Dr. George W. Hinman has been awarded the 2015 Legacy of Excellence Award. As part of the annual WSU Showcase Celebrating Excellence, he will receive an award and have a brief tribute during the ceremony on Friday, March 28th. He will also have a separate recognition event, during which he will give a lecture on Nuclear Energy Issues in Washington State on Wednesday, March 25th, at 4:00pm in Todd 125.

George came to Washington State University in 1969 with a background in nuclear physics, engineering, and applications, strengthened by his time at Carnegie Tech and as the Chair of the Physics Department at General Atomic. While at WSU, George branched out into environmental science, becoming the director of the WSU Office of Applied Energy Studies and advising the states of Washington and New Mexico on various aspects of nuclear power production, use, and policy.

George was able to draw on all of these and other components of his wealth of scientific knowledge in informing and guiding the GAO auditors through their reviews of the complex Hanford Cleanup process.

After retiring from WSU in 1997, George continued his work in a Professor Emeritus position. He continued to teach the ESRP Environmental Policy Class and advised undergraduate and graduate students for two years. Beyond that, he served on graduate students’ advisory committees and directed and participated in environmental research projects.

During recent years, more of George’s time and attention has come to be devoted to health care, as is the case for many of us who are well into the second decade of our retirement. In George’s case, he is the primary caregiver for Mary, his beloved wife of 62 years. He is carrying out these duties with the same high level of diligence with which he approached professional assignments during his long and successful career.
Emeritus Society Events

BIWEEKLY COFFEES:
The Emeritus Society holds biweekly coffees throughout the semester which are scheduled and promoted every few weeks. These coffees are always held in the Emeritus Society Lounge (OWEN 339). This semester coffee hours will typically run from 10:30am to 11:30am on Friday mornings—unless specified otherwise.

Please feel free to stop by anytime during the scheduled coffee hour to enjoy the presence of your fellow emeriti. In addition to the friendly conversation, attending our coffee hour is a great way to weigh in on ideas surrounding Emeritus Society events and happenings. We always love seeing you!

LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE AWARD RECEPTION:
We will be holding the reception to celebrate George’s Legacy of Excellence Award on Wednesday March 25th at 4:00 in Todd Hall 125. There will be light refreshments available and George will give a talk on Nuclear Energy Issues in Washington State.

EMERITUS SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIPS:
This March the Emeritus Society will give out 4 scholarships to outstanding applicants participating in the Showcase for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities. If you are interested in helping the process of determining the scholarship award winners please let us know!

NEW EVENT IDEAS:
Every so often we try to plan special events, such as lunches or other gatherings. For example, last spring we had a wine social, in addition to other events.

If you have any ideas for events, please let Matt know! You can reach him at the following address: emeritussociety@wsu.edu

Undergraduate Awards and Donations

With the Legacy of Excellence Award process wrapping up, it is now time for the Emeritus Society to turn our attention towards the 2015 undergraduate awards and how club members can contribute towards this process both this year and in the future.

Donations:
As always, donations into the scholarship fund are highly encouraged. During this time of year, donations are of extreme importance, as we are getting ready to distribute awards in the near future. We not only need donations to fund the scholarships this year, but for years to come.

A previous email was sent to members outlining the various methods in which donations can be made. The account number you want to use for scholarships is 1165-2877. If you would like this email resent, please email Matt at the emeritus society email and he will gladly send another copy out to you.

Judging:
Once applications are closed, we will need people to assist in judging applicants. If this is something that interests you, please look for the email coming in the next few weeks detailing this process in further detail.
Get to Know Your Fellow Emeriti

In 2014 Steve and Bonnie Burkett have participated in three Habitat for Humanity builds as part of the H4H Global Village Program. These builds have been in Chile (in the small town of Casablanca between Santiago and Valparaiso), the Philippines (in Quezon City near Manila), and Chiang Mai, Thailand where we spent the month of December (with a side trip on Christmas to Mae Hong Son near the Burma border). Following our build in Chile, there was a huge forest fire near Valparaiso and an earthquake in the North.

