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WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

ENDING MODERN DAY SLAVERY FOCUS OF PROFESSOR'S WORK



KAREN COUNTRYMAN-ROSWURM, assistant professor of social work, is on a mission to end the sex trafficking of young people in Wichita.

For a state with a strong abolitionist history, it is ironic to her that this modern form of slavery thrives in Kansas. Overall, the abuse looks the same and is similar in activity.

"There's someone in power taking advantage of another person," she explained. "The victims are under someone else's power with no appropriate exchange. The perpetrators prey on the weak."

She is especially motivated to change the way people view sex trafficking victims between the ages of 12 and 22.

"The most important thing to realize is that these youth are victims and survivors—not criminals," Countryman-Roswurm said. "They are not in this situation by choice."

RISA REHMERT of the Wichita Children's Home Street Outreach Program has no doubts that Countryman-Roswurm will make great changes in this area.

"Karen is a triple threat," said Rehmert. "She has life experience qualifying her for changing the world. She has work experience qualifying her for changing the world. She has school experiences qualifying her for changing the world."

"She is fired up about justice for the most vulnerable," Rehmert said.

BRIEN BOLIN, associate professor and director of the School of Social Work, agrees that Countryman-Roswurm's influence and ability to address the issue of sex trafficking of youth is immeasurable.

"Karen's community impact is enormous. She brings a voice to those who do not always have the ability to speak out on this serious issue of social and economic justice," Bolin said. "She is able to raise our consciousness to this hidden social issue."

NATURE AND SCOPE OF TRAFFICKING

The clinical term domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) is used by social service professionals to describe transactions involving the exploitation and commoditization of youth through use of coercion, fraud, manipulation or force. Victims are recruited, retained, provided or transported for the purpose of sexual activity in exchange for food, shelter, clothing or money. In many cases, the person controlling the victim also forces them to take drugs. If they become addicted, their dependency upon the perpetrator for survival increases.

Many times these victims are whom social workers describe as homeless, runaway or throwaway youth. Their families may be absent or preoccupied with personal issues. Usually the youth are without safe housing and resort to sleeping where they can: on acquaintances' couches; in building stairwells, outbuildings, cars. From the age of 12 (and sometimes younger), they are forced to participate in sexual activities against their will in order to survive. Frequently they are female, but not always.

Through hundreds of interviews and therapy sessions with sex-trafficked youth, Countryman-Roswurm discovered many came from broken homes where they or other family members had been emotionally, physically or sexually abused. She also found a strong correlation between domestic violence and sex trafficking.

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“People who have the most risks and are most vulnerable are often subjected to other types of abuse,” she said. “The majority of young people in sex trafficking are really incubated in trauma.”

In many cases, she said, “initially, young women are subjugated by those they view as boyfriends or caretakers.”

However, a growing number of DMST victims are from what may be viewed as seemingly average middle-class homes.

Perpetrators scour social networking sites looking for lonely kids. Particularly vulnerable are young females spending too much time on their computers, unchecked, while their parents are working or struggling with personal issues. Once the child decides to meet her new online “friend,” the door has opened to the potential for sex trafficking.

DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING IN WICHITA

Because of Wichita’s location on I-135 and near proximity to I-70, the city has become a hub for sex trafficking. Victims can be held in Wichita for perpetrators living here or for those traveling through town. The youth also may be taken against their will to major cities across the United States. A victim may be in Wichita one day and Dallas the next.

“Organized rings across the country train and interact with each other,” Countryman-Roswurm said. “They network and sell victims among each other. If they have a problem with one of their “girls,” they will sell her to another ring. If one ring is looking for a certain age group or gender, another ring might sell one of their victims to them.”

A study Countryman-Roswurm concluded in 2012 demonstrated the severity of the issue in Wichita. The 258 youth she interviewed received services from the Wichita Children’s Home, WCH’s Street Outreach Program or member agencies of the Anti-Sexual Exploitation Roundtable for Community Action organization based in Wichita. Their ages ranged from 8-22.

