Thurow receives Meritorious Ellbogen Classroom Teaching Award

Relating course work to real-life situations and dedication to students are only a few attributes that earned a professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management this year’s John P. Ellbogen Meritorious Classroom Teaching Award.

“Tom Thurow is consistently rated by the highest proportion of students taking his courses as in the top 10 percent of instructors on campus,” notes Professor John Tanaka, head of the department.

The award was established in 1977 by businessman John P. “Jack” Ellbogen, to “foster, encourage, and reward excellence in classroom teaching at UW.”

Other recipients this year are Nicole Lamartine, assistant professor in the Department of Music, and Cameron Wright, associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Thurow joined UW in 1999 as department head after five years as an associate professor at Texas A&M University. He returned to a non-administrative position in 2005 conducting research and annually teaching introduction to forest management, wildland watershed management, ecological applications for wildland management, and environment and natural resources problems and restoration.

“He epitomizes what each of us should be striving for in our courses,” adds Tanaka.

He excels in challenging and inspiring students and demonstrates a genuine commitment to provide the best experience possible for students in range, says Professor Ann Hild, a colleague in the department.

His courses do not earn a student’s love for being easy but for developing professionalism, she adds. “Tom helps students see the larger picture and their own fit into a broad array of natural resource professions. Then, he gives them the tools and critical thinking skills to become professionals,” she says.

Peers have also been mentored.

Professor K.J. Reddy, who has received numerous awards for his teaching and research at UW, says he appreciated Thurow’s mentoring as he was establishing his teaching and research program. “His advice was both practical and profound,” he says.

He is a positive force in the life of any student, faculty members or client who has the good fortune to interact with him in teaching, research, service, and administrative roles, Reddy adds.

“At the heart of what motivates this positive energy is his profound desire to be a force for good in improving people’s lives and helping to maintain a sustainable environment,” says Reddy.

Thurow promotes long-term learning and understanding, says Melanie Matthews, a former graduate student of Thurow.

“He frequently explains concepts through real-life anecdotes facilitating recollection and comprehension,” she says.

Other students talk about that.

“He has a unique ability to bring his personal experiences into the lessons and help fill the gap from class-based theory to real-world application,” says former student Brandon Reynolds.

Adds Brian Sebade, former student and now a University of Wyoming Extension educator, “I found these real-world examples helped cement the ideas with students. It was apparent he cared greatly about each student’s education and always points out why it was important students give their best effort and paid attention in class.”
College staff members receive honors during UW Staff Recognition Day

College staff members received prestigious honors during Staff Recognition Day on April 18.

**Cindy Wood**, a senior accounting associate in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, received an E.G. Meyer Family Outstanding Staff Service Award.

**Gail Lamb**, a senior accounting associate in agricultural administration, received a UW Staff Incentive award.

**Roger Siemion**, a lab technician in the Wyoming State Vet Lab, received a UW Off-Campus Staff Award.

Dozens of employees were honored for their years of service and contributions to UW. Sponsored by UW Staff Senate, with support from the UW Office of the President, Staff Recognition Day encourages and acknowledges the work of all UW staff members.

Ecosystem science and management graduate student earns teaching honor

Ph.D. student Renée Gebault King in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management has received a North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Graduate Teaching Award of Merit.

Jim Wangberg, associate dean and director of the Office of Academic and Student Programs, presented the honor.

“The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has an institutional membership in NACTA, and with that membership comes the annual opportunity to recognize a graduate student for achievements in teaching,” Wangberg says.

Department head Professor John Tanaka says King is a natural in the classroom.

“Her background is very diverse and her dedication to students is readily apparent,” notes Tanaka. “She has

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proven herself to be an excellent teacher both in and out of the classroom.

King was asked to teach soil fertility and fertilizers, a senior/graduate student course normally offered alternate years, and also taught a lab section in the introduction to soils course.

“The time to teach it approached and we did not have any faculty members able to offer it,” says Tanaka, due to scheduling. “Renée stepped up and did an excellent job. I was able to observe her teaching the course, and she seemed to be a natural. Course evaluations from the students were resoundingly positive and would have placed her toward the top of the best teachers in the department.”

