as for books about George Washington, Prince Albert, George Bernard Shaw and others.

He is Evan Pugh Professor Emeritus of Arts and Humanities at Penn State University.

Sponsored by the Honors College and Departments of History and of Foreign Languages and Cultures, the week's events include:

- March 5: Film, 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203. "Der Untergang" (The Downfall; 2005), introduced by Raymond Sun, history.
- March 6: Lecture, 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203. "Götterdämmerung and Beyond" by Stanley Weintraub. He will talk about the chaos of post-war Europe, including the problems of refugees, revenge-seekers, looting, criminality, occupation and attempts to restore a semblance of order.
- March 7: Lecture, 4:10 p.m., Honors lounge. "No Ecstasy, No Joy: Liberation and the Displaced Person Camps in Germany, 1945-1957," by Laurie Whitcomb, history.
- March 7: Film, 7 p.m., Smith CUE 203. "Rosenstrasse" (2003), introduced by Rachel Halverson, foreign languages and cultures.
- March 10: Performance, 12:10-1 p.m., Holland/Terrell Library atrium. "Musical Responses to the Holocaust," by WSU music faculty.



Catch 'em

Cougar baseball takes on Gonzaga March 3 and L.C. State March 4 in Lewiston, then faces Chicago State March 7-9 in Pullman. (Photo from WSU Athletics)

POWER BREAKFAST

Innovative Wells Fargo chief touts people, diversification

Wells Fargo Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Richard Kovacevich will be the guest speaker at the College of Business (CB) Power Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, April 13, at the Grand Hyatt Seattle. Reservations cost \$25 and can be made online at events.wsu.edu/powerbreakfast.

Kovacevich's leadership "is integral to what has been described as 'the best managed company in U.S. banking' by Forbes magazine, and his insights into the industry will be very valuable," said Eric Spangenberg, CB dean.

Kovacevich lists two reasons for the success of 151-year-old Wells Fargo.

"First and foremost, our people. We have the most committed, talented, experienced, innovative and caring people in the industry.

"The second reason is that for 15 years we've demon-



Richard Kovacevich

strated that our business model — diversified financial services, not just banking — and earning all of our customers' business does work." The diversified financial services organization is the only one of its kind to earn Moody's AAA debt rating.

Vancouver coached on grant strategies

Vancouver faculty and graduate students will hear strategies for winning grant proposals at a daylong seminar on Friday, March 31, in the Multimedia Classroom Building, WSU Vancouver.

Topics will include: research and design of successful proposals; importance and roles of both program managers and reviewers; the writing process and a question-and-answer session. A panel of representatives from regional foundations will discuss how to approach foundations to determine the appropriateness of a particular program for their funding.

Eric Shulenberg, with the Graduate School at the University of Washington, will present the seminar. A former federal research program manager, he regularly teaches proposal strategy, tactics and writing. He is candid about what works, what doesn't and why.

Registration costs \$75 — or \$95 after March 20. Graduate student seating is limited; it costs \$50. Register at www.ogrd.wsu.edu/workshops.asp. For more information, see www.vancouver.wsu.edu/research.

POSITIONS & NOTICES

Classified staff

These listings are current as of Thursday, Feb. 23. For listings that are updated daily, please see www.wsujobs.com and click on "search postings" in the navigation bar at the left.

Program assistant, part time. WSU Extension, King County. Closes March 7.

Program assistant. Registrar, Pullman. Closes March 3.

Program coordinator. Veterinary Medicine, Pullman. Closes March 3.

Reactor technician I. Nuclear Radiation Center, Pullman. Open until filled.

Exempt staff

See www.hrs.wsu.edu/employment/FAPvacancies.asp.

Graphic designer. Marketing Communications. Contact Syndi Ellison, 335-7851. Closes March 6. (4301)

Academic coordinator. Engineering and Computer Science, WSU Vancouver. Contact Rosemary Buckner, 546-9639. Closes March 31. (4303)

Confidential secretary. Office of the President. Contact Ginger Druffel, 335-7932. Closes

March 6. (4304)

Faculty

See www.hrs.wsu.edu/employment/FAPvacancies.asp.