- **35 percent were male; 64 percent, female;**
- **The mean age was 15.6;**
- **51 percent were Caucasian; 25 percent, African American; 13 percent, Hispanic; 2 percent, Asian; 2 percent, Native American; 7 percent, other.**

Of these participants:

- **68 PERCENT SAID THEY WERE PRESSURED, GUILTED OR INTIMIDATED INTO SEXUAL ACTIVITY BY SOMEONE THEY KNEW;**
- **68 PERCENT HAD BEEN RAPED OR SEXUALLY ASSAULTED;**
- **47 PERCENT HAD BEEN PROPOSITIONED TO GO ON A “DATE,” STRIP OR PROVIDE SEXUAL FAVORS. THEY WERE OFFERED SHELTER, FOOD, MONEY OR DRUGS IN EXCHANGE;**
- **40 PERCENT SAID THEY WERE “FORCED, FRAUDED**

AND/OR COERCED TO EXCHANGE INTERCOURSE, STRIPPING OR OTHER SEXUAL FAVORS FOR FOOD, SHELTER, MONEY OR DRUGS.”

Countryman-Roswurm said that despite information she derived from her study, data is still difficult to get and is not well-tracked. This is because domestic minor sex trafficking activities are poorly identified.

“Every day DMST goes unnoticed because service professionals are not trained to identify indicators,” she said. She has a plan to fix that and a new weapon in her arsenal.

Wichita State recently opened the Center for Combatting Human Trafficking and Countryman-Roswurm is its executive director. The center will work with students, professionals and agencies to prevent human trafficking; identify, intervene and evaluate cases of human trafficking; and help human trafficking survivors.

“CCHT will train and educate others, which is critical to communities at all different levels,” she said. “Social service providers, educators, health care workers and law enforcement personnel need the ability to identify issues and cases.”

The center will also collect and manage data, which will be critical to combatting DMST in this region.

In addition to social service providers, educators and law enforcement, Countryman-Roswurm anticipates doing a lot of training for health care workers because health facilities are often the entry point for survivors. However, health care providers are not always adequately trained to identify DMST victims.

“Health care providers are likely to see cases, as they are viewed by the victims and perpetrators as the most neutral and create a lesser amount of distrust,” she said. “These are not people who will seek out teachers and social workers for help, but they will go for medical attention.”

KEYS TO PREVENTING TRAFFICKING

At first glance, one might think the way to address sex trafficking is by fixing broken families and removing gaps in social services.

“It seems simple, but it’s not,” Countryman-Roswurm said. “If we are to solve human trafficking, we have to address racism, poverty, education, and the commodity of sexualization of women and children. It’s a piece of a larger societal problem.”

Knowing that for many victims the process begins in the home, she also advocates for stronger parenting and family bonds.

“Raise children to be self-confident, supervise Internet use and provide opportunities for them to explore what they believe. Doing these simple things make youth less vulnerable,” she said. “At the same time, and above all, we must decrease the demand for trafficking.”

MODEL UNITED NATIONS STUDENTS LEARN POLITICAL SKILLS, CLEAR INVASIVE SPECIES

Students participating in the Model United Nations (MUN) program this academic year have traveled to the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, St. Louis and Chicago. Students in the MUN program act as “diplomats” for a foreign country. They follow a simulation of U. N. activities, including committee meetings, where they address global problems such as human rights and environmental protection. At each conference, MUN presented awards to Wichita State students individually or as an entire delegation. **MICHAEL BRINKMAN, JON ABRAHAMSEN, LUIS CARBAJAL, DARREN BECKHAM** and **SPENCER NELSON** represented China at the Latin American MUN conference. They won the Distinguished Delegation award for their efforts.

This Latin American conference was unique in that it was held in the Galapagos and attracted student delegates from around the world. Following the formal conference proceedings, all conference delegates participated in community service projects on the islands. Wichita State students used machetes to clear invasive vegetative species from the shores of San Cristóbal Island’s freshwater lake. Students also spent two days in the capital city of Quito and visited the host institution, University of San Francisco de Quito.