There are four Ellbogen faculty winners in the department. Ellbogen teaching awards are the highest the university presents.

King had previously taught at Sheridan College as a meat and food science instructor, for the Wyoming Business Council as an organic and natural foods marketing specialist, and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture as a consumer protection specialist. She has also worked with the National FFA Foundation updating teaching resources for the Meat Science and Technology Career Development Event.

She received her bachelor’s degree in animal science and master’s degree in meat science from the University of Wyoming. She is working toward a Ph.D. in soil science.

Spring commencement Saturday in UW Fieldhouse

There will be 113 undergraduates and 19 graduate students participating in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources commencement this Saturday. Jim Wangberg, associate dean and director of the Office of Academic and Student Programs, is featured speaker.

Ceremonies begin at 1:30 p.m. in the UW Fieldhouse.

Stahl receives UW’s 2012 Faculty Award for Internationalization

Pete Stahl learned the value of international relations from his grandfather, a Spaniard who worked his way to the New World by rolling cigars in Havana in exchange for a ticket.

Putting this knowledge into action has been a hallmark of this year’s 2012 Faculty Award for Internationalization recipient. Professor Stahl has pursued research that has had real-world consequences for people across Wyoming and the globe and expanded opportunities for Wyoming students to study abroad.

The award was established in 2001 by the UW International Board of Advisers to recognize excellence in promoting international activities at UW.

A professor of soil ecology and director of the Wyoming Reclamation and Restoration Center, his research seeks to improve technologies for land reclamation and ecosystem restoration in sagebrush steppe ecosystems.

Stahl has developed collaborative relationships with colleagues worldwide:

- Working with colleagues from the Czech Republic, he has examined recovery of soil organisms on reclaimed surface coal mines in Wyoming, Canada, Australia, Germany, and the Czech Republic.
- He has developed, with colleagues from UW and Peabody Energy, an international exchange program to train students from Mongolia and Wyoming in the latest technologies and management practices in reclamation and restoration.
- Stahl and other UW scientists are developing a program on international watershed hydrology and ecosystem restoration science with faculty members from Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.

Anne Alexander, director of International Programs at UW, says Stahl’s most outstanding international work is a collaborative partnership he has developed with Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, Nepal. She says the partnership began as a memorandum of understanding that has grown into a model program of international cooperation.

“Through this program, the number of Nepalese...”
Kuipers, Geiger members of paper’s Twenty Under 40

University of Wyoming Extension educators Tara Kuipers and Milt Geiger were selected to the Casper Star-Tribune’s Twenty Under 40 special section. Through honoring the 20, the paper hopes to encourage other Wyomingites to pursue personal achievement and public service in Wyoming.

“Although each has a unique story, they have at least two things in common: a record of achievement and the demonstrated potential to help lead Wyoming in the decades to come,” notes the paper. “The list doesn’t aim to identify Wyoming’s 20 smartest young people, or the 20 most powerful, or the 20 most successful. Instead, with help from our readers, it simply recognizes 20 inspiring standouts among the many young people whose talents and hard work are helping to build Wyoming.”

Kuipers is a community development educator in Park County. She began with extension in 2009 and specializes in organizational leadership, community development, and coalition building. She received a bachelor’s degree in human development and family studies in 2000 from South Dakota State University, and a master’s in education/counseling from UW in 2002.

Geiger began as energy coordinator also in 2009. The position is funded by extension and the UW School of Energy Resources. Geiger develops partnerships with the SER and the College of Engineering and Applied Science to coordinate extension and outreach activities among the three partners.

A Michigan native, Geiger received a bachelor’s degree in environmental economics in 2003 from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, and he accepted a position with USDA Rural Development in Casper and then Sheridan. He served as state rural energy coordinator from 2005-2007.

Geiger completed two master’s degrees at UW in 2009 in agricultural and applied economics and environment and natural resources.