Assistant/associate professor. Veterinary Clinical Sciences. Contact Connie Sakamoto, 335-0779. Closes May 1. (4189)

Clinical track assistant/associate professor, two positions. Vet Micro Path. Contact Sue Zumwalt, 335-6027. Closes May 1. (4291-4292)

Instruction librarian. WSU Vancouver. Contact Leslie Wykoff, 546-9689. Closes April 7. (4293)

HRS Courses

Human Resource Services offers professional development courses as well as computer training online at www.hrs.wsu.edu/skillssoft. SkillSoft training is available to all WSU employees and students.

The following classes will be presented live. To enroll click on the "Training" link at www.hrs.wsu.edu.

WECN locations can participate in most of the live classes. Notify rcross@wsu.edu one week

prior to the class.

Please note: The Research Administration Certificate Series is being offered live once again this year. Classes in the series will be designated by the letters RAC in the listings.

New Employee Orientation, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, March 6, Smith CUE 518. Human Resources consultant. No fee.

Electronic Books are for Everyone! 9-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 7, Holland/Terrell Library 103. Jane Scales. No fee.

Employee Benefits Orientation, 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, Lighty 405. Marie Weiss and Jamie Gecas. No fee.

Computer and Network Security Awareness, 2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, Information Technology Building 2025. Michael Irvin. No fee.

Coaching the Van Driver II, 2-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, Lighty 403. Bob Kesler. No fee.

Keeping Track and Keeping Up, 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, Holland/Terrell Library 103. Lorena O'English. No fee.

Award Administration: How to Administer An Award (Part 4 of 4) RAC, 9-11:30 a.m. Thursday, March 9, Thompson 1. Nancy McMahon and Marilyn Burns. \$20.

Purchasing Card Training,

Grant-writing workshop targets grad students

A grant-writing workshop for graduate students will be held 4-7 p.m. Friday, April 14, and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, April 15, in CUE 219. The purpose of the workshop is to introduce participants to the process of competitive grant writing, to current trends in grant making and to various skills and strategies that will enhance their grant-writing success.

This workshop is primarily designed for graduate students, but faculty, administrative professionals, staff, community members and all those with limited grant writing experience are welcome.

For more information, see www.ogrd.wsu.edu.

1:30-3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 9, French Ad 240Q. Patti Gropp. No fee.

Temps Training, 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, March 14, French Ad 139. Laurie Stemmene. No fee.

Travel: Basic Forms and Procedures, 9 a.m.-noon Tuesday, March 14, French Ad 240Q. Pattie Collins. No fee.

Search Process: Technical Aspects, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 14, Lighty 403. Rebecca Armstrong. No fee.

Safety and You at WSU, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, Lighty 403. Michele Freeman. No fee.

SkillSoft User Training, 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 15, Lighty 401. David

Schmidt. No fee.

Employee Benefits Orientation, 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, Lighty 405. Marie Weiss and Diego Chavez. No fee.

Shared Leave

The following people have been approved for shared leave: Lisa Ault, Housing & Conference Services.

Kevin D. Keifer, University Publishing.

Michelle R. Kendrick, WSU Vancouver.

Matthew Melcher, WSU Spokane.

For more information, contact Sally Wickizer, wickizer@wsu.edu.

Van Doren...

(Continued from page 1)

Doren Hall was named after her. The state Legislature of 1907 appropriated \$25,000 to build the hall, but it was completed a year later for a mere \$15,000. The hall was the first college building west of Chicago to be devoted entirely to home economics, then called "domestic economy," and also became the first building on campus to be named after a woman.

Hi-tech then and now

At the time, the domestic economy department used new technologies and was forward thinking. Today, Van Doren Hall is no longer a house for home economics, but a place where new technologies are still utilized daily. The Center for Distance and Professional Education, formerly Extended University Services, provides learning solutions that allow distant students to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates at a distance through online courses and programs. CDPE also offers a wide range of professional development programs, workshops, conferences and online certificate programs customized to meet the learning needs of corporations, nonprofits and government agencies.