At the Midwest MUN conference in St. Louis, students won these awards: **CASEY DONNELL, SEAN MCLEMORE, BRITTANY THURMAN**, Outstanding Delegation, **ECOSOC PLENARY** (Japan); **DANIEL FLYNT** and **JOSH WALKER**, Outstanding Delegate, GA 3rd (Japan); **CASEY DONNELL**, Outstanding Delegate and Delegate’s Choice, Ecosoc (Japan); **DARREN BECKHAM**, Outstanding Delegate and Delegate’s Choice, Security Council (Guatemala); **ANDREA TUQUE**, Position Paper Award and Honorable Mention, CND (Chile).

Wichita State students participating in the American MUN conference in Chicago won the following awards: **CASSIE STANDLEY** and **CASEY DONNELL**, Exceptional Representation for Honduras in Second Committee; and **OSCAR FLORES, SHAELYNN FRENCH, CASEY DONNELL, CASSIE STANDLEY, ADAM LOFLAND, DANIEL FLYNT**, Overall Best Delegation (Honduras).

CAROLYN SHAW, associate professor of political science, advises Model UN and helped students prepare for the conferences.



KAREN COUNTRYMAN-ROSWURM

Now in her early thirties, **KAREN COUNTRYMAN-ROSWURM** has spent approximately half of her life serving young people. She began her professional career with the Wichita Children's Home as an outreach worker in the Street Outreach Program. A licensed master social worker and community psychologist, she has experience as a therapist, youth program founder and coordinator, researcher and advocate. She is nationally recognized for her work with homeless, runaway and throwaway youth, particularly those who are victims of sex trafficking.

As the founder for the Anti-Trafficking/Anti-Sexual Exploitation Roundtable for Community Action, she organizes multidisciplinary collaborative efforts to prevent, intervene and reduce domestic sexual exploitation.

Having personal experience as a homeless youth made her aware of the dangers and pitfalls of horrendous street life. However, the incident that crystallized her career commitment to sex-trafficking victims involved a client, a young woman, whom she met when working on the Midwest Longitudinal Study of Homeless

Adolescents. Her client's boyfriend/pimp was sexually exploiting the young woman. He physically attacked Countryman-Roswurm and her client (five months pregnant and under the age of 18) when Countryman-Roswurm arrived to pick her up for an interview. In the conversations that followed, Countryman-Roswurm realized how the paucity of appropriate legislation and the young woman's near lifelong victimization through incest and sexual exploitation created a situation that allowed domestic minor sex trafficking to flourish—and Countryman-Roswurm had seen the face of it firsthand.

When asked what she wanted her career legacy to be, Countryman-Roswurm broadened the focus to encompass her life legacy.

"I want to die knowing that I've made the world a better place with regard for human rights, freedom and respect of women and children, their sexuality and use of sexuality," she said. "Out of great pain and tragedy can come great change. I want to be that symbol for the weak and marginalized. To do this I must be the voice for others who can't stand up for themselves. I want to be remembered for

promoting an equal playground for people from all walks of life, for people to overcome and not only contribute, but come out of traumatic pasts and enjoy life."

To retreat from the dark nature of her work, Countryman-Roswurm spends time with her family (husband, **ROBERT**; son, **BRADLEY**; and daughter, **ISABELLA**). They love watching WSU basketball, whether at Koch Arena or on TV. Her greatest pleasure is roller-skating with her family at least a few times each month. She also loves to experiment with flavor and food, keeping up with her gardens, being outdoors, and photographing and scrapbooking all these activities.

A Shocker to the core, Countryman-Roswurm earned a doctorate in psychology, and master's and bachelor's degrees in social work, all from Wichita State University.

POTENTIAL SIGNS OF TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

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1. DRESS: Notice sudden changes in wearing more sexualized clothing and/or the sudden obtainment of many new clothes without an appropriate explanation as to how such clothing was purchased.

