

14th Annual

Women & Leadership Forum



Outstanding

Mentor

Nominees

April 14, 2009

WSU Mentor Program Hall of Fame

2008 Mentor of the Year:

Mary Meares – Teaching Faculty
Stephen S. Jones – Research Faculty
Yevgeniya Solodovnikova – Student
Denise Keeton – Civil Service Staff
Barbara Petura – Administrative Professional
Rebecca J. Morton – Administrative Professional

2007 Mentor of the Year:

Judy Mitchell – Teaching Faculty (Administrative)
Lori Carris, Teaching Faculty
George Mount, Research Faculty
Michelle Morris – Student
Linda Jusza-Schaff – Civil Service Staff
Eleanor Finger – Administrative Professional

2006 Mentor of the Year:

Jessica Cassleman – Teaching Faculty
Craig Parks – Research Faculty
Keomany Southichack – Student
Janice Hayden – Civil Service Staff
Devon Anderson – Administrative Professional

2005 Mentor of the Year:

Bobbi Thomas – Faculty
Kelly Ward – Teaching Faculty
Terri Ockwell – Classified Staff
Mariah Maki – Administrative Professional

Carol Anelli

Associate Professor, Entomology

The first class I ever walked into at college was an honors science class taught by Dr. Carol Anelli. Reflecting on that day, my freshmen friends and I recall how Dr. Anelli immediately put our nerves at ease by offering to help us anytime we needed to talk- not just about the class, but over coffee if we were having a rough time adjusting to college life or just wanted to chat. Since then, Dr. Anelli has lived up to her word multiple times on my behalf. I have actually been sitting in her office with more than one phone ringing at a time while she is frantically typing something up and giving me helpful advice. What is most impressive is that though I was no longer in her class and the meeting was about something trivial that could've been easily scheduled later or ignored altogether, Dr. Anelli made time in her busy schedule for me because she makes the students at WSU a priority. I can always trust Dr. Anelli for a helping hand or an honest opinion. Thanks Dr. Anelli!

Anukrati Agrawal

Graduate Student & Research Assistant, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Anukrati Agrawal has been very helpful and encouraging. She guided me whenever required...made me feel comfortable...gave me good suggestions and feedback regarding my research work. She helped me in understanding the technical details of the subject matter, setting up the experiments, and conducting them. She made my transition from one research area to another very smooth. I thank her immensely.

Erica Austin

Dean, Murrow College of Communication

When I returned from years at Cardiff University in Wales, UK, Erica welcomed me, and was extremely generous with me, showing me "the ropes" of WSU. The re-acculturation process was difficult for me, and she was instrumental in my fitting in. She went out on a limb, a bit, to provide the opportunities for me to work in areas I was familiar with, and able to be of service to the university and academia. As a result, I have been given extraordinary opportunities, including pursuing my love of the Murrow legacy, developing the world's first "Murrow Legacy Class," which has had close to 500 students thus far. I also earned her trust and was given the editorship of our college's official annual publication, *The Murrow Communicator*. As fortune had it, that "Centennial Legacy Edition," celebrating both Edward R. Murrow's 100th birthday, and our transition from a WSU school to college status, earned a prestigious CASE Silver Medal (Center for the Advancement and Support of Education). Researching and teaching Murrow's history...ethical foundations, educational foundations, and impact on the world has been pure joy for me as a scholar, and I have heard from hundreds of students, professionals, and fellow faculty that this revived history has been a thrill for them as well. I mention those examples because they were possible only through the vision, foresight, and "courage," if I may use the word, of Dean Austin. She has set our college, and me, on a course of achievement and development that I feel will pay huge dividends for years. She has lead me, and "instructed" me, to a fulfilling and fruitful time of service at WSU.

Henry Averhart, Jr.

Research Assistant, Murrow College of Communication

As a friend and academic mentor, Henry gave me useful advice whenever I got into trouble, and I really appreciate it

Kristine Attao

Assistant Director, Student Support Services Program

Kristine has helped me numerous times. As a single mother of three children, finances are very tight. When I began school at WSU, two of my children were in braces which greatly affected us financially. With Kristine's quick action, I was able to continue my education and not become homeless. Kristine has shown she cares about the students and she utilizes every resource possible to assist student concerns.

T. Randel Baldree

SE District Director, WSU Extension

Randy Baldree has mentored me throughout my entire Extension career. He gave me kind and accurate introduction to this career. His mentorship through the promotion and tenure processes was crucial in my success. Randy [is a] source of information, advice and wise recommendations for me through the years. In my eyes, he epitomized what a successful Extension educator should be – professional, respectful, organized, effective, productive and a good communicator. Randy served as an excellent role model for me and established high standards for which I strove. He showed sincere interest in my work and exhibited trust in my ethics, behavior and decision making. He...repeatedly demonstrated confidence in my skills and abilities. I do not think I would have been prepared for national engagement or willing to accept these additional responsibilities if Randy had not mentored, encouraged and supported me through the years. I am thankful Randy Baldree has played such a prominent role in my Extension career.

Jaime Barajas

Academic & Retention Counselor, CAMP

Jaime Barajas goes out of his way to make sure that his students succeed. He has helped make my transition to WSU a less stressful and more enjoyable period. He has helped me with directing me in the right pathways of success by giving me the tools necessary, even if he has to go out of his way. He is demanding but supportive, he cares about all his students; their success as well as their well being, and is always interested in us. He is also enthused about what he teaches and has a good sense of humor. He knows when it's time to be serious. Jaime is always just a phone call away. He is always there when you need him. Jaime is a great asset to the program because of his dedication to the success of his students.

Nancy Bean

Office Assistant, College of Business

Nancy has been a very kind, jovial and helpful person around the office. She is someone you can count on. Thanks, Nancy!

Curtis Beus

Clallam County Extension Chair, WSU Extension

Curtis Beus has provided me with leadership, encouragement, and instruction. His supervision, motivation, and communication skills have been instrumental to my professional growth and effectiveness. He is a manager who does not micromanage, an instructor who teaches then steps back, a supervisor who delegates then gives me the freedom to venture out on my own. Yet, he is always willing to assist me if I run into difficulty. He has taught by example the ethic of service that makes Extension such a valuable tool and I am extremely grateful for his patience, consideration, and support.

Margaret Black

J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professor, Director and Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Dr. Black has been a great mentor to me and to everyone else in our laboratory. I joined her laboratory in 2004 and have received nothing but amazing support, guidance and constant encouragement. Everyone knows that graduate career can be a challenge, mine has been full of ups and downs. Dr. Black has been there every step of the way, she cheered with me and shared my joy when my experiments went well or when my seminar/talk/oral presentation went well. But more than anything else, she believed in me and my ability to pull through when I was down and when things weren't going well. Her constant encouragement and guidance makes me who I am today. She has also been very easy to talk to and very eager to help whenever needed. I know that whenever I have problems with school, experiments or even personal life, I can always come to her office and get some great advice. It is easy to be a great mentor when things are good but the true test happens when she has to mentor and be a great advisor when things are rough, and I believe she has set a great example on how a good mentor is supposed to be.

2) I started graduate school in 2005 and had a rough year. Dr. Black was a great help during those difficult times by offering advice and support. In 2006 I decided to join her lab and even though my projects are not working as smoothly as I wanted, she has always been there to support and motivate me. Today, I know that one of the reasons I am still in graduate school and keep fighting is because of the appreciation I feel for my mentor.

Denise Blacker

Director of Administrative Services, College of Sciences

Denise has always been there to help whenever budget questions come up – and they come up often. She shares her expertise and knowledge so generously, making sure I understand and gain more than just an answer. She gives the context whenever possible so that my understanding of budget issues and procedures is enhanced and my knowledge broadened. She makes it possible for me to learn more on my own as a result of her help. I know...she is a resource for people of other colleges and departments. Her generosity and helpfulness deserve to be acknowledged – she is a mentor in the best sense of the word.

Peggy Bowe

Grant and Contract Administrator, Finance and Operations

College is incredibly hard. Sometimes the work feels like too much, the subject matter too difficult, the responsibilities too great. It is at these times you need someone to help get you through, to help you surmount even the greatest of obstacles. For me and many others, that person has been Peggy Bowe. Peggy is the quintessential mentor. She is happy to use the year of experience she has at WSU to make the lives of others easier. Whether it's staying up all night to help a faculty member get a grant proposal in on time, teaching a co-worker viable new skills, or simply just working hard, she does it with a smile. Peggy has certainly had the most impact on me, her nominator and daughter. As a single mother, she worked hard all my life to provide a safe, comfortable, and loving home. When I decided to go to college, she made sure I had the resources I needed. She has helped to support me in every way possible; financially, emotionally, and academically. Almost more importantly, she has led by example. She is a strong woman that is never afraid of a challenge, and has taught me the same strength and fearlessness. College has provided me with a skill set I couldn't have gotten any other way. I know I owe the whole experience to the faith, diligence, and encouragement of Peggy Bowe. Thanks, Mom.

Sandra Brabb

Advisor – Veterinary & Comparative Anatomy, Pharmacology, Physiology

Sandra Brabb has provided support, care and commitment not only to me, but to every student she advises. I feel that I am prepared academically, professionally, and personally for my future because of my relationship with my mentor, Sandra Brabb. The process of applying to medical school is lengthy and complex and requires superior organization and diligence. I was provided the support I needed from my mentor. A good mentor does not just act as a cheerleader, trying to bring you up when times get rough. A good mentor looks at the entire picture, and through the Socratic Method, helps the mentee to see it too. I was congratulated on my achievements, pointed out on my flaws, and pushed to take steps in directions I would not take on my own. In every case, I was encouraged to excel. Because of the support of Sandi, I do not feel I could have been better prepared as I begin to apply to medical schools. She is a great academic, professional, and personal advisor. I am very fortunate to have worked with a woman of such caliber and class.

Eileen Brady

Science Librarian, Owen Science & Engineering Library

Eileen Brady exemplifies what it means to be an academic librarian at WSU. She gives the effort and dedication to public service that anyone new to the field can learn from. Her support and encouragement assisted in my reaching outside of my comfort-zone when seeking appointment to professional organizations. Eileen's offer to collaborate on research introduced me to scholarly research and publishing and showed me the patience required to see a project through to completion. Eileen continues to be supportive through stressful and difficult professional challenges always ready to break from what she is working on to suggest a course of action or flat out provide a solution. Her friendship, guidance and support continue to help me better myself professionally and personally.

Shira Lynn Broschat

**Professor and Curriculum Coordinator,
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science**

Though I have known Professor Broschat only for a couple of semesters, she has made a huge impact on me. As an instructor, she cares for her students' success and through assignments challenges them in a way that is beneficial to their intellectual and professional growth. As a research leader, Professor Broschat inspires students to reach the new horizons, to be curious and question unknown, and to be a scientist whose first priority is to benefit society. As a woman, a mother of two, and a person who had to overcome many life challenges, she inspires me to perform at my best and to follow her example despite the fact that I am paralyzed and bound to a wheelchair for life.

Steven Burkett

Associate Dean – Graduate School

Dr. Burkett is simply the most amazing person I have met! When I met him, it was incredible at how much at ease he made me feel! I was on an assistantship hunt and went to seek his advice on the same. His genuine warmth, incredible interest in the well-being of his students and his ability to connect with the students on a personal level makes him one of the most outstanding people ever! It's not often that one comes across a person in a high position who takes the time to lend an ear when a student is vexed. His simplicity and humbleness is remarkable! Thank you, Dr. Burkett, for leading the way during rough times and for always being ready to help students. You are truly an asset to WSU.