Stahl receives UW’s 2012 Faculty Award for Internationalization

(continued from page 3)

students at UW has grown to the second-largest international student population on campus,” Alexander says. “The research that Dr. Stahl has coordinated with his colleagues in Kathmandu has led to several major publications, visiting scholar exchanges and results that will improve reclamation practices across several continents, including in two similarly situated mountain regions, Nepal and Wyoming.”

His colleagues in the United States and abroad praise him both as a first-rate scientist and a true diplomat and ambassador of Wyoming.

“He serves as a role model for UW faculty and staff members and students in his pursuit of solutions to common global problems,” Alexander says.

Stahl joined the UW faculty in 2000. He received a bachelor’s degree in 1978 in agriculture from Oklahoma State University, and his master’s and Ph.D in botany from UW in 1982 and 1989, respectively.

Publications


To view Kuipers' story, go to http://bit.ly/KqEMRc

To view Geiger's story, go to http://bit.ly/KuVwvd

Calendar

May 5: College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Spring Commencement, 1:30 p.m., UW Fieldhouse
May 7: UW summer hours begin, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
May 7-11: Integrated Ranch Management Symposium, Laramie
May 28: Memorial Day, UW offices closed
May 30-31: Wyoming 2012 Regional Reclamation Schools, Powell

For a statewide calendar, please access the ag college Web site at www.uwyo.edu/UWAG/
Molecular and Cellular Life Sciences graduate student Darshankumar Pathak of Vadodara, India, won the top award among graduate oral presentations at the spring meeting of the Rocky Mountain Branch of American Society for Microbiology (RMB ASM) April 20-21 at Denver University in Denver.

His talk was entitled “Self/nonself recognition in bacterial cell to cell membrane fusion.” Pathak’s adviser is molecular biology Associate Professor Daniel Wall.

At the same meeting, molecular biology Professor Mark Gomelsky was elected RMB ASM president. RMB ASM encompasses Colorado and Wyoming. Its mission is to encourage exchange of ideas among society members and provide opportunities for educational growth. This mission is embodied in two annual meetings where undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral students present results of their research and participate in informal discussions with faculty members and industry representatives, says Gomelsky. Each RMB meeting also features prominent microbiology scientists as invited speakers. For more information, visit the RMB ASM website https://sites.google.com/site/asmrmb/home

Gamma Sigma Delta honors top students, outstanding agriculturalist at annual meeting

Top University of Wyoming agricultural students were honored by Gamma Sigma Delta, and state veterinarian Jim Logan received its Outstanding Agriculturalist Award at its annual brunch April 14.

Receiving outstanding student awards and their departments are:

Outstanding Freshman Female – McKensie Harris, Laramie, animal and veterinary sciences (ANVS)

Outstanding Freshman Male – Shane Bell, Winnemucca, Nevada, ecosystem science and management (ESM)

Outstanding Sophomore – Amanda O’Donnell, Spring Creek, Nevada, ESM

Outstanding Junior – Erin Anders, Cheyenne, agroecology and anthropology

Outstanding Senior – Sara van Knapp Jennings, Burbank, California, ANVS

Outstanding Master’s Student – Sarena Ann Olsen, Las Vegas, Nevada, ANVS

Outstanding Doctoral Student – Rebecca Cockrum, Chesterfield, Maryland, ANVS.

Receiving departmental honors were:

Agricultural and applied economics – WAEA Outstanding Senior Award, Kailey Barlow, Big Piney; honor book, Randa May, Pine Bluffs

Agricultural communications – Honor Book, Kaitlynn Glover, Casper, Megan Tanaka, Laramie, Kelsey Tramp, Lander

Animal science – Honor Book, Brice McIntosh, Wheatland, Stephanie Schroeder, Douglas, Saralyn van Knapp Jennings, Tori Walsh, Green River

Family and consumer sciences – Honor book, Kati Stoll, Casper

Microbiology – Honor Book, Lacey Faviazzo, Rock Springs

Molecular biology – Honor Book, Anna Justis, Eagle River, Alaska; Irene Rosenfeld Scientific Achievement Award, Ryan Griesbach, Laramie; Harold F. Eppson Scholarship, Madeleine Francis, Laramie