2. LANGUAGE: Pay attention to a change in language and/or the use of new sexualized street slang. Furthermore, pay attention to the content of discussion. Is the young person talking about spending time with a "boyfriend" who is often surrounded by several other underage girls/boys; going on many "dates" in which items of monetary value are received; or hanging out in motels?

3. EXTREME AND QUICK ATTACHMENT: Did the young person just meet someone whom they are suddenly bonded to in a manner that is not based on time and consistent trust?

4. PROTECTION: Is the young person in need of forms of sexual protection, but are they afraid as to the amount of protection in their possession (e.g. possibly in fear that they may be picked up by law enforcement for possible solicitation)?

5. MULTIPLE SEX PARTNERS: Does the young person seem to have a large number of sex

partners with whom they have no emotional bond?

6. POSSESSION OF HOTEL/MOTEL ROOM KEYS: Do they have hotel keys? Hotels/motels are a primary location in which DMST occurs.

7. EXCESS AMOUNT OF CASH: Does the youth obtain money without an appropriate explanation as to how such money was earned?

8. FAKE ID/LYING ABOUT AGE: Are they truthful about their age? Young people are often dishonest about their age as a means to conceal the illegal sexual interactions with adult predators and/or to obtain access/employment at strip clubs, porn stores, bars, etc.

9. EYE CONTACT: Is the youth unable or fearful to make eye contact?

10. "BOYFRIEND": Is there a presence of an overly controlling and abusive "boyfriend" who keeps close tabs on the young person's every movement?

11. STI/STD INFECTIONS, MULTIPLE UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES, ETC.: Does the youth not know how or by whom such infection and/or pregnancy was obtained?

12. INJURIES/SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE AND/OR TORTURE: Do they have injuries and are unable to explain how such injuries occurred? Do they seem fearful of talking with you about who perpetrated the abuse?

13. Cross-generational relationships: Is there a strong potential for a relationship power imbalance?

14. SIGNS OF BRANDING: Are they marked as someone's property? Look for the wearing of jewelry; or burns and/or tattoos that indicate that they are the property of someone else (e.g., pimps will often tattoo their names on the necks, breasts, or backs of their DMST victims) and/or that they are sexualized in some form (e.g., "money maker" or "rump shaker").

15. RISK FACTORS: What do you know of their personal life? A history of physical and/or sexual abuse or neglect serve as possible indicators of DMST subjugation.

RESOURCES

- Wichita State University Center for Combatting Human Trafficking, wichita.edu/humantrafficking
- Office of Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, www.ag.ks.gov
- Wichita Children's Home, www.wch.org
- U.S. Department of State, www.state.gov/g/tip
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/index.html
- Polaris Project, www.polarisproject.org
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, www.missingkids.com

Wichita State's department of philosophy may be small in its number of majors (30-35 annually), but it has mighty influence across the university. Known for turning out highly successful graduates, the department also plays important roles in the General Education Program and in providing content to the professional schools.

One outcome of studying philosophy is that it helps one look past opinion and faulty reasoning in order to consider ideas critically. These skills are valuable to all students.

"What we do is we teach students how to think. Not memorize, not emote, but to think; how to think logically, clearly, analytically," said **DAVID SOLES**, professor and chair of the philosophy department. "I tell my students the first day of class that 'Philosophy is the discipline that investigates conceptual issues through the application of a rigorous, logical, analytical method.'"

Thinking critically is difficult work. For a department that demands much of its students, one might wonder about their successes. Soles is confident that students who have majored in philosophy will do well.

"All philosophy graduates who have applied to law school or graduate school have been accepted, and all who have gone to grad school have received aid," Soles said. "Our students typically score in the 90th percentile or above on the GRE or LSAT," national standardized exams required for entrance into graduate or law programs.

TEACHING AND MENTORING KEY

In addition to teaching students how to think, philosophy faculty steer them towards challenging curriculum outside of the department. Faculty advise students to take difficult courses and develop a long-term plan when they are ready to declare a major.