Patricia Butterfield

Dean, Professor, College of Nursing

I have worked with Dr. Patricia Butterfield for the last five years, first as a research assistant at the UW and now as a co-investigator on the National Children's Study here at WSU. As a doctoral student, I read Dr. Butterfield's "Upstream Thinking" paper, which redefined nursing's role in grappling with social and environmental factors which influence health. She became a role model in advocating for resource-poor families who face multiple challenges to achieving health. As a research assistant on her "ERRNIE" study (Environmental Risk Reduction through Nursing Intervention and Education), I was able to experience the day-to-day challenges of implementing a complex, nurse-delivered, behavioral risk reduction intervention. Her commitment to the health of the rural poor was clear. As Dean of the WSU College of Nursing, Dr. Butterfield wears many hats. Nonetheless, she remains committed to my professional development by taking the time to answer questions about aspects of research, introduce me to colleagues in my field, and share my work with others. On a personal and institutional level, she has supported myself and my partner as we navigate a new community. Her language (e.g. partner vs. husband) has always been inclusive, and she has facilitated my meetings with others from the GBLT community so that my family feels comfortable and welcome here. Dr. Butterfield has always treated me as a colleague, and I would not be where I am without her. I deeply appreciate her commitment to environmental health nursing, the populations that she serves, and my own professional development.

Donna Campbell

Associate Professor, Department of English

This year, Donna Campbell has stepped in as the interim director of graduate studies in English and is doing a tremendous job of helping graduate students individually and developing the program as a whole. Her concern for the welfare of students is obvious, and she goes above and beyond the requirements of her job description in order to help them. For instance, she has created a website that lists grant opportunities, calls for conference papers, and other opportunities of interest to our graduate students. Many students consult this website on a regular basis to keep themselves informed about events and resources in their fields. Professor Campbell will often organize panels at major conferences and encourages her graduate students to submit their work. As a result, many of her advisees have presented their work at prestigious, nationally-recognized venues. Some of her students have even gotten their work published as part of a conference volume or special issue of a journal. Professor Campbell is also a fantastic mentor to several faculty members, me included. She is extremely kind and approachable, so I have felt comfortable talking to her about all kinds of professional matters. Professor Campbell deserves to be recognized for her extraordinary service to WSU students and faculty members alike.

Lisa Carloye

**Clinical Assistant Professor,
Science, Math and Engineering Education Center**

Not only does she give me great advice, but she has also inspired me. For a first time ever, I enjoy and understand science, and it is all thanks to her!

Diane Carter

Teaching Assistant, Murrow College of Communication

As a friend and an academic mentor, Diane assisted me a lot, and I really appreciate it!

Jessica Cassleman

Assistant Dean, University Honors College

Nominated by 2 persons

- 1) This last semester, I had the honor to get to know Jessica. At first I was too intimidated to talk with her because of her title, but her positive and kind nature blew away that fear immediately. Jessica is one faculty member whose personality is both inviting and uplifting. She both respects and attempts to understand me as a person. Jessica has given me the confidence I need to keep going.
- 2) This year I became chair of the Honors Ambassadors. Jessica trusted me to become an independent individual, is extremely supportive of my ideas and encourages me to try new things in order to further the program. She always has something nice to say or some word of encouragement to keep me going and keep a smile on my face. Jessica is passionate about servicing the students of the WSU Honors College and it shows.

Annie Chen
**Assistant Professor, Veterinary Clinical Science,
Veterinary Teaching Hospital**

Dr. Chen has given me the opportunity to assist her in clinical research and retrospective studies in neurology. Since I have been working with Dr. Chen I have had the opportunity to be a part of cutting edge research that will have a significant impact in diagnosing brain tumors in small animals. With Dr. Chen's help, I received a fellowship for my summer research project. My experience with Dr. Chen has given me invaluable insight into the challenges and feelings of achievement involved with veterinary medical research. Working with Dr. Chen has encouraged me to apply for an internship and pursue a residency in Small Animal Neurology.

Ann Christenson
Professor, Fine Arts

Ann Christenson has been a tremendous inspiration not only to me but to all students and individuals she interacts with in the fine arts and cougar community. Over the past year, she has helped me grow tremendously as an artist. Under her guidance and thoughtful direction, my perspective and work as an artist has developed and changed into something much different from what it was since I first arrived at WSU.

My earlier ceramic work focused largely on sculptures of landscapes, viewed as a chunk of earth taken from its natural location. One of the first projects Ann assigned to me was to build an open form on a kiln shelf. This allowed me to experiment with the idea of defying gravity with clay and defying our expectations of what can or cannot be achieved with clay. My line of work has evolved and turned in this new direction, challenging the boundaries of the ceramic medium by creating larger and more complex pieces that are not often made with clay.

Ann has inspired me as an artist to keep pushing forward and exploring new opportunities for growth and personal, as well as professional, development. The ideas she has instilled in me and the help she has provided in coordinating and enabling my current project is beyond my expectations. She has made the opportunity possible for me to construct an entire piece in one of the kilns, using multiple components I have spent the past months constructing. Throughout this process, she has provided feedback and recommendations for me to ensure success in the largest ceramic project I have ever created.

The ceramic and fine arts department is a better place because of Ann's commitment to education and growth of the artist. She is deserving of recognition for her service as a faculty member and friend to students and others in the community.

Peter A. Collins

Graduate Student/Instructor, Program in Criminal Justice

Nominated by 2 persons:

1) Pete has been an invaluable resource and mentor over the past two years for myself and other students. Pete actively engaged himself in the task of introducing me and two other students into social science research. Pete took time out of his very busy schedule being an instructor, student, husband and new parent to pour hours into making sure our project was not just adequate, but an important piece of research. Pete is a great teacher and friend ...and has offered his insight...as to what future path to take. Pete has gone above and beyond the “job description” to become one of the most instrumental figures in my four year education at Washington State University.

2) Pete Collins has not only been extraordinarily influential in my own academic and person life, but has had a major impact on the Program in Criminal Justice as a whole, Pete has helped mentor numerous students. Pete is known as extraordinarily receptive to the needs of others, always keeping an open door. Pete has improved the writing skills and knowledge of any student who seeks his support. Pete has impacted my academics and my personal relationships in ways few others have. He taught me that impacting others should be the goal of everyone, both inside and outside of academics. His genuine concern and care over the welfare of his friends and family have modeled an individual who holds those close to him nearest to his heart. I hope to mentor students like Pete has mentored me and hopefully impact students as Pete has impacted me.

Sheila Converse

Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Music

I feel utterly blessed to have been able to study with Sheila for the last four years. My first memory of Sheila in my life is from my senior year in high school, when she made an effort to call me at home to talk to me about coming to WSU. From my freshman year on, Sheila has influenced my life in multiple ways: she has been my voice teacher every year, she has taught several classes I enrolled in, she encouraged me to study abroad, and she was my Honors Thesis Adviser. With her guidance, I received a Pass with Distinction on my Thesis.

In a scary economic time like now, it's important to honor faculty members who really do touch their student's lives on a daily basis. Sheila has been more than just a teacher to me; she is my mentor and my friend, and that is something no normal evaluation can truly convey. Without her, my college experience would not have been what it is.

Rebecca Craft
Associate Professor - Psychology

Nominated by 3 persons

1) Rebecca is a gifted and committed instructor and mentor. To date, she has taught 13 different courses for psychology, neuroscience and zoology, mentored 27 masters and doctoral students to degree completion, and each semester works individually with 3-8 undergraduate research assistants in her laboratory. As one of her former students, Rebecca has been an unwavering source of support for me. She has been a trusted confidant, someone I could go to if I had a question or concern. She has been a valued sounding-board, someone who would tell me honestly what I needed to do (even if I did not want to) with the assurance that she would be there to “back me up.” These actions have helped me grow personally and professionally. Rebecca is one of those people who sees a need and does something about it, not because “doing something” will raise her profile or pad her vitae, but because she knows this “something” is important. I have tremendous respect for her. It is the quality I most hope to emulate.

2) Dr. Craft has been both my professor and research mentor. She is, without a doubt, fully invested in the education and advancement of her students. Dr. Craft transforms young women into scientists by granting them autonomy, lending her unprecedented support, and investing extreme amounts of time and energy into their development as scientists. Dr. Craft is an absolutely perfect role model and leader for undergraduate women looking to advance their careers and extend their research knowledge. Building the self-respect and confidence of young women as they strive for success in the professional setting is not adequately captured on the pages of her curriculum vitae. Before participating in Dr. Craft’s lab, I had little belief in my capabilities beyond the completion of my undergraduate degree. Dr. Craft not only taught me to be assertive, but she pushed me to try new things. Whether it was through new laboratory techniques, understanding research articles, or grant proposal writing, she has been a solid supporter of my success the entire way. Dr. Craft epitomizes what it means to be an invested professor. At every level Dr. Rebecca Craft exemplifies what it means to be a leader for all women. Through this, she has earned every ounce of respect I could possibly give.

3) It has been my immense fortune and pleasure to have Dr. Rebecca Craft as my mentor. Dr. Craft is a shining example for her students and colleagues. As Dr. Craft’s graduate student, I have experienced her amazing guidance in the lab, where she tries to instill in each student the ability to work professionally and independently. Students are provided the opportunity to learn to stand on their own two feet, and upon surpassing each hurdle feeling like we are just that much more capable than we were before. Dr. Craft inspires others to be the best they can be, and offers her constant support in her students’ endeavors. I feel that is the exact definition of what makes a good mentor: The ability to instill a thirst for knowledge and the motivation to push one’s self further than they thought they were capable, while also providing a watchful eye and a helping hand for the moment when a student hits one of those inevitable road blocks. Under Dr. Craft’s guidance I have been able to learn so much more about who I am, what I am capable of and what I want. For this I am eternally grateful.

Tammy Crawford
Instructor, Sport Management,
Educational Leadership and Counseling Psychology

The first course I took at WSU was Sport Management 276 (Introduction to Sport Management) with Dr. Tammy Crawford. For the past three years I have looked up to Dr. Crawford and she has been an amazing mentor. I will forever be grateful for everything she has taught me. As a professor of Sport Management, she has made a significant impact on my college education, my future career goals, and my plans to continue my education in Graduate School. Dr. Crawford is the type of professor who is always available to talk, whether it is about school, life in general, or future goals; her door is always open. I am so appreciative for the professional knowledge she has instilled upon me, and students should feel very lucky to have her as a professor.

Krzysztof Czaja
Assistant Professor, VCAPP

Dr. Czaja has my highest possible recommendation as a successful advisor, teacher, advocate, sponsor, and role model, ensuring that my experience as his student takes full advantage of the academic and professional opportunities provided by this school. College can be a time of great struggle, discouragement, and intellectual fatigue for a student in pursuance of a higher education. It is essential that they receive the continuous support and counsel of a faculty mentor to assist with personal and intellectual growth. Dr. Czaja is an example of a successful scientist, mentor, and friend.

Dr. Czaja admitted me into the Department of Neuroscience laboratory three years ago where I was responsible for the project relating to recovery after injury to sensory neurons. He demonstrated commitment to fostering the intellectual, creative, scholarly, and professional growth of my undergraduate studies through his commitment to ensure that I master the content and skills of comprehension, analysis, and assessment of scholarly research. Working for Dr. Czaja, I was encouraged, educated, and guided throughout my professional training to ensure the development of my intellectual and professional skills. A key characteristic that set Dr. Czaja apart is his desire to provide mentoring, support, and encouragement in assisting me with my undergraduate research not to just generate data, but to provoke personal interest on the topic. Through his example, Dr. Czaja has inspired me to continue to expand my intellectual knowledge by pursuing higher education. Dr. Czaja has helped me gain confidence and skills through his teachings when constructing and evaluating scientific principles into my work. He gave me the opportunity to hone and polish my speaking and presentation skills through the weekly discussions on scholarly papers. He was continually building my confidence by working with me behind the scenes and then publicly encouraging me to engage others in discussions of our work. While being a dedicated and successful scientist, Dr. Czaja is also an inspiring example of balancing personal life and career. Being a devoted scientist, he also contributes his time to his family, friends, as well as himself. His ability to inspire with the unknown while stressing science as a landscape of opportunity for new and successful research has left an indelible impression on me that I will take with me even after my time as his student. Dr. Czaja has been and continues to be a tremendous asset to my college career and personal development.