While looking to the future in terms of new technologies, the center has not forgotten its past. In the spring and summer of 2005, renovations began on the hall to update the look without straying from its historical roots. Energy-efficient windows were fitted while still

Month of events honors women's contributions

A variety of events is planned at WSU to help mark March as Women's History Month:

- March 4, Women of Color Day luncheon sponsored by the Coalition for Women Students, noon, CUB Cascade rooms, \$15, contact the Women's Resource Center, 335-6849.
- March 7, "Be Effective-Rethink Conflict," with Karen Kiessling, former Pullman mayor and a women's leadership trainer, and Janina Robbins, Student Affairs adviser/counselor, part of the Women & Leadership Forum series, noon, CUB Cascade rooms, free, see www.wla.wsu.edu.
- March 9, "A New Look at Horror: Domestic Violence and Stephen King During the Feminist Backlash," by Amy Canfield, history teaching assistant, sponsored by the history department, 1 p.m., CUE 518, see WSU Today article at www.wsutoday.wsu.edu/completestory.asp?StoryID=2617.
- March 21, Women's Recognition Luncheon sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, noon, CUB ballroom, \$15, reservations due March 7, see www.women.wsu.edu.



Alice Coil, Women's Resource Center director, in vintage dress at a previous Women's Recognition Luncheon. (Photo by Shelly Hanks, WSU Photo Services)

- March 21, CAHNRS Women's History Month Recognition Reception to honor Shahla Shapouri, a WSU alumna and senior economist in the USDA Economic Research Service, and Virginia "Val" Hillers, retired extension food specialist, 2:30 p.m., Lewis Alumni Centre, contact Britta Nityc with CAHNRS

alumni at 335-6479.

- March 22 "Sunlight & Women's Bodies: The Social History of Health," by Laurie Carlson, WSU history alumna, sponsored by the history department, 7 p.m., CUE 518, see WSU Today article at www.wsutoday.wsu.edu/completestory.asp?StoryID=2617.

- March 25, CAPTIVATE Conference sponsored by the Association of Pacific and Asian Women, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., CUB Cascade rooms, keynote luncheon speaker Angela Oh, attorney and human rights speaker, contact the Women's Resource Center, 335-6849, for registration and costs.

- March 28, "Be Effective-Find Your Focus!" Women & Leadership Forum keynote speaker businesswoman and author Carolyn N. Turknott, panel and mentor awards presentation, 1-5 p.m., Beasley Coliseum, see www.wla.wsu.edu.

- March 29, "Bernadette Devline McAliskey and the Women of the Northern Irish Troubles, 1969-Present" by Brigit Farley, associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities, sponsored by the history department, 12:10 p.m., CUE 518, see WSU Today article at www.wsutoday.wsu.edu/completestory.asp?StoryID=2617.

preserving the arches of the windows of old.

In the next few years, approaching Van Doren Hall's 100th birthday in 2008, more steps will be taken to brighten up the building, said Mike Long, assistant to the dean of CDPE.

"Nancy was an innovator," Long said. "She really pushed for home economics, and we are still innovating, giving students and workplace professionals what they need now. In doing so, we are keeping the spirit of Nancy alive."

Gracious yet forceful

Enoch Albert Bryan, president of the college from 1893 to 1915, also kept the spirit of Van Doren alive in his book, "Historical Sketch of the State College of Washington: 1890-1925."

"Of Mrs. Van Doren, sweet, intelligent, conscientious lady, whose life was a benediction to all the young women with whom she came in contact. I have already told you..." Bryan wrote. "She was...refined in appearance and of gracious and gentle demeanor. She was

not a great scholar, but she was a useful teacher and an inspiration to the young women."

Despite being gentle, Van Doren was strict when it came to her role as preceptress. Her preceptress position was at the center of a battle between faculty, who believed students' lives should be regulated by staff members, and students, who wanted independence while attending school.

According to an account by a woman who lived in Stevens Hall in 1902, noted

in William L. Stimson's book "Going to Washington State: A Century of Student Life," Van Doren enforced strict laws and 10 p.m. curfews for the women living in the dormitory.