"You have to start your sophomore or junior year knowing that you need to score in the 90th percentile on the LSAT or GRE," said Soles. "How do you score at the 90th percentile? Not by taking easy courses. We push students into courses that we know are going to reinforce that kind of rigorous logical and analytical thinking, like physics, economics and mathematics. That's why they crush the LSAT. Because the LSAT is just a logical reasoning test."

Soles believes students also do well because the philosophy faculty adhere to a teaching and mentoring focus within the department. They also spend time outside of the classroom getting to know students personally. This support is vital to student success.

"We see ourselves as being a mentoring, nurturing program, really committed to education," said Soles. "Everyone in the

department is genuinely dedicated to high quality education. That is one of the things we look for when we hire. In fact, that's our primary consideration: How is this person going to be as a teacher?"

RON MATSON, interim dean, wholeheartedly supports the department's approach.

"The philosophy department and faculty accentuate quality teaching and quality learning," he said. "Their students, Fairmount College and the university reap the benefits of their dedication to teaching."

This dedication is unlikely to wane.

"Teaching is very important to us. We've built that culture," said Soles. "There's no one in the department who's not totally committed to the importance of teaching and who's not dedicated his or her career to teaching. We've turned down people who were stellar philosophers because we thought they just didn't have the right attitude toward teaching."

Because of the department's challenging, yet supportive environment, he said, philosophy majors do very well. They get into the top doctoral philosophy programs in the world such as the University of St. Andrews (Scotland) and the University of Pittsburgh. Well-known, prestigious law schools also admit WSU philosophy graduates.

"They get into law schools such as Harvard, Cornell and Rutgers, and they do well in them," Soles said. "They don't just get in, they succeed."

WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT? IT'S ABOUT THE BIG QUESTIONS EVERY INTELLIGENT PERSON OUGHT TO THINK ABOUT, SOLES SAID, GIVING THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES.

- Is there a god? If there is, what is she like?
- What sort of principles should I use to regulate my conduct vis-à-vis other people?
- What sort of obligations do I have to society?
- Where do you draw the line between individual freedom and social control?
- What are the right sorts of methods to employ in the physical sciences?
- What are the criteria of explanatory adequacy in physics?
- What is a belief? Have you ever heard one, seen one, tasted one, smelled one, touched one? But yet you claim to have beliefs. So what exactly is a belief? This is one of the central questions in the philosophy of mind.

CRAIG MACY, a 1991 philosophy alumnus, recognizes how the major prepared him for the LSAT and law school. Now a patent attorney for Holland and Hart in Reno, Nev., Macy earned his law degree from Harvard University.

“It was only during LSAT preparation that I realized how critical my philosophy training was going to be with respect to nailing the exam. With two courses in formal logic under my belt, the game questions were nearly automatic,” Macy said. “The ability to quickly navigate verbose, conceptually rich material and instantly distill it to its component elements proved critical to success in both the exam and the law generally. Philosophy, as it turned out, was and is the ideal pre-law major.”

PROVIDING SERVICE BEYOND THE MAJOR

The philosophy faculty have plenty of contact with non-majors who take courses to fulfill general education requirements. Most department faculty teach two sections of one introductory course (e.g., logic, meaning of philosophy, moral issues), a lower division service course (such as business ethics), plus an upper division course (for example, metaphysics).

This practice is an example of what some see as necessary for the future of liberal arts and sciences.

“David and his colleagues have developed a model of instruction and curriculum that epitomizes the future of Fairmount College and, indeed, higher education. The department is able to be extremely effective as it successfully supports its service role to other colleges and builds a most successful major for its own students,” said Matson. “The department’s total credit hours and number of majors have increased by about 50 percent in the past 10 years. This growth attests to the department’s success in doing both the service and quality

major roles that will be the hallmark of liberal arts and science colleges in the 21st century.”

PREPARING EVERYONE FOR SUCCESS

Soles and his colleagues take seriously their responsibility to prepare students for career success.

In fulfilling their obligation to the professional schools, Soles said, the department offers ethics courses to students majoring in engineering, computer science, health professions and business.

