Pickett’s UPDATE

We Are Moving!

After years of anticipation, the UW/CC Center is moving into its new home on the third and fourth floors of the Union/University (UU) Building this month. On January 2, we will open with limited services, and will welcome our first students to our brand new classrooms when statewide courses begin on January 13. Celebrate this momentous occasion with us; come to our dedication ceremony and tour on January 28 at 2 p.m.
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Hayley Lanier, Assistant Professor, Zoology and Physiology

Hayley Lanier has always been interested in the natural world, and in animals in particular. She earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas in ecology and evolutionary biology. While there she worked in the mammal division of the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center, where she learned about different mammals from all over the world, and how they have adapted to eat different foods, reproduce in specialized ways, defend themselves from predators, or live in extreme environments. After her experience there, she moved to an extreme environment herself for her Ph.D. – the University of Alaska at Fairbanks (UAF). As a student at UAF, she worked on collared pikas – the “cutest of cute little animals” that live on the tops of mountains. She flew or hiked into mountain ranges all over Alaska and northwest Canada, and examined alpine communities of mammals. She also saw temperatures as low as −50 degrees Fahrenheit, as high as 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and days as short as three hours with the sun above the horizon for as long as 21 hours. While researching and writing her dissertation, she lived for three years without indoor plumbing, and learned to ski, snowboard, and ice climb. She then moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan for a postdoc in ecology and evolutionary biology, where she studied methods for reconstructing how species are related to one another. She and her husband, Jason, enjoyed the city life, but were thrilled to move to Casper. In August, they packed up their dog and their belongings, and moved into their new house at the top of Casper Mountain. Between the snow, the wildlife, and the friendly folks, they feel right at home.

Angela Reddick, Office Associate

An employee of the UW/CC Center since 2007, Angela Reddick was recently promoted to office associate. She assists associate dean of the UW Outreach School, Scott Seville, with his administrative activities, as well as the coordination of events for the Wyoming Idea Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE). In addition to these new duties, she serves on the Reconnect newsletter committee and the social committee. When not working for the UW/CC Center, Reddick is working to help others better lives by campaigning for drowning prevention and raising funds for the Shriners.

Richard Thompson, Coordinator, Student Advising, Educational Opportunity Center

Richard Thompson began his position as the new Casper EOC coordinator in November. The purpose of the EOC office is to assist low income, first generation or nontraditional students attend college. The EOC does not provide participants with funds. EOC ensures that participating students are aware of the opportunities available to them and helps them achieve goals with advice, encouragement, and organizational assistance. Currently, Thompson’s office is in the Outreach building on North Poplar, but he will move to the new UU building with UW/CC Center employees.

Oksana Wasilik, Instructional Technology Education Specialist

Oksana Wasilik recently joined the UW/CC Center as an instructional technology education specialist. She holds a Ph.D. in instructional technology, a master of arts in adult and postsecondary education, and a master of science in applied statistics from the University of Wyoming. She was a graduate assistant for the UW Outreach Credit Programs between 2007 and 2010. She enjoys learning about new technologies that can be applied in educational settings. Wasilik is originally from Russia, and is happily married to Norbert Wasilik. They have a daughter, Milenka, and two Shetland sheepdogs, Misio and Tigres. Wasilik likes to travel, cook foods from different countries, and read Scandinavian crime novels.
Kaitlyn “Kate” Gates, Student Worker, Outreach Building

Kate Gates will be receiving her bachelor of arts in English this December. Currently, she is working on her second installment in a series of five fantasy fiction novels. She is reading Book Three, A Storm of Swords in the George R. R. Martin saga, A Song of Ice and Fire. Gates recommends www.goodreads.com, a website similar to Netflix but for books. The website helps keep track of books you’ve read, want to read, and suggests other books based on what you’ve read. In 2011, Gates vacationed in England and visited Stonehenge, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Bath, and London. Gates’ favorite movies this year are Ender’s Game and Thor: The Dark World.


Rosalind Grenfell, Manager, Student Advising

Currently Rosalind Grenfell is participating in the UW Leadership Academy. She loves spending time with her granddaughter, Hadley, and her 5 month old chocolate lab puppy, Lucy. Grenfell and Lucy just finished puppy kindergarten.

New Affiliations and Associations:
• National Academic Advising Association (NACADA)
• Rocky Mountain Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (RMACRAO)

2013 Conferences Attended:
• Academic Coordinators’ Retreat - February
• Colorado and Wyoming Academic Advising Association Workshop on Students in Transition - March
• Statewide Staff & Outreach School Retreat - June
• RMACRAO - July
• Academic Coordinators’ Retreat - September
• NACADA - October

Tammi Hanshaw, UW/CC Public Relations

In November Tammi Hanshaw attended a professional development workshop called “Using Social Networking in Marketing.” Spring semester 2014, Hanshaw will begin work toward her master of science degree in instructional technology.