Neal Davies

Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Nominated by 4 persons

1) I have worked with Dr. Neal Davies since 2005 when I joined his laboratory to obtain a doctorate in Pharmacology and Toxicology. I want to thank him for his guidance and support, scientifically and personally. As I move forward into the "real world" I begin to understand that all the sleepless nights were well worth it; and I know that I would not have been able to go through graduate school if I haven't had Dr. Davies (the boss) as my mentor. His sense of humor helped me through the tough times, and his excellence in research inspired me to always reach higher.

2) For the past year I have had the privilege of working for Dr. Davies as a research assistant in his lab. He has provided me with invaluable guidance and encouragement throughout my challenging first year of pharmacy school, and continues to lend his support whenever needed. He never hesitates to take time from his busy schedule to help me troubleshoot a difficult experiment, understand a challenging concept, or to offer me guidance and direction as I plan my future. I have known few professors whose commitment to students rivals that of Dr. Davies, and I am very appreciative of the time and energy he has spent helping me to become a better researcher and student.

3) Dr. Neal M. Davies has had a tremendous impact on my professional and personal development. The first time I met Dr. Davies was in 2002 as an undergraduate at the University of Idaho looking for research opportunities in a laboratory for the summer. From the very first day he was very patient with me and taught me multiple research techniques. Even though, at the beginning I was slow and rough in surgical techniques, he was always there to give me support and to build my confidence. Dr. Davies always motivated me to go the extra mile and always think ahead. He has always been there for me as an academic advisor and as a friend. I can say that he has supported me in difficult personal moments and has helped me to be a better person. Dr. Davies not only gave me support, but also allowed me to learn from my mistakes and build my confidence. I am very grateful to have found in Dr. Davies not only an academic advisor, but also a friend and I am very lucky that now he considers me a colleague.

4) Dr. Davies has mentored me since June of 2005 when I first began my undergraduate research work in his laboratory. He has been an incredible mentor that has opened many doors of opportunity for me. As an undergraduate, he encouraged me to enter pharmacy school. Once I entered the PharmD program at WSU, he encouraged me to continue my research and begin a Masters in pharmacology/toxicology. He was a primary motivator for my decision to begin a PhD in pharmacology/toxicology. Without his guidance, I would not have likely pursued graduate or professional studies. Today I am the first PharmD/PhD combined student in the College of Pharmacy at WSU. Throughout my research efforts, he has taught me an incredible amount about pharmacokinetics/ pharmacodynamics, has motivated me to work hard, and has encouraged me to write and publish my work in journals and at conferences around the world. Dr. Davies is the person I go to not only for research problems, but also for personal and school problems and career path decisions. I honor and trust his advice and judgment. His mentorship is the reason I am where I am today.

Wade Davis

Executive Director, Business Services/Controller

Wade hired me in 1980 as an accountant. Through the years, he has taught me the ins and outs of accounting at the University. He has always let me work independently. His knowledge of Higher Ed is vast and he is always willing to share this with his subordinates. Wade's door is always open and he is an excellent listener, whether it is business or something personal. He truly cares about the people he works with and for. Wade is just a few years away from retirement and his easy-going attitude and knowledge of this University will be truly missed.

Carlie DeBuyscher

Residential Education Director, Student Advising and Learning Center

I would not be the person I am today without knowing Carlie. The leadership, guidance and encouragement she provided to me and all others she supervises and works with are appreciated. Carlie showed me that a supervisor can support and believe in you. She also challenged and encouraged me to be a better person. Her commitment and her enthusiasm and belief in all she does should be acknowledged.

Diane Dickinson

Information Systems Manager, Information Technology Services

Diane's personal skills are unequivocal as a manager in a technical environment. Never before have I seen a combination of technical savvy, strength, support, understanding, and willingness to allow employees to interact and develop. Respect for others and communication is what she asks for her team, and she leads by example. Her team members show a patience and respect for ideas and conversations that do not usually happen in a group as large as hers. I am fortunate to know Diane. Her upbeat and consistent demeanor works on the attitudes around her. She is a role model for all employees because she sets a very high standard of professionalism in the workplace.

Bobby Emerson
Associate Professor, College of Nursing

Nominated by 2 persons

1) I have known Bobby since 1992, when I first became an undergraduate student in the nursing program at WSU. She has mentored me many times over the years in many different ways. When I first met Bobby, I was working as a secretary in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, where she worked on-call when she was not teaching. I was just beginning nursing school. She made sure to introduce herself and talk to me about the nursing program and when she was doing something for her patients she thought would benefit me, would call me over to observe. She wanted to share her knowledge with me to assist in my learning process. I also had her as an instructor later in school as for Med-Surg theory. Unfortunately, I did not pass her class, which meant I would have to spend an extra semester in school. She wrote a support letter though to the UAP committee saying she felt I would succeed the next time. During the next semester, she encouraged and made sure I was doing well and also continued to have me observe her with patients. I was learning assessment skills from her as I observed her with patients and other staff, as she was so knowledgeable in critical care. I went on to work in Advanced Cardiac as a nurse, much due to the confidence she helped build in me. After I graduated and became a faculty member here, the mentoring from Bobby continued. She was the first one to ask if I would guest lecture on diabetes in her Patho class. She has continually given me ideas on how to present, reviews my slides, give me wonderful constructive ideas on how to improve the lectures, which in turn has guided my growth in this field. She has also allowed me to write test questions, analyze the tests with her and helped me write take home assignments. Through all of this, she has been right there to guide me in this learning process. Bobby has guided me, encouraged me, been open with her wisdom and is one of the people in my journey who have truly mentored me. I am very appreciative of her knowledge. She has encouraged me to mentor other students and faculty as well.

2) Bobby was my lead faculty when I started out at WSU teaching the clinical component of N324 Nursing practice: Acute and chronic illness in Adults. I took on this course at the last minute to fill a vacancy on the Yakima Campus. Bobby was ever so helpful in guiding me in those initial weeks to get a syllabus written, understand the requirements and objectives. She was always willing to listen to me over the phone when I had concerns and issues with students. I can still hear her saying..."you know what to do....I trust your judgment" those words were so supportive and encouraging to me, a new faculty member.

Bobby gently led me through the process, guiding me, and encouraging me to be the best I could be as an instructor. She valued my opinion and input and she did this for all faculty who taught this course. She believed that we had the skills and expertise to do our jobs. She never second guessed us. She would always ask probing questions so that we could find our answers and solve our problems.

Bobby modeled professionalism always taking the high road. She led by example. When I "grow up" I want to be just like her.

Neal Endacott

Instructor, General Education

Neal has been a remarkable mentor in my life. He not only has been an outstanding teacher who has actually gotten me interested in history/gened for the first time in my life, but a great friend as well. Neal spends a great deal and time and effort on his students and always has time to answer questions or just talk. He's helped me better understand assignments and learn how to improve my study skills as well as helped me through a personal difficult time in my life when a family member became ill. Not only has he done all of this, but he has done it all selflessly. I don't think Neal understands how much he has impacted my life, but it has been a great deal. I hope he knows that he really is making a difference in my life, and all of those around him.

Ana Espinola-Arredo

Post Doctoral Research Associate, School of Economic Sciences

Dr. Espinola was my professor last semester for an environmental economics class. Since the first class, she interested me in this new world of externalities; these environmental topics became challenges and opportunities for me to grow and think critically. Dr. Espinola explained with clarity and excitement, main reasons to admire and respect her work even more. Later in the semester, Dr. Espinola offered me the opportunity to work on an undergraduate research about environmental policy. There I was, the person who cared very little to understand environmental issues, now looking deeper into how to help reduce our carbon footprint. Also, it is important to say that I was a terrible researcher. In fact, I was probably the worst. Yet, Dr. Espinola was always supportive and with great patience she would help me overcome my difficulties. For all these attributes, the inspiration Dr. Espinola has shined onto me and others, and her contributions to better understand our world, I would like Dr. Espinola to be recognized as a great mentor and asset to Washington State University.

Senja Estes

Curriculum Advisor, Chemical Engineering

Senja has helped me stay on track as I finished my degree. She is there to give advice about getting ready for graduation, or if you just need someone friendly to talk to. She is a friend to all the students.

William E. Fassett

Professor/Vice-Chair, Pharmacotherapy

As a junior faculty member, I would wander the halls of the department of pharmacotherapy when distressed or mulling over an issue and I noticed that one door was always open to me. That door belonged to Bill Fassett and I found myself inevitably ending up there after a period of wandering. In the beginning, I did not anticipate that our mentoring relationship would be much more than superficial. As a rather fiery, obsessive-compulsive person, I did not take well to advice from calm, wizened, life-experienced people. Bill, however, knew this and his mentoring approach was so subtle and expertly delivered that I was being mentored without even knowing it. Over time, Bill became one of the most positive influences in both my professional and personal life, sharing his multitude of stories and jokes and always ending with sound advice. I now go directly to his office without the preemptive wandering and credit him for much of my academic success within the department of pharmacotherapy. Bill genuinely cares about the success of junior faculty and it is evident in his willingness to always listen, help, and advice.

Susan Finley

Chair, Masters in Teaching - Education

I returned to school to get my MIT so that I could teach. I had been a paraeducator tutoring elementary children in literacy, math, writing and the arts for a dozen years. Susan's inspiration, At Home At School, an arts infused literacy program, gave me the opportunity to implement the arts and impact children at risk through the arts. Susan has been a role model for me and other student teachers. She is dynamic, energetic and compassionate. Her capacity to seek funding, administer her program and mentor would-be teachers is an amazing process to behold. She is a loving, intelligent dynamo.

Val Fisher

Academic Coordinator Senior, College of Sciences Advising Office

Val is a fountain of knowledge about advising and about WSU policies and procedures. She is always willing to explain how's and whys – more than once. She is a wonderful, caring advisor who keeps the student's best interests as her top priority. Kudos to Val!

Lindsay Flodin

IT Specialist II - IT Distributed Support Services

Lindsay is very knowledgeable about all the systems we [IT] are asked to support. She can be counted on to be our “go to” person for almost any question we might have. She has been instrumental in helping this group become a great resource for WSU. She goes way beyond the call of duty every day. We are better because she is in our department & WSU is better because of her dedication & knowledge. But more than that is the personal support she gives. No matter what we face...she is someone we go to for support...we know [she] will do whatever she can to help. I appreciate her a lot and do not believe she hears it enough. I want the chance to tell her how much I appreciate her and how much she means to me, as a co-worker and as a friend.

Chio Flores
Interim Director,
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

During the years Chio has served as the Associate Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, she has been instrumental in improving many facets of the organization. She has the leadership qualities to inspire and empower those that work for her. Chio has implemented creative strategies to engage and involve staff to be prepared for changes negative or positive. Chio is highly motivated and passionate and such qualities are infectious leading others such as myself to appreciate my work environment. She has served as a mentor for me in the following ways: To understand the big picture but not to forget the small things that do matter; to appreciate and value fellow staff; to believe in what I do; to know I can make a positive impact; and to enjoy what I do.

Robert Force
**Learning Center Coordinator, WSU Learning Center-North
Olympic Peninsula**

Robert Force believed in me when no one else would. He helped raise my skills and demeanor to a professional level. He brings a humor and joy to the workplace seldom employed by a person in an executive position. He knows how to find the best in a person and bring it to the fore. That has affected me in a very profound way and I seek to do the same for others.

Lisa Fournier
Associate Professor, Psychology

Nominated by three persons

1) Working as research assistant in Dr. Lisa Fournier's research labs has been the most valuable and rewarding experience of my undergraduate career. She is incredibly passionate about psychology and about teaching and the growth of her students. She has been the single most influential person to my education. I have learned huge amounts about the field of psychology and how it is applied. She has helped me focus and apply my education. She has always been available to answer any question I have had pertaining to a variety of topics. She is always more than happy to find a time to assist her students and help them in any way that she can. Through my experiences working in her laboratory and through advice she has given me, I have been able to develop more interest in my education as a whole. She has been an irreplaceable part of the education I have received at Washington State University. Her enthusiasm about her field of expertise and towards teaching her students is incredible and has made a huge difference in the direction and the quality of my education.