“We are introducing students to some of the major ethical issues they are going to confront as professionals,” said Soles. “We are also providing them the resources to think about new problems in the professions as they arise.”

He uses the example of stem cell research to illustrate his point.

“When I taught my first medical ethics course 30-some years ago, we didn’t discuss stem cell research because there was no such thing,” he said. “Then as the issue started to develop, the people who took that course had the tools to think about those issues critically and clearly because the skills they learned in those service courses are transferable to new problems.”

Soles also emphasizes the department’s role in making Wichita State a university.

“Without a program like philosophy and its emphasis on developing critical thinking and developing the intellect, we (WSU) just might as well become an encyclopedia,” he said. “Most information is available online. That’s not what a college education is about. Information without the ability to use that information—that’s worthless. It may even be dangerous.”



DAVID SOLES

AWARDS SUPPORT SUMMER RESEARCH BY FACULTY

Six Fairmount College faculty will spend their summers on focused research projects. Wichita State’s Award for Research/Creative projects carries a grant of up to \$4,000. Criteria for the award include soundness and significance of the proposed research/creative project; validity of approach or methodology; qualifications of applicant; adequacy of resources; and adherence to allowable costs.

SUMMER 2013 RECIPIENTS AND THEIR PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- **JOSHUA BARKAN**, assistant professor, English, “Mexican Tales: New Story Collection”
- **FRANCIS CONNOR**, assistant professor, English, “William Shakespeare’s *Loves Labors Lost*: A Critical, Old Spelling Edition”
- **GEORGE DEHNER**, associate professor, history, “Legionnaires’ Disease: Past and Present”
- **ROBERT OWENS**, associate professor, history, “Murderers and Mediators: Conflict Resolution along the Trans-Appalachian Frontier, 1763-1815”
- **MARK WALSH**, assistant professor, mathematics and statistics, “Understanding the Space of Metrics of Positive Scaler Curvature Metrics”
- **LI YAO**, assistant professor, biological sciences, “Biomaterial Microsphere Carrying Oligodendrocyte Progenitor Cells for Axon Myelination”

FACULTY & STAFF

BILL ARTZ, School of Community Affairs, gave an invited paper at the 2013 Instructional Technology Conference in Wichita. His presentation centered on securing testing in the virtual classroom.

MICHAEL BIRZER, professor, School of Community Affairs, worked with the Wichita Police Department's Command Staff on organizational transformation and issues. He also recently received a \$32,000 grant award from the Kansas Department of Transportation to continue his research on racial profiling across the state of Kansas.

Amy DeVault, assistant professor of communication, earned four awards in the Kansas Professional Communicators 2012 contest: First and second in magazine page design; first in PR magazine (editing/creative direction); and second in magazine feature story. **Cheryl Miller**, assistant dean, also earned several awards: First in personality profile, first in editing; second in advertising; and third in editing. Miller also received honorable mentions in feature writing, personality profile, and specialty articles-travel. First-place winners move on to compete at the national level.

ED FLENTJE, professor, Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs, was recognized at the December 2012 legislative policy summit for outstanding service in fostering regional cooperation for south-central Kansas. At the invitation of the Center for Information and Resources for Development, he also traveled to Asuncion, Paraguay to participate in the Public Policy and Presidential Elections Project. This trip was the seventh of an eight-part series to educate and engage political activists on democracy, elections and public policy prior to upcoming elections in April 2013.

MARK GLASER, professor, Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs, and **MISTY BRUCKNER** and **CORINNE BANNON**, both from the Center for Urban Studies, collaborated with the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County as part of a four-step process to guide a comprehensive plan update and to develop and implement a multiphase citizen engagement effort. Glaser was also recently appointed to the publication committee of the American Society for Public Administration. This is a prestigious appointment to the committee that oversees publication of the Public Administration Review, the top rated journal in the field.

STUART LASINE, professor of religion, has been elected vice president of the Society of Biblical Literature's southwest region.

In 2014 he'll become president-elect and then in 2015, president.