Maria Kuznetsova, Assistant Lecturer, Psychology

Maria Kuznetsova traveled to Saratov State University, Russia, as part of her International Travel Grant to establish cross-cultural collaborations and organizing a possible study abroad course. Her sister joined her in Saratov, and for the first time they were both able to enjoy the Volga river. It was Kuznetsova’s first trip back to Russia in five years. After the conference in Saratov, she traveled back to her home town in Northwestern Russia. She was able to spend some time with her sister in St. Petersburg, Russia as well.

Professional Development:
• Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Conference

Current Research or Projects:
• Cross-cultural research on gender symbolism

Current Publications:

Grants Received:
• International Travel Grant

Conferences Attended:
• Sheppard Symposium on Social Justice
• E-Volution

Service (community/professional):
• Engaged Adolescent Development students in service-learning. Students volunteered at Boys and Girls Club, Casper Mountain Science School and Central Wyoming Counseling Center.
• Saratov State University (Russia) invited her to serve on their editorial board for a new electronic journal-International Annual Edition of Applied Psychology: Theory, Research, and Practice.
Hayley Lanier,  
Assistant Professor, Zoology & Physiology  
Hayley Lanier is from Ann Arbor, Michigan, and spent a week or two in Minnesota at her grandparent's cabin while her husband attended an airshow in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Lanier and her husband bought a house on Casper Mountain, and snow has been on the ground since the beginning of October. She adopted two cute and cuddly kittens that have a desire to consume everything that is not nailed down.

Professional Development:  
Attended a Council on Undergraduate Research workshop in November on beginning a research program in the natural sciences at a primarily undergraduate institution. This workshop is meant to help primary investigators learn different techniques for designing undergraduate research projects, incorporate research into the classroom, and applying for grants.

Current Research or Projects:  
- An investigation into the evolutionary histories of Alaskan alpine mammals  
- How past population movement shapes hemoglobin binding affinity in deer mice  
- Methodological choice and the accurate reconstruction of deep evolutionary histories  
- Student projects on darkling beetles from White Sands National Park, modeling of habitat preferences and population movements in deer mice, and an investigation into sagebrush reintroduction during mining restoration in Wyoming

Current Publications:  

New Affiliations and Associations:  
Member of the Council on Undergraduate Research

Conferences Attended:  
- Mammal Meetings, the annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - June  
- Evolution Meetings, the joint meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution, the American Naturalists Society, and the Society for Systematic Biology in Snowbird, Utah - June

Service (community/professional):  
- Recording Secretary for the American Society of Mammalogists  
- Peer-reviewer for three different journals  
- Grant reviewer for student grants and fellowships through the American Society of Mammalogists

Li Li,  
Assistant Professor, Communications  
Professional Development:  
Three conference papers:  

Current Research or Projects:  
In Preparation:  
- Li, L., & Parsons, M. In progress, Exploring teacher easiness: Conceptualization and examination.  
- Qian, Y. & Li, L. In progress, Predicting college students’ Electronic multitasking in face-to-face classrooms.  
- Li, L. & Kuznetsova, M. In progress, Examining students’ performance in different exam modes.

Under Review:  
- Li, L., & Titsworth, S. Scale development of teacher techniques in online classrooms, Refereed

Current Publications:  
Refereed Journal Articles:  

Refereed Chapters in Book:  

Grants Received:  
Li, L. (2013), $4500 from the Winter Break 2013-14 Innovative Course Grant, University of Wyoming, to teach COJO 3190 Cross-Cultural Communication at Beijing, China.

Service (community/professional):  
Student Advising/Graduate Supervision:  
- Undergraduate students-approximately 20 advisees  
- Co-chair two graduate students’ theses

Reviewing:  
- Reviewer for Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies, invited in September  
- Editorial board, Basic Course Communication Annual, 2013  
- Reviewer for the Instructional and Developmental Communication Division of International Communication Association, 2013
Mike Lindahl, Outreach Building Manager

Mike Lindahl will be the new UW/CC Center safety coordinator. He will also be a coordinator with Casper College as a “building marshal” to help everyone stay safe.

Lindahl is a graduate of both Casper College and UW. In July Lindahl celebrated a 25-year anniversary with his wife, Sandy. Their beautiful daughter, Amanda, is seventeen. Early last summer they took a trip through five national parks and recreation areas in Utah and Arizona. In five hours they caught about 75 good-eating striped bass on Lake Powell. The Lindahls also went on camping trips to their favorite areas in the Big Horn Mountains. This next summer they hope to visit some white sandy beaches in Florida.