2) I initially met Dr. Fournier when I took her Psych 198 (Honors Intro. to Psychology) class. As a result of her enthusiastic teaching style and passion for psychology in general, Dr. Fournier really got me interested in the field. During the course of her class, I found a strong desire of my own to really get involved with the research here at WSU. At the start of my sophomore year I joined Dr. Fournier's Visual Perception Lab. During that first

semester in the lab, Dr. Fournier taught me all the basics to conducting research. I learned many things such as how to effectively run lab sessions, how to design experiments and how to statistically analyze experimental data. With this experience and Dr. Fournier's guidance, I was able to design my own experiment my second semester in the lab. As a result of Dr. Lisa Fournier's mentoring, I have not only discovered my own passion for Psychology, but I have been given the abilities to be successful as well. I feel that with everything I have learned from Dr. Fournier, I now have a good chance at going on to graduate school and earning my very own PhD in Psychology.

3) Lisa took over as chair of my interdisciplinary PhD committee several years ago. Since she was not in on the groundwork for my dissertation, we had to work on the dissertation at the same time as we learned to work with each other. Despite some weeks in which we seemed to be pulling in opposite directions, we were able to pull together in the end. Throughout the process, Lisa remained patient and supportive. She has taught me much about thinking and clear writing, and has spent many hours reading and rereading my materials. I will always be thankful for her participation and perseverance in shepherding me through this process!

Adam Fry-Pierce

ASWSU Vice President, ASWSU

Adam is a politician, a brother, a director, a committee chairman, a Cougar fan, a Vice President, and a true friend. His continual commitment in striving to make WSU a progressive institution has been apparent throughout his past four years. He provides an example that many are unable to mimic. Adam's influence eventually excited me to become more involved and make my mark on the WSU campus. He has tirelessly campaigned for student safety, among many other projects. His leadership style is confidence, not arrogance, which is unusual for leaders of today. Adam Fry-Pierce is truly a "World Class." individual.

Manuel Garcia-Perez

Assistant Professor/Scientist, Biological Systems Engineering

Nominated by 2 persons

1) I approached Dr. Perez to work under him early in 2007, being interested in his unique research regarding alternate fuels. He was not able to fund me then but guided me successfully to get a prestigious e8 Sustainable Energy Development Scholarship. After my arrival at WSU, he showed me the path to be patience, critical and strive for better results. Dr. Perez is humble and calm which are the attributes I would also like to achieve. Most important, his knowledge, his focus, his vision is right on target and rock solid!

2) Dr. Garcia has been an integral part of my experience as a graduate student at WSU. He has been an unrelenting source of encouragement, guidance, and support as I have worked through my graduate studies. Dr. Garcia is one of the most dedicated professors I have ever encountered in my entire educational career. He is not only dedicated to teaching and research but exhibits genuine compassion for the extra circular problems that students may encounter. I personally was in the midst of a family crisis, and the response from Dr. Garcia, was that he would do whatever was necessary to help to

accommodate my situation. He provided a valuable outlet for me to commiserate about "life" problems, and provided needed feeling of hope during difficult situations. Dr. Garcia has the type of hora that lifts people up, and gives inspiration to continue when there is adversity.

Dr. Garcia is also an excellent scientist/engineer. When I came to this department, I was a chemist. Through lots of conversations and discussions with Dr. Garcia, I believe I now am becoming an engineer. Most of my personal growth as a result of Dr. Garcia has occurred during non-office hour conversations. I cannot begin to count the number of hours we have discussed science and engineering issues, despite pending deadlines, and me knowing he will be up very late to finish the work he put off to explain a concept or idea to me. He can condense many things into digestible parcels the way only a really excellent teacher can. Dr. Garcia has been one of the best surprises to me about WSU, and I am not sure if I would have finished my graduate studies here if not for him.

Dr. Garcia has impacted my life and education in a profoundly positive way, and I would like to formally thank him for being an outstanding mentor.

Lydia Gerber

Senior Instructor, History Department

I have taken multiple classes with Lydia Gerber. She is an excellent teacher, but it is how she goes above and beyond that has led me to nominate her. A few semesters ago I had some traumatic life incidents that were affecting my schoolwork. I went to her office simply to ask for extensions to deadlines and extra credit opportunities. She granted these without hesitation, but more importantly; she provided a caring friend to listen to my troubles and give me encouragement and advice. Knowing I had a teacher who actually cared about her students, and not just whether or not they had turned in an assignment, really demonstrated the 'Face to Face'-slogan of WSU to me. Even though I am not currently enrolled in a course taught by her, I occasionally stop by her office to say hi and always receive a kind ear and helpful advice. I believe if you ask anyone who has met her or taken her classes, they will agree - in the Asia/History department she is sort of a folk hero.

Mary Gilles

Business and Economics Librarian, Libraries

I currently work with Mary at the Holland Terrell Reference desk twice a week. Mary is supportive of all the students from the College of Business who often come in just to see her because they are at a standstill in their research projects. Her breadth of knowledge and years of experience relays into an experiential teacher who truly mentors each student towards academic achievement. Mary appears tireless in her assistance in locating material. She sees each instance of student contact as an opportunity to extend both her own and her student's knowledge base that allows for a collaborative learning experience for everyone within her environment of learning.

I feel honored to have had the opportunity to work alongside Mary and witness her caring, nurturing, and extolled patience as she works with each frantic, frustrated, and often emotional student. She has an ability to bring the calm necessary for the learning storm that follows. Mary Gilles is one of WSU's finest women and mentors.

Eloy Gonzalez

Professor & Chair, Department of Foreign Languages

He is a person you would like to emulate, as a result of his continuous exemplary conduct. He is a model as a human being, willing to take time to talk, share, teach, listen, guide and offer suggestions; always with a lucid vision of how relevant and significant life is.

Phil Gruen

Assistant Professor, School of Architecture and Construction Management

Phil has challenged every student to rise to academic professionalism. He encourages students to think critically and truly delve into a subject. In addition to demanding excellence, he is dedicated to helping everyone rise to the challenge.

Phil teaches architecture history in Carpenter Hall. He does it so well that it can change the way a student thinks about their world. Phil helped me research a topic I was emotionally invested in and made sure I was staying critical. Not only did I learn research skills, but I truly learned how to think about subjects analytically.

The best part of Phil is that he can retain respect from his students and keep them motivated, and remain a friend during the stressful times that college can bring. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and friendship.

Jack Hagemeister

Instructor, School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Jack is a great teacher who not only makes sure you do the work required for his class, but spends a lot of time helping students outside of classes with all kinds of problems, even if these problems are not related to the class he is teaching. He provides a lot of opportunities for students to go on with their field of interest and guides them to the right path.

Barbara Hammond

Director, Counseling Services

I feel very lucky to have been able to work with Barbara Hammond through the Employee Assistance Program. In dealing with a long-standing issue that was affecting my interactions with others, Barbara taught me that even though the situation would not change, my reaction to it could change. I learned a different way to think about and react to a situation that had become unbearable. I have been able to apply the same ideas at work as well. Rather than expecting and hoping someone else will change, I can change what I do, and consequently, I can have a positive impact on my relationship with that person and the work environment. I am deeply grateful to Barbara for teaching me how to go from feeling helpless to having the power to change things for the better at home and at work.

Joseph B. Harris

Director, Center for Entrepreneurial Studies

I have worked for Mr. Harris at the EDA University Center since June of 2007. For the past two years, he has spent countless hours providing guidance, training, and support for my student managed business. With Mr. Harris's help, I have been able to double the size and scope of my project, and I have learned invaluable skills that I will be taking forward into the marketplace.

Joanne Harkins

Assistant to the Dean – College of Sciences

Joanne stands out as someone who knows WSU, its history and procedures deeply and well. What distinguishes her is her desire to share her knowledge with others. I cannot catalog everything I've learned from her since joining this office – there is just so much! Aside from her capacity to teach and assist others, Joanne is notable for the example she has set. She combines a high level of professionalism with such kindness and thoughtfulness that my biggest fear is to disappoint her or let her down in any way. She models hard work, discipline and respect for others every day. I am so grateful for the mentoring I've had from Joanne and will never forget the experience of working with her.

Lisa Hart

Head Coach, Women's Tennis, Athletics

I first got to know Lisa when she became my college tennis coach, but I had no idea about the magnitude of the impact she would have on my athletic, mental and personal development. As a coach, Lisa first and foremost always set the best example to us all; an example of character, patience, tolerance, hard work and kindness. Also as a coach, Lisa was always positive and encouraging, supporting through any difficulties we faced and always pushing and challenging us to become better people, on and off the tennis court. We knew we could trust her with anything, knowing she would understand and help us anytime; her compassion and willingness to help have no limits. Aside from being an amazing coach, Lisa has been a personal inspiration to me. She inspired me to become a better player and a better person. The skills and lessons she instilled in me will always be a part of all aspects of my life and a factor in my decision making.

Vince Hebert

Associate Professor, Food & Environmental Quality Lab

Those who come into contact with Dr. Vince Hebert are truly better for it. Shy of the spotlight, Vince sets a standard of excellence achievable only through a desire he somehow instills within those around him. A desire to learn, work harder, and be happier. A tremendous work ethic, uplifting demeanor, and positive attitude are but a few of Vince's defining traits. His personable sincerity allows for a pleasant workplace promoting positive educational moments - yet still commanding the results of a competitive educational institution, and research facility. He always places the students first.

Linda Heidenreich
Chair, Women's Studies

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Dr. Linda Heidenreich is my faculty mentor for my McNair project, and in only a few months, I have learned so much from her. The advice she has given me in regards to my research is great, and she is always available for any questions I may have, whether it's in person, or by email. I've had the honor of being her mentee and getting ready for my future research as a graduate student.

2) Since coming to WSU, Linda Heidenreich has acted as not only an academic advisor and mentor, she has also provided emotional support for many students. Linda is always more than willing to challenge students to work harder and fight for what we believe in both in academics and our personal lives. Though I have only been here for less than a year Linda has helped me feel at home in this academic community and has given me the skills and tools to succeed. After being physically assaulted last semester Linda helped me to get through my classes with good grades and also helped me to work through the emotional trauma that went along with being assaulted. Linda is typically the first to greet students with a friendly smile and is always willing to talk to students. She has been an amazing professor, mentor and friend to many students.

Consetta Helmick

Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Molecular biosciences

Consetta, my supervisor, is a constant source of encouragement. She is always available to help her students, teaching assistants and me. Under Consetta's energetic and thoughtful leadership we co-authored a lab manual for a course she teaches that is still in use today, a task I would have never considered possible. She always includes me in any discussion of changes to the lab and listens to any ideas I may have to improve what we do here at WSU. Consetta has an incredible teaching schedule but still takes the time to go on recruiting trips where we act as a tag team to bring science labs to Elementary through High School students in schools across the state and here on campus. Even though the days are sometimes long and there is too much to do she is always cheerful, this in itself is an inspiration to me.

Ann Hennings

Extension Educator E-4, WSU Extension-Ritzville Office

In an exceptionally short time, Ms. Hennings helped me create a focus; define myself in Extension in terms of process, productivity, and culture; and facilitated my approach to the tenure process in a strategic fashion. I particularly appreciated three traits of Ann Hennings as a mentor: 1) her candor and ability to help me focus on the key priorities, 2) being readily available for advice and to serve as a sounding board, and 3) modeling as the epitome of the caring and effective extension educator who possesses the expertise to perform at a high level, and able to teach others. Through her broader assignments as an Extension Educator including regional and state responsibilities, she is considered a mentor to colleagues, county directors, and state staff. In my twenty-five years of working in higher education from coast to coast, I would rank Ann in the top three percent of able and capable mentors I have known!