Plant sciences – Honor book, Tessa Peters, Gillette, Bailey Hallwachs, Cheyenne

(Continued on page 6)
Ecosystem science and management – Honor book, rangeland ecology and watershed management, Cara Noseworthy, Medford, New Jersey; Soil Science, Kristi Mingus, Powell; Entomology, Ariana Roe, Big Horn; Graduate Student, Kyle Lilly, Glenwood, Iowa

Animal and Veterinary Sciences – Honor Book, Julia Ransom, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania

New undergraduate members inducted are:

New graduate student members inducted are:
- Sherry Adrianos, Cheyenne, Lauren Millett, Laramie, molecular biology; Prakriti Bistaghimire, Chitwan, Nepal, Caleb Carter, Livingston, Montana, Carl Coburn, Cincinn

Outstanding Sophomore Award recipient Amanda O’Donnell and Bill Stump

Logan earns Outstanding Agriculturalist Award

State veterinarian Jim Logan of Riverton received Gamma Sigma Delta’s Outstanding Agriculturalist Award at the organization’s annual meeting.

Logan was a practicing veterinarian in the Riverton area for more than 20 years, and has served as Wyoming state veterinarian for more than 11 years.

“Jim genuinely has producers’ best-interest in mind at all times,” SAYS Dannele Peck, assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, during her award presentation.

“He is not afraid, however, to tell them tough things they need but don’t always want to hear,” she NOTES. “When Dr. Logan says ‘We need to get serious about this issue’ or ‘We need to take a hard look at what we are doing here,’ producers and colleagues take note.”

Logan has not only shown leadership in brucellosis issues but also in sheep industry concerns, SAYS Jim Schwartz, former director of the Wyoming Livestock Board, in his nomination letter.

“Whatver the issue, he has worked toward solving problems based on science instead of yielding to emotional or political pressures,” he stated.

Bob Meyer, Wyoming’s assistant state veterinarian, notes Logan does far more than normally expected from many state veterinarians.

“Besides his involvement with many agriculturally oriented organizations here in Wyoming, Jim also serves as chairman of various committees for national organizations,” he SAYS. “These organizations support and protect our livestock producers from the effects of several livestock diseases, and having Jim’s close involvement serves to keep Wyoming’s interests front and center.”
Geology Glam

Students in three family and consumer sciences courses presented creations at “The Final Design Show” Friday, April 27, with the UW Geology Museum as a backdrop. Those courses were apparel design through draping, textile industry and the environment, and apparel computer-aided design.

From left, Ruby Baker, Leah Fitzgerald, Kate Hogan, and Andrea Fluery and their items in “Indigenous Interiors.” The materials were recycled, refurbished, or reused, and the four obtained items within the local community to reduce environmental footprints.

Mary Mills and “Ardor.” The exactness and sophistication of a Parisian designer inspired her to show the same in her design.

Paul Ditty and “Industrial Fade Away into Grey.” Ditty’s jumpsuit was inspired by Yves Saint Laurent. Ditty incorporated the stone-washed grey from the muted hues found in a UW Geology Museum painting.

Jacquie Lahr and “Wild Thing.” Multi-colored print fabric reflects the music of Mozart – fluid with pieces flowing into one another. Accessories were created from discontinued topographical maps.

Peggy Bell and “What a Renaissance Woman Might Wear to Work.” After looking at fossils and shells at the UW Geology Museum, she was inspired to use natural colors and textures to design something she might wear to work.

Caitlynn Grandjean with her creation “Loungerie.” She created patterns for her designs through computer applications. She wanted to design a lingerie line that could also be worn around the house. Her creation is a combination of lingerie and loungewear.
From left, Gretchen Fuhrman, Jennifer DeLong, and Caitlyn Grandjean and “Creative Evolution.” The students made accessories using second-hand materials obtained through local consignment shops or donations. Not pictured, Mary Mills.

Mika Dubbe and her accessories in “Reincarnation.” The line focuses on turning undesired items into new, fashionable accessories.

Ruth Hirnyck with her design in “Reincarnation.” Textile products no longer wanted are transformed into new, fashionable accessories.