Van Doren continued to influence the beginnings of the WSU community until 1905, when she resigned. At that time, she accepted an honorary master of arts degree. Her work at the college began the process of women having a voice in the development of what WSU is today.

Memory ...

(Continued from page 1)

The notebook, she said, has made a huge difference in her life because it helps compensate for her diminished ability to learn and store new memories.

"The explanation we were given is that this would be part of her brain," said her husband of seven years, Jay Scheldorf, 74. Pointing at the notebook, he said, "It replaces the part of her brain that is going bad."

Part of Catlin's brain is going bad, but other parts of her brain, including other parts of her memory, are functioning well. Dementia — what works, what doesn't work and how memory loss progresses — is a focus of research by Schmitter-Edgecombe.

According to Schmitter-Edgecombe, people can develop subtle cognitive difficulties, meaning problems with memory, language and reasoning, as many as 10 to 15 years before they are diagnosed with dementia.

"With a better understanding of the impact that these cognitive difficulties can have on activities of everyday life, it may well be possible to develop and teach intervention techniques in the early stages of dementia to help those suffering from the disease better maintain their independence," she said.

Study assesses skills

That's why Schmitter-Edgecombe is looking for about 120 people over age 50 to participate in a study on mild cognitive impairment. For the research, Schmitter-Edgecombe is looking for people who report no cognitive impairment as well as people who report slight impairment and those who report more significant impairment.

While the tests Schmitter-Edgecombe and her graduate students perform do not — and are not intended to — diagnose disease, they do provide study participants with a comprehensive written assessment of their memory, language and problem-solving skills

relative to other people of the same age, which participants can share with their physicians.

This study is directly related to the work she and her colleagues are doing to develop early intervention techniques such as the memory notebook.

"The underlying research is going to better inform the types of clinical interventions we use," she said.

Before diagnosis

Scheldorf and Catlin first participated in one of Schmitter-Edgecombe's studies in 2001 when they responded to an ad in the Daily News. That was before Catlin had been diagnosed with dementia. But after the diagnosis, her neurologist suggested she return to WSU to participate in Schmitter-Edgecombe's research on mild cognitive impairment. Because Catlin's cognitive difficulties were mostly limited to memory, she was deemed a perfect candidate for memory notebook training in the Psychology Clinic. She began working with Michelle Kayne-Langill, a graduate student in clinical neuropsychology.

Catlin and Scheldorf also were able to turn to the WSU Psychology Clinic for help in negotiating their changing relationship.

"Rusty had always been very independent," Scheldorf said of Catlin, but when she started forgetting things, he felt he needed to step in more, and she resented it.

With the help of the clinic, he said, their ability to communicate what they needed and wanted from each other improved dramatically.

"In our case, it made an incredible difference," he said. According to Schmitter-Edgecombe, coping with memory loss imposes a tremendous strain on any relationship, and any counseling intervention must be adapted to work within the framework of someone dealing with memory loss.

"This is beneficial for everyone," said Scheldorf, a retired professor of chemical engineering at the University of Idaho. "Not only are we benefiting from this, but we are helping train the next generation of clinical psychologists."

Memory-loss study seeks volunteers

BY ROBERT STRENGE
WSU NEWS SERVICE

Researchers at WSU are seeking volunteers aged 50 and over to participate in a study that may lead to new techniques to assist those suffering from progressive dementia.

Led by Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe, associate professor of psychology at WSU, the study is intended to provide a better understanding of how various types of memory and other cognitive functions relate to the daily activities of older adults.

The study requires about 120 English-speaking participants, divided equally between those who have experienced no memory problems, mild memory problems and more significant memory problems. Participants must have no history of significant brain surgery, stroke, heart attack, brain damage of known cause or a neurodegenerative disease such as Parkinson's disease or multiple sclerosis.

Eligibility will be determined through a telephone interview, and those accepted will be asked to complete from four to six hours of testing spread over several days. The testing can be done in Pullman or Spokane.

Those who participate will be given a written comprehensive assessment of their individual attention, memory, language and problem-solving abilities relative to others of the same age. This information may be useful in their current or future medical care.

For additional information or to volunteer, call and leave a message at 335-4033, ext. 2.