Raymond Herrera

Associate Director, McNair Scholar Program, Graduate School

Ramon has been my mentor during my two years as a McNair Scholar. He has taught me about the power of knowledge and the opportunities that will open up to me as I enter graduate school. He has motivated me to achieve an education I didn't know was possible. He's been my unending supporter, always encouraging me to take chances and see what's out there. I am a stronger person since meeting Ramon and will be forever grateful for his guidance and patience. When I start to doubt myself or think I can't achieve all that I want, I always think about what Ramon has said about dreams, determination and hard work. He's always believed in me and through him, I've learned how to believe in myself.

Christopher Hundhausen

Associate Professor, School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

I am graduate student and research assistant working with Dr. Hundhausen for about 2 years. He is my research adviser. He is an excellent adviser with deep knowledge in his research area - Human Computer Interaction. As a mentor he has always supported me to try out new things and work on projects that I enjoy most. Even though he was on a sabbatical last year, he made himself available for all his students whenever we needed his support and guidance. He has always stood by me as a pillar of support.

Lincoln James

Professor – Murrow College of Communication

Nominated by 4 persons

- 1) Dr. James has devoted a considerable amount of his time to ensuring I am prepared to take my preliminary exams this summer and write my dissertation next year. He is one of the most accessible faculty members in our college; this is no small feat, considering that he is also editing the Western Journal of Black Studies and teaching two undergraduate courses this semester.
- 2) As my dissertation chair, he gave me amazingly helpful guidance and support.
- 3) From my initial e-mail contact and eventual visitation to WSU 3 years ago, Dr. James has been compassionate, supportive, and willing to guide with a firm, but understanding hand. As my mentor and chair his scholastic contributions and direction is absolutely invaluable while pushing me to "pick-up those knees" toward my dissertation.
- 4) Shortly after I passed my PhD preliminary exams, my mother became ill and I left campus to care for her until she died. Mom's death left my brain clouded in deep grief. Professor James has shown extraordinary sensitivity and patience in encouraging my continuing efforts to prepare my dissertation proposal. He continues to guide me step by step. I know how incredibly busy he is mentoring so many other students, yet he offers the most patient comments from the depth of his experience in helping students through the dissertation process. I could not have continued without his support. He is amazing!

Dennis Johnson

Professor, Extension E-4, Plant Pathology

Few mentors have a record of 30 years of patience and friendship, but Dr. Dennis Johnson certainly has one with me. I first met Dennis when I was working on an M.S. degree in plant pathology in the late 1970s; I was a new graduate student at work in the laboratory. I clearly remember him taking time out of his busy interview schedule to visit with me, listen to me, and help me with ideas on my thesis research project; he made helpful suggestions that challenged but did not intimidate me. Over the course of my career, which has not always followed a typical academic path, he has remained a steadfast colleague--always listening, always offering helpful suggestions, always challenging me in ways that have fostered rather than hindered my confidence. Despite my association with three different institutions and programs, moving around the country with my husband, time-out for "motherhood sabbatical leave", and a 4-year interval as an administrator, he continued to encourage and validate my plant pathology skills. I am now honored to be able to collaborate with him on plant pathology research and extension projects. I know first-hand that Dr. Johnson is one of the most selfless, hard-working, honest and trustworthy scientists in our college. This makes his confidence in me especially meaningful. He has my deepest respect, and gratitude.

Amir Jokar

Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Jokar has been my graduate advisor for almost 2 years. We have been working on a large research project that Dr. Jokar won a competitive world wide grant from ASHRAE (American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers). This project is a push to have a greener, cleaner planet by studying a more environmentally friendly refrigerant; CO2. As my research advisor, he has balanced the fine line of actively guiding and letting me learn through my own experiences. He has done a wonderful job of explaining the goal at hand as well as the overall goal of the research project, and has trusted me enough to let me go about reaching that goal using my own faculties and decision making skills. I appreciate how he has treated me as a colleague. This has greatly enhanced the research experience for me. I esteem him greatly and no one has better prepared me to enter the work force by the things that I have learned from him.

Sylvia Kantor

Extension Educator, Small Farms and Food Systems, King County Extension

Sylvia is an inspiration to the entire extension office. She's worked with extension for more than ten years and has worn oh-so-many hats. Sylvia stands out...because she's an extremely thoughtful listener which has been beneficial in developing relationships with community leaders, faculty, governmental workers, non profit partners and staff all over our county and state. Sylvia stands out because of her ability to work collaboratively with others. She brings a wealth of content, knowledge, a creative spirit and is an example to us all as someone with an admirable work/life balance. She's the can-do person in our office that people go to for help/advice.

Louise Kaplan

Assistant Professor, College of Nursing

Louise Kaplan inspired me and mentored me as one of the few ARNPs nationally with extensive policy education and experience. I first met Louise in my capacity with the Oregon State Board of Nursing and worked together with her on the American College of Nurse Practitioners Public Policy Committee. Louise informally mentored me as I developed my skills in public policy and initiated a PhD in that field. Even though I was not attending WSU as a student, Louise continued to meet with me, give me feedback on projects, and offered her assistance to start a research project which would be of use to both states. She used this project to further mentor my own research skills and walk me through from the IRB process all the way to our joint presentation of the research at the upcoming National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty's Annual Conference in April. I was so inspired by her leadership that I transferred my doctoral program to WSU in order to pursue my doctorate under her mentorship.

Jim Kehrer

Dean and Professor, College of Pharmacy

Dr. Kehrer joined WSU in 2005 as Dean of the College of Pharmacy. He has advanced the college significantly through his administrative leadership. Dr. Kehrer is an astute reviewer of grant applications who has helped numerous faculty members in the college refine their proposals. He keeps especially good track of the career progress of the faculty under his supervision, and provides them with very constructive suggestions regarding career development. As a supervisor of other administrators, like myself, he is an outstanding role model. He exhibits decisiveness, but also the ability to listen to all sides of a story. Dean Kehrer is very skilled at working through problems to find the most positive solution, at a rapid pace. He encourages others to take a stand and move forward accordingly. Beyond the call of duty, he is a resource frequently called upon by faculty and staff at all levels. He is approachable for students, and takes a genuine interest in their concerns. As Dean Kehrer prepares to move on to new administrative challenges, I would like to gratefully recognize his outstanding mentorship.

Karen Kellerman

Senior Investment Manager, Business and Finance

If knowledge is power, then Karen Kellerman is devoted to empowering others. She has not only gained knowledge and expertise which place her at the forefront of her field, but she has chosen to share the sum of her experience and education with those in her influence. Karen has taken the time to teach, to inspire, to correct, and to encourage when to simply supervise would have been sufficient. Under her tutelage, I have been afforded far greater opportunities than I deserve. Here willingness to put herself on the line in order to develop me as a professional is humbling and inspiring. She treats me as though she sees who I can be and not just who I am. Her influence is now and will continue to be a compass with which I will navigate my professional path.

Jane Kelley
**Assistant Professor, Teaching and Learning, College of
Education**

Dr. Kelley is a co-chair for my dissertation committee. She has spent countless hours guiding me through the process and providing constructive feedback every step of the way. In addition, over the last several years, Dr. Kelley has invited me to collaborate on three different research projects. She has certainly taken me under her wing and shared her knowledge and expertise as a researcher. I am so appreciative of her willingness to share her knowledge with me so that I may grow as a scholar.

Roberta Kelly
**Clinical Associate Professor/Assistant Dean, Murrow College
of Communication**

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Professor Kelly by far is the best instructor I have ever had, period. She has such a passion for what she teaches and I believe the quality of her students speaks for her teaching abilities. She is a hard professor, she expects excellence but she genuinely cares about the future of her students. I have had her two semesters in a row for really challenging writing courses. Journalism 305 (Reporting) and Communication 295 (Media Writing). When I need help she is there; she encourages us to call her at home if we need her. She honestly cares how we are feeling and what is going on in our lives even though she is a busy woman herself. She constantly pushes me to be better and because of her I feel closer and closer to being ready for the real world. I have learned more from her in two semesters than I have in my entire college career. She really wants her students to understand writing and love it. She is our biggest fan. Even though she grades hard, she wants to see us succeed. Whenever she gives me a particularly infuriating grade I can't even be upset or mad because I know if she did it, I probably deserve it. She goes above and beyond the call of duty and makes her students feel warm and cared about. I look forward to seeing her in class even though it's at 7:45 in the morning. She truly is a great teacher and mentor.

2) When I arrived many years ago as a grad student, I was a TA for Com 295. Roberta is the program coordinator. Through her guidance and mentoring, I became confident in my teaching and, in the end, opted to continue my teaching rather than proceed with the original plan to work in the media. She showed me the way to teach and grade. She urged me to continue with my efforts and we became good friends. Without her mentoring, I would never have found my true calling as an educator. She was an inspiration to me and to all of her students. On top of this, she still finds time to serve as the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies. Her ability to multi-task is amazing. Roberta is a throwback to old school teaching where grades and earned and students actually learn something. We need more instructors and professors like Roberta Kelly.

Brian Kemp

Assistant Professor, Anthropology

Dr. Brian M. Kemp has been mentoring me almost since he got here in the fall of 2007. I started in his ancient DNA lab in January of 2008 after taking Anthropology 260 from him in the fall of 2007. He has been teaching me the entire time, and I have taken 9 Anthropology 499 credits with him. I will be maxing out on research credits in his lab before I graduate in 2010. In the 16 months I have been in his lab, he has helped me in getting awarded a grant from the Zoology department and an Auvil scholarship to assist me in my research. I would never have even known about them if he had not brought them to my attention. He was also instrumental in getting me into a truly fantastic field school for this summer, as well as summer employment for last summer, and possibly this summer as well. He has done far more towards my education, present and future, than I can even list here. His love for teaching and his zeal towards his student's success is incredible. I have never met anybody like him.

Julie Kmec

Assistant Professor, Sociology

Dr. Kmec has been instrumental in the success of my undergraduate experience. Before I took Dr. Kmec's social inequalities class, I had the dream of conducting my own research, and going to graduate school, but did not know what I needed to do to get there. Her enthusiasm and genuine care of her undergraduate students made taking her class exciting. Her class was by far one of the best classes I took at WSU. While in her class we conducted a mini-research project on the WSU campus. While talking to Dr. Kmec she encouraged me to replicate my project in the real world. Her encouragement made me feel that conducting my own research, and going to graduate school, was something I could do if I wanted. While designing my project and implementing it in the real world Dr. Kmec has guided and mentored me by encouraging me through this tough process. Her encouragement culminated in presenting my research at a professional conference and several other undergraduate symposiums. I also applied to and was accepted into graduate school. I plan to take the lessons I have learned from Dr. Kmec with me to graduate school to help me obtain my Ph.D. in sociology.

Rita Kepner

PhD Candidate, College of Communication

As a friend and academic mentor, she assisted me in many ways and I really appreciate it.

Min Sik Kim
Assistant Professor,

School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Dr. Kim has been my advisor since I enrolled in WSU. He is one of the most understanding and helpful professors I have seen all through my academic life. His innate goodness, the implicit faith in his students and his ability to be approachable at all times truly makes him world-class. His insightful remarks, thoughtful gestures and accommodating spirit truly make him one of the few people who manage to command both the love and respect of the students. I admire Dr. Kim for his approach to research, his level of interaction with his students and his good heart which reaches out to help a student achieve his / her goals and emerge successful. Thank you Dr. Kim, for always being there!

Bala Krishnamoorthy
Assistant Professor, Mathematics

I took class with him the first semester I came to WSU graduate school. He gave me a lot of help in my study and research ever since. He is among the most hardworking faculties in our department, and he is always ready to help anyone around because he always knows the solution, even though he is busy all the time. I am working with him on my Ph.D project for almost 2 years and half. I wouldn't have been making progress on my own research without his great advising. As an advisor, he is very considerate. He knows how to balance between giving me pressure and relaxing me so that I can work really efficiently. When he knows something is important for a student, he would put me on the right track but wouldn't do it for me. He is a great professor to work with.

Gayle Landeen
Administrative Manager

School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering

Gayle is an amazing mentor and leader. I am always amazed at her style, grace, knowledge and ability to inspire the people around her. She always looks for the strength in a person and provides training and support to grow that person to their full potential. She is very generous with her staff, acknowledging their strengths, successes and creating a team environment that is amazing to be part of. Gayle sets the example for her office staff by providing an excellent work ethic and style and is always open to new ideas and suggestions that support WSU's mission statement, values and future.