Geology Glam

From left, Jenna Malmquist, Kayla Green, Alex Gonzalez, and Desire Orchard with “Post Restoration.” Their product line is made from recycled products meant to represent a technologically advanced society. Their inspiration came from fast fashion ideals. Fast fashion is short term and garments are not meant to be worn more than once. With new technology, the fast fashion garments could be recycled.

Proposals Submitted


**Feuz, Bridger**: $21,000 to Washington State University for “Wyoming Master Cattleman Ranch Management Institute.”

**Islam, Anowar**: $22,500 to Forage Genetics International for “Roundup Ready Alfalfa Testing.”

**Levy, Daniel**: $940,779 to American Cancer Society for “Regulation of Nuclear Size in Xenopus Embryos and Cancer Cells.”

**McLean, Amy**: $11,497 to American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) for “AQHA International Horsemanship Clinic.”

**Shaw, Scott**, and Lawrence Haimowitz: $5,000 to National Park Service for “Study of Parasitic Wasps in Association with Mountain Pine Beetle Outbreak.”

**Tanaka, John**: $5,000 to U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture for “Teaching to Learn and Learning to Teach: Education in Rangeland Ecology and Management, Special Issue of Rangelands.”

**Whipple, Glen**: $2,600 to Wyoming Department of Agriculture for “Chaperones for 4-H Youth Dormitories at State Fair.”
Members of the fiber arts class in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences presented their fashion designs at Coat Couture XIV Friday, April 27, at the American Heritage Center. The theme was “Art to Wear.”

Davona Douglas and “To Have and to Hold.” Douglas received an Honorable Mention Award.

Elizabeth Meier was presented the Best Narrative Award for “From the Inside Out.”

Jenna Malmquist and “The Journey” received the Best Use of Embellishment Award.

Mary Kay Wardlaw was presented the Most Successful Project Award for her “Back to My Roots.”

Linda Melcher and “These Are a Few of My Favorite Things.” Melcher received the Best Technical Merit Award.

Whitney Taylor received an Honorable Mention Award for “Turning Chapters.”
Cool Coat Couture

Morgan Martin and her items “When Mad Men Meet Cowgirls.”

Ginny Kilander and “Dard’s Garden.”

Rebecca Martinez displays “Jacketscape with Green and Gold.”

Christine Baldwin and “Timeless Generation.”

Jennifer Schneider and her creation “More than the Sum of its Parts.”
Uzbekistan’s locust lab manager visits UW
Locust control effort in Uzbekistan meant cleaning up KGB’s bio-warfare facility

While the University of Wyoming Extension entomologist was determining if the state would be a buffet for grasshoppers this summer, colleague Furkat Gapparov already knew what was in store for his Uzbekistan homeland.

Gapparov, who visited colleague and fellow grasshopper expert Alex Latchininsky March 29-April 4 at the UW, is ready to mobilize an army of workers to neutralize a locust invasion expected across 1 million acres.

The two have collaborated on research projects for more than 20 years. Furkat manages the locust research lab in the Scientific Research Institute of Plant Protection in Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

He has dealt with complications Latchininsky thankfully doesn’t have to wrestle in Wyoming:

• The “Island of Resurrection” in the now mostly dried up Aral Sea was the top-secret biological warfare facility operated by the KGB during the Soviet period. In 1991, Uzbekistan and the U.S. worked to mitigate all that was left there, he says. Yet, since nobody monitors locusts there, they can develop unnoticed and fly out to damage crops across Uzbekistan.

• While Uzbekistan can hold its own against such pests as the Moroccan and Italian locusts, it is at the mercy of surrounding countries that cannot afford to treat the pests.

• Former Soviet Premier Stalin created borders based on politics and not natural or ethnic boundaries. For example, peninsulas of land of some countries intrude into other nations.

• In one of the country’s states, more than 60,000 metric tons of organochlorine pesticides, such as DDT and BCH, were used between the 1940s and 1990s. “Now, we are trying to change the policy,” Furkat says. A state committee on pesticide registration was created following independence in 1991. “All very toxic and cumulative pesticides were banned.”

