May 8, 2015

WSU EMERITUS SOCIETY
Retired Faculty Serving the Future

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Let Us Know!
Send responses to emeritussociety@wsu.edu

• What have you been up to? Do you have any announcements you’d like to share?
• What activities would you like to see the Emeritus Society Sponsor?
• What is your favorite thing about WSU or the Palouse?

The Important Highlights:

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Legacy of Excellence Reception

Thank you to all of you who attended our Legacy of Excellence reception honoring George Hinman on March 25th. In attendance were numerous emeriti, students, and faculty members.

George gave a compelling lecture on the topic of Cleaning Up Hanford, A Long Term Project. His lecture captivated audience members and left many in attendance impressed with all of the work George has put in over the course of his career.

The lecture began with a discussion on the history behind the development of the atom bomb, as well as the science behind how atomic bombs function. After discussing this, George went deep into the long-term effects the Hanford project caused in the Richland area. This included how current safety measures are inadequate, the difficulties in implementing changes that will create the proper safety measures, as well as stating that while it will be a long battle, there are numerous plans in place to ensure the overall safety of the Hanford site in the future.

George’s comprehensive look at the Hanford Project and its consequences was rather insightful. Thank you George and congratulations again on your award!
Emeritus Society Events

COFFEE MEETINGS:
The Emeritus Society has been holding coffee meetings every other week to discuss our plans and events as well as to give members a chance to socialize in our Emeritus Lounge. We will be attempting to hold at least one coffee meeting this summer. The date of this coffee will be Tuesday, May 26th, with the time TBD. RSVP to Charley Gaskins at gaskins@wsu.edu if you would like to attend.

SPRING LUNCHEON:

As many of you know, we had our spring luncheon at the Lewis Alumni Center on Friday, April 10th.

The event was catered by WSU Catering Services, who provided a spread with lasagna, pasta, and salad that was very delicious.

During the luncheon, we discussed numerous topics including a recap of the events from this past year, discussion on the building of a Graduate Assistant Handbook, as well as a wonderful Q&A session with Molly Diamond, one of our Undergraduate Award recipients. We look forward to having another successful event next year.

NEXT GRADUATE ASSISTANT:
The GA hiring committee has come together to elect Daniel Frum as the Graduate Assistant for the 2015-16 Academic Year. Daniel is a candidate for his Masters in Architecture who is much more adept in coffee making than I am. Please welcome him when he takes over in August.

2014 Undergraduate Research Awards

As most of you know, each spring semester we present several awards to deserving individuals. Due to your continued support, we, once again, were able to grant four $500 scholarships to talented and deserving students. If you would like to know more about these awards, please see our website.

Thank you to those who made this possible! A $500 scholarship can be extremely helpful to a college student.

To learn more about this year’s four scholarship recipients, please see page 3.

Donating is easy! You can either donate online or download a Donor Form to mail in your donation at emeritusociety.wsu.edu. In order to ensure that your donations are deposited into the correct account, please make sure to specify that your donation is intended for the “Emeritus Scholarship Fund”.

Thank you for your continued support of these programs! Without you these scholarships would not be possible.

We would also like to thank the following members who served as judges and helped score entries and select our four winners.

Judges:
Stan Linden
Alex Hammond
Charles Gaskins
Don Matteson
Sally Horton
Jim Short
David Seamans
John Kramer
Walt Butcher

A special thanks also goes out to Sally Horton. Sally served as the chair of our award committee and helped organize the panel of judges and distribute applications. She also presented the students their awards at the Office of Undergraduate Awards on April 15th.

Thanks Sally!
Emeritus Research Award Winners

Molly Diamond  
Biosciences

Molly Diamond is a junior who is participating in a research study centering around the ways in which road salts impacts the development of larval wood frogs. To do this, tadpoles were placed into tanks with salt concentrations matching that of roadside environments of the area surrounding Pullman. Results showed a higher amount of resting behavior among tadpoles that were exposed to road salts, which is estimated to be due to the extra work needed in order to do simple functions, including food digestion and breathing. Molly intends to continue her study into next year where she will look into the gill morphology of tadpoles resulting from salt exposure.

Jake Gray  
Physical Sciences

Jake Gray is double majoring in Chemical Engineering and Chemistry. His research project focuses on how electric fields react during steam reformation using hydrogen fuel cells, with future efforts focusing on how findings can be applied to make the industrial process more efficient. Particularly, Jake wants to improve the industrial process by finding ways to produce hydrogen gas more effectively, which will lead to lower fuel costs and better run rates. In his research, Jake cites the prohibitively expensive nature of hydrogen gas which served as his inspiration in conducting his experiment. Results so far indicate that further research should be done in order to fully measure the impact of hydrogen fuel cells and how they can be utilized industrially, as results are currently obscured by experimental error.

John Menard  
Arts and Humanities

John Menard is a history major at WSU with an interest in history within the Pacific Northwest. John’s project focused on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and how their presence in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho impacted the area. For a micro view of the CCC, Camp F-188 was used to showcase the remarkable conservation efforts of the CCC, and to examine the impact which the local communities and colleges of the Inland Northwest had on the volunteers themselves. Most these volunteers came from rural Appalachia and few had completed high school. Further research showed that Washington State College and the University of Idaho played an important role in the academic and cultural education of these young men, allowing them to pursue the education which had heretofore been denied to them and exposing them to new cultural experiences.

Colleen Chalmers  
Behavioral Sciences

Colleen Chalmers is a double major in Psychology and Human Development. Colleen’s project centered around the differences in family environments and how those environments impacted growth and learning development within children. Notably, Colleen took information collected through Head Start programs and used both t and chi-squared tests in order to examine how demographics impacted development. After analysis was completed, it was found that the areas of mother’s race and level of education impacted development of children. Colleen hopes that this information can be utilized by Head Start programs to better target individuals within different groups.

All Undergraduate Award recipients want to thank the members of the Emeritus Society for providing them with their scholarships and the opportunity to not only continue their research, but also be able to attend school with less worry of loans.

The Emeritus Society would like to congratulate Molly, Jake, John, and Colleen on their outstanding projects!