Janel Lang
**Director of Carson Center for Professional Development,
College of Business**

Janel has a true passion for helping students. Since becoming an employee of hers, I have looked to her for much of my professional development. I know I am not alone when I say I truly value my relationship with her and all she has given to students in the College of Business. She is always willing to drop everything to help a student, no matter how busy she is.

Laura Lavine
Assistant Professor, Entomology

I have been working in Dr. Lavine's research laboratory since June of 2007. In that time she has been an amazing mentor and friend. She has given me an incredible opportunity to perform research in her lab and has made many other opportunities available to me, such as the two fellowships I received while working in her lab. She has always been very helpful, kind and understanding. Dr. Lavine even helped me with my application to Pharmacy School, and I believe I was accepted due in large part to the research opportunities Dr. Lavine gave me. She is always willing to help students and make sure they have every opportunity available to them. I have thus far enjoyed my time working in her lab, and I have learned so much about molecular research from her. I am saddened that I will be leaving her lab in the fall of 2009 to pursue my Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Debbie Lee
Professor, English

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Debbie Lee showed me she believed in me and my work by nominating me to a committee that actively looked for research grants. She bolstered my confidence and helped me to see how my work was worthwhile and important. We also collaborated on a writing and backpacking course with a local nonprofit, and Debbie gave me lots of good teaching ideas. Ultimately, she led me to understand the importance of research and grants in fostering an academic life. She also helped me to believe that my work is capable of securing research-related funding.

2) In her capacity as Grants Coordinator for the English Department, Professor Debbie Lee has helped many graduate students and faculty members prepare successful grant applications. Professor Lee, gives terrific advice about clear, persuasive writing, and she understands what granting agencies look for. For instance, she helped me edit drafts of my Huntington and ACLS fellowship applications. One of these applications was ultimately funded. Others in our department have equal reason to be grateful to Professor Lee for her assistance in developing grant proposals. She is not only helping us to further our individual careers, but also helping to raise the profile of WSU by promoting the success of our faculty and graduate students. Professor Lee deserves to be recognized for her significant contributions to the English Department and to WSU as a whole.

Lynn T "Buddy" Levy
Clinical Assistant Professor, English

I took Buddy Levy's nonfiction creative writing class in the fall of 2008 and he changed the way I perceived the experiences of my life. Buddy encouraged me to write about points in my childhood I had been too ashamed to write about; the fact that my father was homeless for years and I was homeless with him as a little girl. Buddy helped show me this and other tragic experiences in my life were points of pride that could be shared and overcome through language in the form of story. Every step of the way he has acted as a dear friend and at times like a father supporting and believing in me and my ambitions.

Nicholas Lovrich

Director, d.g.s.s Professor, Political Science

Dr. Lovrich's guidance in directing me towards producing quality research and getting into graduate school has been life changing. Where before I only had the faintest idea of what being a scholar was supposed to be, Dr. Lovrich not only pointed me in the right direction, he put me on the path and made sure I stayed on it. He is one of those people who gets far in life, but then turns around and makes sure others can get there as well by sharing what he has learned. Though incredibly knowledgeable, he doesn't just give someone the answers, instead he guides that person towards using their own intelligence to discover the right answer and then pushes some more to make sure that that person breaks his or her boundaries. Without the help of Dr. Lovrich, I don't think that I could have been as successful as I have been. He deserves all the recognition he can get for helping his mentees over the years.

Larry Mayer

Instructor, English

Mr. Larry Mayer has been one of the greatest creative writing teachers I have ever had. He offered unique views on writing, and has challenged me in my writing making me a much better writer. Thank you Mr. Mayer.

Defamiliarize the Familiar. Tension. Tension. Tension.

Jessica McCarthy

PhD Candidate/Graduate Teaching Assistant

English

I decided to apply to WSU's PhD program in English because of Jessica McCarthy. I met her...and was impressed with her knowledge of the discipline as well as how encouraging she was to someone she'd just met. Jessica's generosity of spirit and academic rigor are qualities I strive for. Her presence in the department has reassured me that my move across the country to join WSU's English department was the correct one. I'm proud to be a member of a department in which students like Jessica are members.

Debra McCarver

Instructor, Center for Entrepreneurial Studies

Debra McCarver is the faculty advisor for Students in Free Enterprise. She has worked tirelessly for the past two years with me and other students to build a program that currently manages 24 student-led projects. She provides resources, knowledge, and guidance for all of our projects, and assists with the management of our organization. With her encouragement and support, the WSU chapter of Students in Free Enterprise was able to place in the top three nationally for a special topic competition.

Janetta McCoy

Associate Professor, Interior Design

She is a dedicated teacher who goes extra miles to provide various real-life design opportunities for design students. Her community design projects especially provide valuable interdisciplinary educational experience that expand students' perspectives beyond their own discipline, provide opportunities to value the meaning of design collaborative works and help student to approach design in real-life social context.

Laurie McCubbin

Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership and Counseling Psychology

Dr. McCubbin is the type of woman I hope someday to be. She is kind, respectful, caring, genuine, and most of all strong. During my first semester in my Masters in Counseling here at WSU I had heard horror stories from older students about how strict she was, both in grading and in class. I began my second semester theories class scared that this was going to be the hardest class of my college career. I wasn't too far off, though it was not at all like I imagined. The first day of class, Dr. McCubbin put us all at ease. She made me feel welcome. She did have high expectations of us, and was a thorough grader, but she was fair. She inspired us to work hard and do well. A quiet admonition to never be late to her class was worse than a poor grade, as she made me want to do well and not disappoint her. Her classes were the most interesting classes I have had at WSU, much of which is due to her extraordinary ability to teach and engage students of all learning styles and knowledge levels. Dr. McCubbin has perfected the art of balancing lecture, activities, and student engagement. I have tried to incorporate what I have learned from her teaching style into the class that I teach. It has improved my teaching immensely, though I have much to learn.

Dr. McCubbin is also my academic advisor. She has always been willing to meet with me and help me find ways to make my time here at WSU support my interests. I have a very unique focus when it comes to counseling and she has supported me in my quest to make classes and projects here relevant to Wilderness and Adventure Therapy, even though it is not a treatment modality she is familiar with. If something won't work, and I need to adjust my focus, she will always give me the information straight without trying to sugar coat things. I appreciate her willingness to be open and honest about her opinions, even if it is not information that I want to hear. I also really appreciate the fact that she insists that I make my own choices. She will give me her opinion and possible options, but I have to make the final decision. She offers both personal and academic support to her students, and is genuinely interested in who we, her students, are as people.

Dr. McCubbin has helped me find a research topic that interests me and has inspired in me an excitement about researching which I never thought possible. Dr. McCubbin helped me find a passion for information and inspired me to help build a body of knowledge in a field which desperately needs researchers. Without Dr. McCubbin, my time here at WSU would have been very different indeed. She has inspired me to push myself academically and introduced me to the possibilities that exist for my future. She has the pinnacle of effective leadership and I am proud to call her my mentor.

Kathryn Meier
Professor - Pharmaceutical Science

I have known Dr. Meier since August of 2003. Dr. Meier mentored me for my PhD that I finished August of 2008. She is one of the most approachable faculty I have ever met. I was free to share any ideas, any thoughts without the fear of asking a 'stupid' question. Dr. Meier has been a true mentor and been there for me professionally and personally. During the designing of experiments or discussing data she was never critical of my thoughts or results in a negative. In fact, every time I went to talk to her about my experiments, even after they failed to work, I left her office feeling better, despite the fact the experiment had to be repeated. In early 2006 I told Dr. Meier that I do NOT want to pursue a career in basic research at the end of completion of my degree and she supported me in that decision. It was scary to give her this news as many other faculty would not be supportive of such decision. Dr. Meier has been a mentor to me when I concurrently enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy program, and when I served as the President of Graduate and Professional Student Association. I feel that she will be my lifelong mentor and I will be able to ask her for advice in any professional path I pursue. I feel truly blessed to have her as my mentor.

Patrick Meier
Associate Professor - Chemistry

Nominated by 9 persons

- 1) My boss, Pat Meier, is a great mentor, as well as a great person. He is always helping someone. From a graduate student in his group to an undergraduate in his lecture, he will always make time to sit and talk with you. He is the advisor to the Chemistry Club on campus and puts in a lot of time and effort to help the undergraduates succeed. Pat is a great mentor because he has been around the academic block and has been through many situations and is well versed to help address any issue that is brought to him. I wish more people knew about Pat and his helpfulness and caring attitude toward others.

- 2) Pat has been fundamental in expanding my knowledge into an area that was never a strong point for me in my undergraduate. He has shown in dealing with me an infinite amount of patience and variety of approaches to get this knowledge into my rather thick skull!

- 3) Pat is always willing to discuss research or help teach someone from my lab and others any technique he knows.

- 4) In the time he has been teaching my last chemistry lab before I graduate, Dr. Meier has provided an atmosphere that has allowed me to actually enjoy the time in lab, rather than considering it a mere assignment that has to be completed.

- 5) I met Dr. Meier six years ago when I arrived in Pullman in pursuit of my Ph.D. in organic chemistry. I was instantly attracted to his lab, because of how much he cared about his students. Throughout my graduate experience, I have not been disappointed having Dr. Meier as my mentor. Dr. Meier has always been there when I needed him.

Dr. Meier truly cares that any student, whether it is a graduate or undergraduate student, succeeds with their goals. This means, even when a student comes to him during non-office hours, he will stop what he is working on and will help explain whatever concept is troubling them. I have never seen him turn anyone away. Dr. Meier loves organic chemistry and wants everyone to experience the same joy he gets out of solving a problem. Throughout his time here, Dr. Meier has been extremely involved in student organizations of the university. He has been an undergraduate adviser, adviser to the graduate chemical society (GCS), and the undergraduate chemistry club. With his guidance, the chemistry club has been very active in promoting science throughout Eastern Washington, performing demonstrations for K-12 students. These are students that might not otherwise be exposed to science fields, and may eventually want to pursue a science career themselves. Dr. Meier always puts the student first. He wants the students to understand and love organic chemistry as much as he does. He has been admired by his students. He spreads the knowledge of science to K-12 students, allowing them the opportunity to see what the science field is about and potentially getting them interested in science. He is involved in collaborations to create a more diversified university. These are all traits of a world class education. I want to thank Dr. Meier for being an inspiration to us all.

6) As WSU's newly appointed Westside Native American Outreach Coordinator, I am writing to inform you of Dr. G. Patrick Meier's integral participation with our programs. Over the past 2 years, Pat has been directly involved with Native American Outreach through participating with WSU Extensions as well as the Pullman United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Services (USDA-ARS), Math and Science Pipeline up on the Colville Reservation. Dr. Meier is the only WSU Faculty outside of the USDA-ARS that has been an active participant in this pipeline with the reservation, and for that we owe him our gratitude. I highly commend Dr. Meier for his active role in our efforts to reach out to the youth. Dr. Meier is the only Chemistry Professor I see passionately recruiting incoming freshmen into the chemistry program. Dr. Meier is also the most active faculty member involved with the Chemistry Club. Through his efforts, the Chemistry Club is going to the Colville Reservation in order to assist in our Math and Science Pipeline, as well as being mentors to the CAMP program on campus. The Club, along with Dr. Meier, will be mentoring grade school children. If it were not for the encouragement and the efforts of Dr. Meier I do not know if I would be so passionate in recruiting students not only for math and science but just to get a higher education in general. I believe that Dr. Meier was one of the most profound influences on me to finish my degree in science at WSU. I look forward to our future efforts in getting the youth of today interested in the sciences as well as just in general striving for a higher education.