• The war in Afghanistan also complicates. “All locust control in Afghanistan is in bad shape, and their locusts fly into our territory on a regular basis,” he notes.

“In general, all our neighbors are cooperative,” Furkat says. “We have bilateral agreements, but it can be complicated in terms of funding, logistics, and visas.”

Gapparov has collaborated with UW since 1996 and calls the relationship mutually beneficial. Uzbekistan developed grasshopper control methods and learned about new technologies for grasshopper monitoring and control, such as GIS and satellite images.

In return, the Reduced Agent and Area Treatment method developed at UW has roots in Uzbekistan, Furkat says. The rate of insecticide is reduced from levels recommended by a label, and untreated swaths are alternated with treated swaths. Such treatments were done (with older insecticides) since the 1940s.

His biggest challenges, Furkat says, are confounding effects brought about by climate change.

“All locust habitats and breeding areas have changed,” he says. “They are not the same as 30 or 40 years ago.”

Hatching occurs more than three to four weeks earlier. “Before, the main hatching area was in the foothills from any crop area. Now, it’s in the valleys right next to crops.

It’s very difficult,” he notes.

The Aral Sea, once among the four largest lakes in the world, shrank to 10 percent of its original size by 2009. Rivers that fed the sea were diverted by irrigation projects.

“We once had the migratory locust living in the reeds,” Furkat says. “Now, there are no reeds, and the migratory locust has been substituted by another, drought-tolerant species, the Italian locust. Why are we so worried? The species does not behave like your grasshoppers in Wyoming. They can quickly fly hundreds of kilometers and can immediately attack crops.”

He hopes a focus of research in his lab – a search for a pathogen microorganism – will be successful to lower the negative effects of pesticide locust control on the environment.

It wouldn’t be first time his country laid claims to history. The creator of algebra, Al-KhorezmiKhwarizmi, is from there, and Mirzo Ulughbek cataloged hundreds of stars years before Copernicus. The

(Continued on page 12)
designers of the Taj Mahal were from the Mogul empire from which Uzbekistan descendants created many years later.

Uzbekistan is also in the heart of the old Great Silk Road.

Now, locusts migrate through, threatening the country’s cotton and wheat crops. “The situation is, we have a huge, permanent breeding area of locusts on both sides of the borders with adjacent countries,” he notes. “These countries say they can only treat 10 to 15 percent of the locust populations. Everything else falls to our country.”

Monies Awarded

Baumgartner, Robert: $1,200 from various sponsors for “Crop Research.”

Brown, Donna: $1,400 from various sponsors for “Family and Consumer Sciences Support.”

Nachtman, Jerry: $1,600 from Sorghum Partners, LLC for “Irrigated and Dry Land Evaluation of Forage, Grain and Biomass Yield of Sorghum Varieties,” $6,000 from Crop Research Foundation of Wyoming for “Winter Wheat Variety Evaluation,” and $1,189 from University of Nebraska for “Winter Wheat and Corn Variety Evaluation.”

Smith, Mae, Ashley Garrels, Rachel Mealor, Dallas Mount, Milton Geiger, Justina Russell, Brian Sebade, Barton Stam, and Jennifer Jones: $5,000 from EnCana Oil & Gas Inc. for “Exploring the Nature of Wyoming.”

Uzbekistan’s locust lab manager visits UW (continued from page 11)

Changing Faces, Changing Places
(effective date in parentheses)

Welcome:

Crazy Thunder, Joeli: Wind River Indian Reservation UW Extension, 4-H program assistant (3/1)

Fleenor, Sara: Crook County UW Extension, 4-H educator (4/30)

Koltiska, Rochelle: Sheridan Research and Extension Center, office associate (4/30)

Swanbom, Hannah: Natrona County UW Extension, community development educator (4/30)

Zamudio, Amanda: Teton County UW Extension, 4-H/youth educator (5/30)

Farewell:

Krall, James: James C. Hageman Sustainable Agriculture Research and Extension Center, director of research/professor (4/13)