This year Lindahl built shelving and book cabinets for the Reach 4 A Star Riding program for special needs people. Currently he is building barn wood frames and framing country photography donated by Richard Stillwell for the Kelly Walsh FFA program auction and fundraiser.

Erin Maggard, Programmer Analyst, Senior

Maggard’s husband, Bill, was accepted to Concordia Theological Seminary, and they will be moving to Ft. Wayne, Indiana in May, 2014.

Marcia Patton, Natrona County Partner Schools Facilitator

Marcia Patton traveled to seven European countries last summer, conducting the Wyoming Ambassadors Choir. She also spent three weeks in Australia, scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef, studying dolphin and sea turtle rescue, visiting the Sydney Opera House, and belaying down a 60 foot cliff in the Blue Mountains.

Professional Development:
Kagan Classroom Engagement and Management strategies

Current Research or Projects:
• Preparing to present a teacher education conference this summer in California, ECCO, for choral educators in junior high through college
• Presenting at the National Children’s Chorus Conference in January over the Martin Luther King Holiday

Conferences Attended:
American Chorale Directors national conference, Dallas

Service (community/professional):
• Artistic director of the Casper Children’s Chorale (currently preparing for performances in Anaheim and raising funds for 80 children to travel)
Brent Pickett,
Associate Dean/Director, UW/CC Center

This past summer Brent Pickett took his older daughter, Sophie, on an extended fly fishing trip to western Wyoming. Over the course of most of a week, they caught all four species of native cutthroat trout, earning both of them a cuttslam certificate. Sophie also caught her first whitefish. Pickett also took his younger daughter, Zoey, on a fly fishing trip. She caught three different species of trout, which got her a ‘Trout Trio’ certificate from Wyoming Game and Fish’s new Aquatic Education program.

Professional Development:
• Participated in three Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visits this year. Pickett says he learned a lot, including that three visits in one year is too much. He’s informed the commission he will be taking a breather the first half of 2014.
• Served as the UW liaison to the HLC for the Outreach School’s additional location review this past September. Pickett would like to thank everyone who assisted with that, especially Renee and Scott.

Conferences Attended:
International education conference in Providence, Rhode Island. Although he went to learn about student learning outcomes connected to international education, he became especially fired up about new undergraduate programs in global public health. He said, “I’d love for UW/CC to develop a global public health course, preferably one taught in an interdisciplinary fashion.”

Service (community/professional):
Pickett has been working on fundraising connected to the UW/CC Center Non-traditional Student Scholarships.

Marcia Patton
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• Auditioned singers or Alla Breve, the women’s multi-generational choir

There is now an endowment behind those scholarships that has met the minimum to begin making payments in support of scholarships. There will be a year’s wait for interest to accumulate, but beginning in the spring 2015 term, awards will be made from this endowment.

Bruce Richardson,
Senior Lecturer, English

Bruce Richardson is enjoying many of his usual favorite pursuits. Recently, he read “Accursed” by Joyce Carol Oates, and around seventy new plays. “We are in a great period for drama,” Richardson says. Besides attending “blizzards” of arts events, he has been keeping pro-basketball stats and going on daily trips to the Casper dog park in his spare time.

Current Publications:
“Creativity and Arts in Engaging Cities,” Wyoming ArtsScapes Spring 2013

Conferences Attended:
Wyoming Arts Conference & The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Jackson, Wyoming, October.

Service (community/professional):
• “Lots—about 20,” says Richardson. But notably he is helping with a new arts center for downtown Casper.
• Member of the Advisory Board for Wyoming Public Radio.

Scott Seville,
Associate Dean Outreach School

Scott Seville has been traveling the state for the Outreach School and Wyoming INBRE on site visits at the community colleges. On these site visits, he has been giving talks on “Darwin and the Galapagos Islands” and “Parasite-Host Coevolution.” So far Seville has given public lectures or guest lectures in courses at Western Wyoming Community College, Central Wyoming College, and Sheridan College. He will be visiting Northwest College in Powell, Northern Wyoming Community College in Sheridan (again), and Eastern Wyoming College before end of the fall 2013 semester.
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Current Research and Projects:
Research Papers Accepted:


Projects:
- In June, Seville worked with Jun Ren, principal investigator and Heywood Sawyer, associate program coordinator (College of Pharmacy) to submit their five year competitive renewal proposal to continue funding of the National Institutes for Health (NIH), National Institute for General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), Institutional Development Award (IDeA), Wyoming IDeA, and Networks for Biomedical Sciences (INBRE) Program. If re-funded, Wyoming INBRE will continue to build on ten years of NIH funding totaling ~ $28M to help Wyoming build its biomedical research and education infrastructure. To date the program has provided over $700,000 to the UW/CC Center and Casper College in support of faculty and students engaging in biomedical education and research.