7) Dr. Meier has had an impact on not only me, but many other students as well. He is the advisor of the WSU Chemistry Club (American Chemical Society Student Affiliates) which I am a part of, and gives much of his time to helping the club and students in the club. He helps organize events and demonstrations, and has great ideas and loves contributing to the club. Dr. Meier puts in so much time and helps out tremendously toward his students and the club, it is hard to believe he is also a professor, does research, and advises students, since he puts in so much time to everything he is involved in.

Dr. Meier is a very helpful person to talk to about academics and research. Once, I went to him for advice about how to choose an undergraduate research project, and he told me all about the different types; in no way did he try to persuade me to join his group or was bias toward his research. He genuinely wanted me to enjoy my research and do something I was interested in. He can help with any question a student has, and always has time for them, no matter what he is in the middle of. This means a lot to me. I am very grateful to have met and have been mentored by Dr. Pat Meier.

8) Dr. Meier is the main reason I still have an interest in chemistry. I am an active member in Chem Club, and every activity that we get to do is because of his tireless efforts for the community and to his students like me. He takes countless hours to ensure that we have the lifelong skills that enable us to give back to the community. He is the only professor I know that cares as much about his students. He is encouraging and always makes sure that everybody who wants to participate has that opportunity. I really believe that Dr. Meier is one of the few professors here at WSU who spends as much time as he does volunteering with the student population, and asks nothing in return.

9) Dr. Meier has proven to be an outstanding mentor. He goes out of his way to make himself available if any student has a need that he can help with. Dr. Meier is always patient and helpful when approached with questions, both academic and personal. His first priority is the students of WSU and as one of those students, I am very grateful that he has the opportunity to teach at this institution.

Bernadette Mencke

Retention Counselor, Student Support Services

Bernadette has given me invaluable academic and emotional support, as my mentor through TRiO. Her positive attitude and encouragement have been consistent and have helped me greatly in becoming a more successful student and a happier person.

Paulette Mills

Associate Professor, College of Education, Teaching and Learning

Dr. Mills has been more to me than just a professor. She has become my mentor, advisor, confidant, "rock", and friend. She has helped guide me on my journey of earning my doctorate and finding the happiness inside me that has yet to be discovered/uncovered. Her words of wisdom, support, and encouragement have provided a solid foundation for me to keep going, and not to give in when times get too tough. She has helped me see bits and pieces of strength that lie inside me, and helped me to uncover those and bring back to the surface for them to shine and to become stronger. Without Dr. Mills I honestly don't know where I would be at this point in my doctoral journey. Dr. Mills is no "ordinary" professor; she is my guardian angel who I will forever owe for what she has given me. What she has given me means more to me than the education that I have received, she has given me hope, inspiration, and strength to forge ahead and continue to seek the unknown and discover the yet to be discovered.

Barbara Monroe
Associate Professor, English

My first few years at Washington State University, I was searching for my passion. Once I was introduced to Barbara Monroe, I knew instantly that she would change my life. This professor is not only a mentor, but I am lucky enough to call her a friend. She has pushed me beyond my known abilities in becoming a passionate teacher in English. Her dedication to her students is incredible. There are truly no words to tell her thank you enough for all of the areas in my life she has impacted in helping me succeed.

Lisa Morris
Lecturer, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Lisa impacted me significantly by providing the encouragement to make it through a tough class. Never before have I seen a teacher exude such enthusiasm for her field. Lisa never came to class tired or seemed bored. Statics to her was apparently a passion, and she passed that energy on to the entire class. Her class was no easy grade, however. I failed the first time, but came back and succeeded. Both times she urged me to try harder, think deeper, and do better. She could only lead the horse to the water though, I had to drink, and I wasn't ready. The next time I was, and Lisa was there with her smile and energy waiting to help me. She sincerely cared that I knew the material. That is a rare thing to see. Lisa is a wonderful teacher and one of the best I have ever had. Were it not for her, I might have never summoned up the energy to pass that class. I am grateful for her devotion to her students.

Paul Muhlhauser
PhD Candidate, English

Paul Muhlhauser has been more than a colleague; he has been my mentor during my first year as an English graduate student. Paul enthusiastically welcomed me into his English/DTC 355 course and as I observed his years of experience in action and the formation of a strong connection he maintains with students, I began to learn more about what it takes to be a dynamic and engaging teacher. His pedagogical adeptness can be characterized as a practical and theoretical expertise infused with a sense of exuberance for the subject he is engaged with personally and professionally. Students and colleagues alike are refreshed by the presence of Paul and watching [him]...has been an enriching life experience for me.

Allison Munch-Rotolo
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Sociology

If a mentor is someone who sets a shining example of how to see the world through a set of positive lenses, Allison Munch-Rotolo is an outstanding mentor. I have served on the College Hill Association Board where I met Allison, who always sees what a great neighborhood she lives in. She loves the diversity of The Hill and has bridged the gaps between permanent residents and students by creating simple trash "clean-ups" after the crazy football season parties. This effort has progressed to Greek Chapters adopting blocks where student members shovel snow, help elderly neighbors, or trim bushes and pick up trash on a weekly basis. This is no small task. Allison spearheaded the establishment of the "College Hill Historic District," complete with signs and a listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Allison has a level-headed approach to leadership, she is smart, and working with her has made my experience with College Hill one of one of the most challenging and rewarding community projects in my career. It has been an honor to serve on CHA with Allison and with all the members of the College Hill Association.

Kelly Murphy
Student Mentor,
Center for Advising and Career Development

Kelly was assigned as my mentor at the beginning of this year. From the very beginning she was extremely easy for me to talk to. I know that whatever I say, she won't judge me and she's just there to listen, or help me when I need help with anything. She always offers so much advice and wisdom, and even gives me ideas on how to keep myself busy in Pullman. She has made my first year at WSU a positive experience and I want to tell her thank you.

Lorraine Nelson
Communications Coordinator, College of Pharmacy

Lorraine is highly skilled in communications and takes the initiative to perform at the highest quality. She works hard to increase communications among all constituents and shows us all that communication is the key to best relations. Lorraine has helped me many times to see beyond the first glance and recognize the underlying situation. She makes my job easier and adds enormously to my enjoyable work environment. She is truly a valued mentor to me and WSU.

John Nofsinger
Associate Professor, Finance Insurance & Real Estate

Dr. Nofsinger has been a great mentor during my doctoral studies. Working with him I learned a lot about conducting research. He has been supportive, patient and had a positive outlook, even when I was not getting things right. I believe he will always have a role to play in helping me develop as a successful researcher. I have a deep sense of gratitude towards him, which words cannot express.

Christine Oakley

Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Sociology

Dr. Oakley was the most supportive, enthusiastic, honest, and genuine person I have come into contact with. Her ability to juggle her life, advising, and running a department all with a smile on her face, and the ability to remember everyone by sight was an ability not many could do. But even more, she knew how to make students feel welcome and excited about the topic in which they were learning. She understood the special circumstances I faced and was able to make those strengths in my pursuit of a bachelor's degree. Finally, she was an ear when I needed it most. Without her I don't know that I would be where I am today.

Maria Ortega

Communications Coordinator, WSU News Service

Maria chose me as the WSU News Service intern, allowing me the opportunity to gain experience before entering the "real world". Maria guides me on a daily basis and has helped me develop my skills writing press releases as well as becoming comfortable contacting reporters. She is knowledgeable in the field of communication and has much to share. Maria is constantly learning and keeping up-to-date with tools such as twitter, among other social media. I hope I will have the same drive to continually improve in my area of work once I leave college.

Jave Pascual

Associate Professor, Math, Statistics

Nominated by 2 persons

1) I finished my masters in Statistics project under the guidance of Dr. Pascual. He is very nice, knowledgeable and organized. We met once every week for almost two semesters, discussing the project and sharing the progress. He was always prepared and has given me many suggestions and much help during the meetings. The research experience with him actually shows me a clear process from how to formulate a concrete research idea, to summarize all results in a clear and concise way. This benefits me a lot on my future research.

2) I've taken 2 courses with him and I am working with him on my statistics' project for my Master's degree. As a professor, he is always hardworking. As an advisor, he is so nice and responsible to students. All students who worked with him before or are working with him now give high evaluations on him.

Nori Pearson

Accounting Instructor, Accounting

Ms Nori Pearson is a very organized and responsible instructor with great tenacity in multi-tasking. Great to have worked and learned from her.

Lena Ann Peter

Resident Advisor, Residence Hall Association

Lena was the first person who made me feel comfortable on this campus. She has supported me on issues ranging from class work to private personal issues. She put her own problems on hold to help me sort out mine on multiple occasions, no matter how small or insignificant my issues may be. She goes out of her way to make every one of her girls on her floor feel special and appreciated, and has given a great deal more of herself to this than was ever necessary. I am inspired by her honesty, faith, and determination in the face of extremely difficult odds. Her devotion to teaching has also inspired me to follow my own dreams.

Troy Peters

Extension Specialist/Assistant Scientist WSU Prosser IAREC

Dr. Troy Peters has gone up and beyond being my supervisor to being a friend. He has been a fundamental support in my academic, research and social involvement in the WSU – Prosser community and made my work with him and others fun. His commitment to my success as a student has to be hailed for those times life has been hard both in and out of the office. It is wonderful to have an advisor, boss and teacher with whom the relationship is considerate and supportive.

Susan Poch

Associate Vice President for Educational Development Division of Student Affairs, Equity and Diversity

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Susan has a way of speaking to your heart as well as your mind. She listens and she asks questions that make you think about what it is you want to achieve and how that will impact your life. She has encouraged me to stretch and set my goals higher so I can reach my potential, not only as a professional, but as a whole person. She provides inspiration as well as practical advice.

2) Susan has become a very valued collaborator, colleague, and mentor for me—someone further along on the path of administrative service who exemplifies the values, ethics, and commitment to collaborative work to which I aspire. I've learned much about administrative service by watching Susan work: she is guided by the "big Picture" of helping student success, and she values and nurtures the collaborative efforts needed to make that big picture a reality. It is a sincere pleasure to work with Susan, and I thank her for being a mentor as well as a colleague.

Tahira Probst

Associate Professor, Psychology

Dr. Probst has been an excellent mentor. She has gone above the role of instructor in order to teach me how the grant process works. She allows for independent thought and answers questions quickly and in a manner that promotes enthusiasm for what I am doing. She has supported me not only through the entire development of our research endeavor, but through pursuing my degree and accomplishing personal goals.

This has become one of the most significant learning experiences of my life due to her persistence in ensuring I have the most interactive experience possible.

Thank you Dr. Probst!

Anne Ramsey

Lead Virtual Mentor, CDPE/DDP

I first met Anne Ramsey through a DDP course. Her involvement in the class was an inspiration to me, both as a student and as a person. Anne is positive and encouraging both within the classroom environment and outside of it. She is the epitome of mentorship as she guides and encourages the Virtual Mentors who work with her. Her respect and high regard for others makes Anne an outstanding mentor. Anne has been, and continues to be, an inspiration to me!

Anna Reach

Master of Health Policy and Administration candidate, Health Policy and Administration

During the course of our graduate program, Anna has remained a supportive and encouraging mentor and friend to me and other members of our class. She is always willing to make time to help others, despite her own rigorous schedule, and is always encouraging others to persevere when times get tough. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with her during the past two years, and look forward to an ongoing friendship as we pursue our professional careers.

Loren Redwood

Teaching Assistant, Women's Studies

Loren is an amazing instructor. No other instructor has made such a big impact on me as I have worked toward finishing my degree. Loren is supportive, encouraging, and inspiring. She helped me to develop my critical thinking skills and to get past my fear of forming and expressing my own opinions on controversial topics. Loren helped me to realize my full academic potential and to be confident in my abilities and intelligence. I am a better student and person because I was lucky enough to have Loren as an instructor.

Janina Robbins
Marketing Manager,

Center for Advising and Career Development

Ms. Robbins is one of the few people who go the extra mile to ensure the deserving and talented people get an opportunity to showcase their potential. When I was looking for an assistantship, she was very helpful and gave it her all in order to get me into the team. Her detailed responses and genuine interest, coupled with her warm demeanor and world-class professionalism truly makes her stand apart from her peers. Thank you Ms. Robbins for every opportunity you have presented to me and also for trusting me with the job!