SABRINA PEREZ GLATT, director of field practicum, School of Social Work, is the 2013 recipient of the Wayne Carlisle Distinguished Service Award. The award is presented to an unclassified professional who models the standard of extraordinary service.

STUDENTS

Graduate students **JACK BRAND**, **SHEN TAO**, **MICHELLE DREILING**, and professors **DEBORAH BALLARD-REISCH** and **JESSICA FREEMAN** (all from the Elliott School of Communication), along with **PAMELA O'NEAL**, School of Nursing, presented at the Kanas Hunger Dialogue conference. This is a statewide initiative and the WSU Hunger Awareness team is part of the project. Ballard-Reisch represents WSU on the planning committee.

Political interns **RACHEL DEGARMO**, **PASCAL HIRWA**, **ZINNIA KHAN** and **JAMES REYNOLDS** are in Washington, D.C. this semester.

Five graduate students and **PATRICIA DOOLEY**, professor, represented the Elliott School of Communication at the Southwest-Texas Popular and American Culture Association's annual conference. Graduate students **TAYLOR DIETTERICH**, **COURTNEY LOONEY** and **MICHAEL WOOD**, along with Dooley, presented a panel, "Serial killers, child molesters and potheads: The political dimensions of mass-mediated non-fiction crime stories." Graduate student and lecturer **MADELINE MCCULLOUGH** presented a visual arts paper "A perfect storm of photograph innovation, marketing and consumer desire: Kodak's Take-it-Yourself Cameras" and graduate student **KEN WARD** presented "Digital dependency: Information-seeking habits of Millennials in distress" in a session on the study of apocalypse and disaster in culture.

MICHELLE DREILING, graduate student, communication, was selected to participate in the tenth Annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit.

The American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS) recently inducted four area science students as fellows. Following induction, **ANDREW HOLUP**, Wichita State; **XENA MOORE** and **MEREDITH WOLFE**, De Soto High School; and **KATIE BUHLER**, Liberty Middle School, Pratt, presented their research at the American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS) poster sessions and the AJAS oral presentations. They were sponsored by **AMY STRONG**, Fairmount Center for Science and Mathematics Education, who is also assistant

director of AJAS, treasurer of the National Association of the Academies of Science and the Kansas Academy of Science state representative to the AAAS. The Fairmount Center serves the community as a resource for K-12 science and math education. Additionally, the center operates the Lake Afton Public Observatory, coordinates the Kansas Science Olympiad, hosts the Kansas Junior Academy of Science and coordinates the JASON Project in Kansas.

In March, several sociology faculty and five students attended the 2013 conference of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago. Two undergraduate students, **CRYSTAL MILLER** and **CAMBRIA GOEN**, presented a joint research poster doing a content analysis of the popular TV show, "How I Met your Mother." Their poster, "Have you Met Ted: Unrealistic Sex in Media,"

won first prize out of 38 submissions in the undergraduate poster competition.

PIE PICHETSURNTHORN and **ANDREW CLAYCOMB**, both biological sciences majors, received poster presentation awards at the Kansas Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence Symposium. The K-INBRE program funds a number of undergraduate student scholars.

Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, recognized the Wichita State student organization with a Chapter Activity Award, one of seven distributed among 500 chapters. As part of the Kansas Academy of Science meeting, advisor **MARK SCHNEEGURT**, biological sciences, gave a special symposium workshop on the ethics of scientific publishing.

IN MEMORIAM

DONALD MORSE DOUGLAS, 88, associate professor emeritus, history, died Jan. 15 in Wichita. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 347 S Laura St, Wichita, KS 67211; the American Heart Association, 8630 E. 32nd Ct. N. Wichita, KS 66226; Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S Market St, Wichita, KS 67202; or Holocaust Commemoratives, in care of Congregation Emanu-El, 7011 E. Central Ave., Wichita, KS 67206.