Following our build in the Philippines, they were hit with a terrible typhoon. Fortunately nothing happened in Thailand other than some continued political issues. We were in the Philippines due to the political problems in Thailand—we were scheduled to be in Chiang Mai, but that build was canceled and we were given the choice of going to the Philippines or staying home. The attached picture was taken in Thailand near completion of the home we helped build. All in all it was a satisfying year. In addition we made several trips to the Portland area both to be there when our newest grandson was born and to assist our daughter and her husband adjust to another person in their house.

Alex and Barbara Hammond traveled in Italy and France over the holidays and arrived in Paris two days after the shootings at the Charlie Hebdo offices. They joined about two million others at the National Unity protest march on Sunday, January 11, and forward Barbara's brief description to their family along with a picture:

"I'm sure the estimate of a million or more Parisians is not hyperbole. When we walked out of our apartment this noon, the streets were flooded with people all walking one direction—it swelled into a mass so dense that most, including us, never were able to actually get into the Place de la République where the march began (although we were very close); the streets were all simply too congested. However, everyone was very good humored, and periodically clapping and chanting 'je suis Charlie' after which singing of the Marseillaise would break out. We finally turned back when it became apparent that there would be no immediate 'march route' out of the Place."

OBITUARIES: It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Louis Gray, sociology professor for 40 years at WSU. Louis passed away on December 17th.

A website tracking the various obituaries related to all of the WSU campuses can be found here.
Rich Alldredge and partner, Judy Meuth, took a four week trip to Nepal and India last fall. The highlight of the trip was 9 days of round trip trekking trip from Lukla at 9000 feet to a base camp at 15000 feet of the beautiful obelisk Ama Dablam (22,164 feet). We had clear views of Mt. Everest and nearby peaks nearly every day. Our group of 11 trekkers from across North America used the services of an adventure travel company (Mountain Travel Sobek) with our gear carried on Dzopkios (cross between Yaks and domestic cows) for 60 miles of hiking. Our route took us through many small villages where we observed and interacted with friendly Nepalese. We stayed in comfortable lodges, ate wholesome tasty food, and enjoyed the wonderful dry, cool weather.

Birgitta Ingemanson:

After retiring, I have continued my research program in Vladivostok, studying the history of the city and the more than 2,000 extant letters of Maine native Eleanor Lord Pray who lived there for 36 years. I first edited and wrote introductions to Letters from Vladivostok, 1894-1930, published in Russian (Vladivostok: Rubezh, 2008) and in English (University of Washington Press, 2013; paperback 2014); then authored The Sunny Neighborhood/Solnechnyi dvorik (Rubezh, 2011), a discussion of Mrs. Pray’s reasons for staying so long although she was supposed to leave after five years. My task now is to edit and annotate a series of Eleanor Pray’s Selected Letters. The first volume, 1894-1907, was published in English and Russian (Rubezh, 2013), and v. II, 1907-18, with the momentous events of the world war and Russian revolutions, is in the process of being prepared.

During her life in Vladivostok, Eleanor Pray wrote vividly of both her ordinary days and the extraordinary historic events that she witnessed. Reviewers and readers have noted that the books mentioned have restored parts of Vladivostok’s history that were forgotten or suppressed in Soviet times. In honor of Eleanor Pray, a bronze statue was unveiled in the city center by the mayor, the Hon. Igor Pushkarev, on July 4, 2014. A quote from her letters is painted on the decorative wall behind the monument: “Sometimes I long to get away from here and be done with all the worries and vexations of everyday life ... but deep in my soul I know I shall never be as contented anywhere else as in this beautiful unkempt place, for the best part of my life has been spent here” (1929). Despite her sharp disagreements with Russian politics at the time, Eleanor Pray did not consider it a betrayal of her principles to hold out a hand in friendship to those with differing opinions. We could all learn from this approach to the human mysteries around us.

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