Current Publications:

- Papers published (2012 to present):

Conferences Attended:
- The American Society of Parasitologists Annual Meeting in Quebec, Canada, July
- In September attended the Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists at Cedar Point Biological Station, Ogallala, NE (with several UW/CC students) and the Annual Wyoming INBRE Research Network Retreat at the University of Wyoming/ National Park Research Station in Grand Teton National Park. Students presented papers at both conferences.

Service (community/professional):
- Invited to serve on the editorial board of the journal Comparative Parasitology
- As a member of the Advisory Board of the National Science Foundation and American Association for the Advancement of Sciences funded “Vision and Change in Undergraduate Biology” project, Seville attended and served as a discussion facilitator for the “Transforming Undergraduate Biology Education: Chronicling Change, Inspiring the Future,” August 2013, Washington, D.C.
- For the American Society of Parasitologists, Seville served on the Nominating and Ashton Cuckler Young Investigator Award committees.

Shane Stone,
Assistant Lecturer, Criminal Justice

Shane Stone says, “I have not made any progress whatsoever in my endeavor to become a Wyoming fly fisherman.”
Stone began working toward an Ed.D in Educational Leadership this fall semester.

Florence Teulé,
Assistant Lecturer, Biology

Professional Development:

- Invited lecture series & research seminar given at the Polytechnique University of Madrid (Madrid, Spain) Hosts: Profs. Emmanuel Elices, Gustavo Guinea; Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Laboratory at the Center for Biomedical Technology (Universidad Politecnica Madrid/UPM), Spring 2012
- Lecture series: Genetic Engineering of spider silks (4 x 2.5 h lectures) for biomedical engineering majors (undergraduates; graduate students, and post-docs).
- Research seminar: Chimeric Spider Silk Proteins Produced In Bacteria & Transgenic Silkworms
  - Development of an international collaboration with Profs. Elices and Guinea
  - Fall 2013: Hosted a visiting scientist from UPM at UW/CC (Post doctoral fellow Concepcion Solanas-Diaz from the Guinea lab/UPM/Spain) from Sept. 8-Nov. 4 2013; Research conducted: cloning of spider genes in bacteria and silk gene expression
- Organized and chaired a scientific conference session (Spider silk and other natural materials) for the Fall Fiber Society meeting/Fibers interfacing the world (Clemson, SC; Oct. 23-25, 2013);

Current Research or Projects:

- Genetic engineering of spider silks

Current Publications:

Teulé continued from page 7


Conferences Attended:
Fall fiber society meeting/Fibers interfacing the world (Clemson; SC; Oct. 23-25, 2013); attempt to control the mechanical properties of the synthetic fibers. J. Mater. Sci. 42 (21): 8974-8985

Richard Thompson,
Coordinator, Student Advising,
Educational Opportunity Center

Service (community/professional):
• The Therapeutic Community at the Casper Reentry Center has hosted Thompson several times to work with residents who desire to acquire a degree. He assists them with FAFSAs, college admissions, student debt obligations, and other issues pertaining to college attendance.

• The Central Wyoming Rescue Mission—Thompson is beginning to make contact with this organization. The purpose of the Central Wyoming Rescue Mission is to provide the homeless or recently incarcerated an opportunity to transition into Casper area working society. This is a new partnership, where they want to help guests achieve higher levels of education than they possess on initial entry to the Rescue Mission.

• The Natrona County School District:
Community Transitions Team—Thompson assists this organization by offering tools needed to transition from secondary education into the workforce.

Book & a Bite Program—This is an evening program targeted at low income schools. After attendees enjoy a communal dinner hosted by the Living Streams Fellowship Church, a Casper area celebrity reads to the students. While the students are listening to the reading, their parents are given a presentation on important aspects of parenting or changes in education. After the presentation, parents participate in breakout sessions. Thompson attended one and will be attending many more evenings in the future. During the evening program he encourages parents to attend college and communicates how the EOC office can be a resource for them while in school, and how college could improve their situation. When the evening is finished, parents are furnished with food provided by one of the Casper area food banks.

Richard Stillwell,
Facilities/Grounds Assistant,
Outreach Building

Richard Stillwell, facilities/grounds assistant at the UW Outreach Building (ORB), will be leaving the UW/CC Center after the move. “Richard has proudly kept the ORB so nice for every event and is very helpful to anyone in need,” said ORB manager Mike Lindahl. Stillwell has worked for UW since 2009, and will be missed by his colleagues.

Last summer, Stillwell assisted in the construction of the UW/CC Center Parade Day float, and drove his truck and trailer along the route.