DONALD DOUGLAS

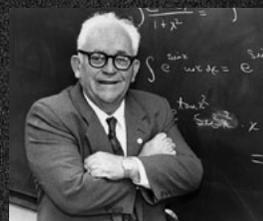
JOHN C. GRIES, 72, associate professor of geology, died Jan. 18 following a short illness. Many geology students knew him because of the summer field camp he led in Colorado most of his 41-year career. At his on-campus memorial service Jan. 26, alumni and colleagues told stories of Gries' penchant for singing "Oh My Darling, Clementine" and his prowess with a Dutch oven. He once took second place in the Geology Society of America National Meeting Campfire Cook-off competition. The Kansas Geological Society recognized him with the 2013 Outstanding Earth Science Teacher of the Year award, adding to the numerous teaching honors bestowed upon him over the years. In his free time, he founded and served



JOHN GRIES

as president of the Great Plains Transportation Museum, and actively participated in the Great Plains Blacksmith Association. He also served as a consultant with the Wichita city manager and McConnell Air Force Base on pollution issues. His wife, **TONI JACKMAN**, survives and is an instructor of geology. Memorials have been established at the Great Plains Transportation Museum, 700 E. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67202, and the WSU Foundation, 1845 Fairmount St., Wichita, KS 67260.

WILLIAM M. PEREL, 85, former chair, mathematics, died Jan. 20 in Stillwater, Okla. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation of Oklahoma, 720 W. Wilshire, Suite 101H, Oklahoma City, OK 73116 or the First Baptist Church, 720 6th St., Pawnee, OK 74058.



WILLIAM PEREL

REGIS LENORA WELCH, 82, former instructor, English/linguistics, died Jan. 13 in Sherman, Texas. Donations can be made to St. Elizabeth Scholarship Fund, St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, 916 Maple St., Bonham, TX 75418.

MILAN ZIVANOVIC, 99, former instructor, broadcasting and film, died Jan. 23, at home in Kansas City.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND CHERYL MILLER.

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear alumni, faculty, staff and friends -

Can you feel the energy radiating from Wichita? Once he arrived on campus, **PRESIDENT JOHN BARDO** began the immediate transformation of Wichita State into a university that will be widely known for research and serve a broader region beyond Wichita.

The "Bardo Five," the president's priorities for WSU, are to:

- **IMPROVE OVERALL QUALITY**
- **INCREASE ENROLLMENT**
- **ENHANCE BASIC RESEARCH**
- **PURSUE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**
- **IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF STUDENT LIFE**

Fairmount College is anticipating the benefits from this transformation. Several initiatives have the potential to affect our students, faculty and staff.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE: Bardo believes we have an enrollment capacity of 22,000. His plan is to broaden the diversity of the student body and increase the number of non-traditional and part-time students. As Wichita State grows, so will Fairmount College.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH INITIATIVE: Bardo desires to improve the student learning experience and increase the overall quality of our academic programming. At his inauguration, he announced an undergraduate research fund of \$50,000 for students to support research experiences with a faculty mentor. Fairmount College has a long history of including undergraduate students in research, particularly in the sciences.

CAMPUS HOUSING: Students will move into a new hall for 700 residents in August 2014. This residence hall will likely include a growing number of honors students and an honors college. Many of the honors courses offered to students encompass the liberal arts and sciences and are interdisciplinary in nature.

I am also excited to announce that we recently hired extremely qualified and capable faculty to key positions in the college. This includes **KENNETH KRIZ**, Regents Distinguished Professor of Public Finance, and **MATTHEW CECIL**, director, Elliott School of Communication. Both will begin their appointments at Wichita State this summer.

It is my pleasure to serve as your interim dean. I look forward to exciting times under President Bardo's leadership and believe Fairmount College will continue to flourish.

Sincerely,



Ron Matson
Interim Dean



RON MATSON

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, status as a veteran or disability. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0205; (316) 978-6791. Produced by University Relations 4/13

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John Bardo, president, Wichita State University
Ron Matson, interim dean, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The Fairmount College newsletter is published two times a year. For information, contact Cheryl K. Miller, coordinating editor, (316) 978-6659 or cheryl.miller@wichita.edu



**WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**FAIRMOUNT COLLEGE OF
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