Ana Maria Rodriguez-Vivaldi
Associate Professor, Foreign Languages

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Dr. Rodriguez simply has always made herself available to help with every aspect of the teaching, advising and administration of our Spanish section, constantly working willingly and energetically to give her most to all of us. She is organized, enthusiastic and has a most positive attitude regarding students and colleagues. In my case, whether it was regarding how to work with TA coordination per se, how to incorporate the desires and needs of the TA and instructor assignments in Spanish or other such TA related situations, Ana Maria always made herself available for consultations. She is an inspiration not only to her undergraduate Spanish and film students and the Spanish Graduate Students, but to the entire faculty as well. She is a colleague who I greatly admire because she is an amazing individual who puts both the entire Foreign Language Department and the Spanish section before herself. It is very clear that she does this because her goals are those which best serve the Department and assist both the students and also those with whom she works. For that I salute her and I recommend Ana Maria Rodriguez for this mentoring award—on behalf of myself in part-but in reality on behalf of all of those many individuals I have seen being mentored and advised under her caring tutelage.

2) Dr. Ana Maria Rodriguez-Vivaldi has a positive impact on many lives, ranging from her scholarly activity, her capacity as Graduate Advisor and member of numerous committees, as well as her kindness and compassion as an individual. Over the past two years, Ana Maria has been an unwavering mentor to me, offering guidance and encouragement at all possible times. Through difficult times, she is able to put people at ease and truly cares about the well-being of those in her life. Her love of both learning and her profession is impressive. As an advisor, Ana Maria is constantly available to help her students succeed and continue successfully on whatever path we choose. I consider myself lucky and grateful to know and work with someone as wonderful and inspiring as Dr. Ana Maria Rodriguez-Vivaldi. She gives unselfishly of herself to many and is deserving of recognition for all that she does and all of the lives on which she has had an impact.

Mary Roe

Professor, Teaching and Learning, College of Education

Mary is one of only two full Professors in the department. She could rest on her laurels and go her own way, but she doesn't. Rather, she is intimately involved in the life of the department and in the work of her colleagues, including me. Mary inspires us - she has rallied us to join two programs to make a stronger, more interesting and useful area of study. She models professional behavior and tactful diplomacy even in times of stress. She writes grants, publishes papers, and interacts with the rest of the program faculty even when she has other things she could do. As Coordinator of the program and Director of a collaborative we formed with teachers, she leads and she supports and defends us. But for her friendship, her collegiality, her explanations and support, I would not have stayed at WSU to earn my own Full Professor status. She's an amazing and vital mentor in many, many respects.

Uttara Sahaym

Research Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical and Materials Engineering

When Uttara joined the project I was working on, she helped me learn everything I needed to work on the project, spending hours teaching me the correct grinding and polishing techniques and how to operate the scanning electron microscope. It was through these interactions that we began to develop a friendship, joking and laughing with each other in a casual setting. Uttara was motherly, but also very professional. I could talk to her about other parts of my life and she was always willing to listen. She is a role model. She has a PhD, is happily married and the mother of two five-year-olds. She balances everything she does with work and parenting, showing me it can be done. I used to feel like I would have to decide between my career and children. Now I know that, if I want, I can have both and still maintain my sanity. Uttara's success is an inspiration to me to achieve all that I can, and all that I want, because it is possible.

Carol Salusso

Associate Professor, Apparel, Merchandise, Design, & Textiles

Dr. Carol Salusso is my academic advisor and thesis committee chair, whose guidance and influence have contributed not only to my education at Washington State University but also to my personal life. She has always been so supportive, encouraging and proud of what I have accomplished. I feel that without her guidance, I would not have been able to reach this far.

Jennifer Schei
Graduate Student, Physics and Astronomy

The Oxford English Dictionary defines a scientist as an expert in a branch of knowledge gained by systematic study. Jennifer Schei is not only an excellent scientist but a mentor most students only dream of. I owe the amazing experience I have had at WSU and my growth as a scientist to Jennie's mentorship. Jennie unselfishly spent countless hours teaching me how to analyze data using the LINEX operating system and other programs foreign to someone only familiar with Microsoft Office and Windows. She didn't cut corners in teaching me, shared freely of her expertise, and took the time to transform me from an office user into a competent LINEX user. Jennie's ability to teach and the compassion and understanding she has for those she mentors sets her apart as a most extraordinary mentor.

Marian Sciachitano
Clinical Associate Professor, Women's Studies

Nominated by 3 persons

1) My first semester at WSU in the spring of 2005 I took an introduction to Women's Studies course taught by Marian. Since then I've never called her anything, other than Marian because she's my friend and my mentor. I've always felt 100% supported and cared for, as though I was taken under her wing to become a member of a community or a family. It was Marian who set me up with Dr. Rory Ong as a research assistant and nominated me for departmental scholarships. Marian helped me find the confidence to speak out when I was so scared to say anything. She thinks of me constantly, sending me emails on issues and jobs I might find interesting and I know her door is always open. In fact, I've come into that door on many occasion and stayed for hours talking and growing. She exemplifies everything a teacher should be and the epitome of all that's good at Washington State University.

2) Marian has been a member of the WSU community for over a decade and has given back to the community through her passionate teaching and her consciousness-raising. She has always made an effort to be a mentor and a friend to students. As my graduate mentor she aided me in my research and social well-being. In the same way that she has helped me she has helped other marginalized students to find an affirmative and supportive community at WSU.

3) Professor Sciachitano has been a great influence in my education as a Women's Studies student. I have taken several classes from her, which were an influence on my interest in the study of globalization and feminism. She has also encouraged me to continue working hard to reach my goals, and to look at society from a critical point of view. I have talked to her several times about my future plans, and she is always there to listen and give me advice. Professor Sciachitano is a wonderful professor and human being, and she deserves to be recognized for it.

Shannon Scott
Instructor, School of Music

Dr. Scott has been a great asset to me in my years at WSU. She not only helped me extensively through her own classes but she has offered me guidance and is currently helping me with a paper in another class. She was able to teach me in a way in which I could understand and comprehend, and has gone above and beyond her duties as a teacher. Dr. Scott has encouraged me when times were tough. Her door is always open and she is always more than willing to help her students on an individual level to ensure her students learn. Thank you, Dr. Scott.

Kathleen Searles
Teaching Assistant, Political Science

I have seen the many times young females have come to Ms. Searles's office seeking guidance in their future professional endeavors. Not only is Katie an able mentor for these young women, but she also serves as a role model for all who seek to be successful in their future careers.

Adriana Seelye
PhD Student, Department of Psychology

Adriana is very deserving of all the good things that come to her life. She is the most down to earth, kind, understanding and thoughtful individual I've met. She took a sincere interest in me. She devotedly gave advice, guided, and supported everything I had done to polish my curriculum vitae. From our work relationship, we developed a friendship. She tried to help me in any way she could. When I received rejection letters from schools I really wanted to get into, she was the only one I felt could understand and was also sincerely affected by it. She would take time to talk about it and these talks gave me a shimmer of hope that someday it will work out for me in some other way. Describing her as a person, student, and as a friend may not be enough to fully describe how genuinely grounded and wonderful she is inside and out.

Leslie Jo Sena
Instructor, English

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Leslie is very supportive of her fellow English teachers and is always available to discuss and brainstorm on teaching ideas, assignments, and in-class activities. Her help regarding student-teacher relations and approaches to responding to student work are invaluable. I facilitate teacher training meetings twice each month and Leslie's contributions to our discussions and situational problem-solving are creative, fair, and promote respect for students and teachers alike.

2) Leslie has given me advice and worked with me when she didn't have to. She has provided insights into grading and teaching composition. She has shared syllabi and assignments that have shaped alternative teaching methods. Leslie's perspective on teaching methods and classrooms has been invaluable in shaping my own ideas.

Lorna Schumann

Associate Professor, College of Nursing

Lorna continues to inspire and guide me in my role as a nurse practitioner through her service to students and her community. She is upbeat, a model for excellence in practice and continuing education. Even 5 years after my graduation, I look to her as a role model.

Patti Sias

Professor, Murrow College of communication

Patti is a very personable professor. She has an innate ability to demonstrate positive leadership within her class and uses a sense of humor and humility at the same time.

Angela Smith

Student, Health Policy and Administration

Throughout the course of my graduate studies Angie has provided continuous support. There were a number of times when balancing coursework and employment were overwhelming. While she also faced the same constraints she never hesitated to provide moral support when I needed it. Angie always made herself available to provide assistance with course work, not only to myself, but to others in the program. She continually set aside time to help those in need of assistance to ensure their success in the program. Her innate leadership ability makes it possible for those around her to succeed.

Yoshi Smith

Professional Development Consultant, MBA Programs, College of business

A retired Air Force Colonel, Yoshi Smith joined the Center for Human Rights (CHR) in 2006. Yoshi's motto, "here to serve, not be served" brought him to an office where he hoped to make a difference to the WSU community. I doubt he realized the impact he had on the CHRT staff. Yoshi personified the importance of personal integrity, honesty, collegiality and a sense of humor. He gave me the confidence to acknowledge where I was in life, contemplate my personal and professional goals and honor my values. He encouraged me to use my talents and follow my heart. Yoshi provided direction at a time when I didn't think I had many options. Though Yoshi left CHR in 2008, I regularly recall his wisdom and insight.

Kerry Sondgeroth

Graduate Student, Vet Micro Path

Kerry always has a smile and a kind word for everyone. She's one of the most motivated people I've ever met, with a definite competitive streak, which somehow never interferes with her caring and compassionate nature. Kerry has been a huge inspiration to me in my plans to pursue my PhD. Her supportive comments, and seeing her dedication and determination, have helped to give me the courage to follow in her footsteps and further my own education.

Orlan Svingen
Professor, History

Dr. Svingen has, single-handedly, had the greatest impact on me as a scholar and historian, and I know that I am not alone in whole-heartedly recommending him as mentor of the year. He served first as my advisor and chair of my thesis committee as a Master's student within the History Department, and then as my advisor, chair of my dissertation committee, and mentor as a doctoral student. I have never seen a faculty member be more helpful and inspiration to her or his students than Dr. Svingen was to not only me, but any and all of his students. He was always available for assistance, for advice on research, and for guidance regarding my future in the field of history. His office door was always open for discussions as I delved deeper into my research, as well as for discussions on teaching methods and pedagogy. His mentoring was not only invaluable for me as a scholar, but also a teacher. Dr. Svingen gave countless hours to editing my text, to refining my research, to forcing me to question the larger context of my study, and to guiding me on what was a longer journey than I originally thought writing my dissertation would be for me as a scholar. Dr. Svingen provided me with a model of how to mentor students, how to infect students with my passion and enthusiasm for history, and how to walk what is often seen as a thin line between research and teaching. For Dr. Svingen, the two are never separate: every topic he pursues in his research has direct relevance within his classes, and he demonstrates clearly the ties between teaching, researching, and mentoring future scholars. I know that my enthusiasm for Dr. Svingen as a mentor is matched, if not surpassed, by all of his previous students. He has a long legacy of mentoring graduate and undergraduate students.

Mark Swanson
Assistant Professor, Natural Resource Sciences

Nominated by 2 persons

1) Mark is an amazing individual. There is no limit to the time and care he puts into his students. His dedication is to the point where he is willing to stay past 5 PM on a Friday when the halls are normally bare and lifeless. He also enjoys setting up students for a career when school is completed.

2) Mark is an exceptional person in general! He shows up everyday around 7am and leaves sometimes later than 8pm. He is 100% devoted to his students. He will drop whatever he's working on to hear a student's thoughts. His devotion to the forestry club goes beyond anything I have seen with other professors. One of my favorite things about walking through Johnston Hall is Mark's smiling face greeting everyone as they walk by. Not only is he taking a full course load with teaching, but he's involved in multiple research projects.

John Sweeney
Saldin Distinguished Professor, Accounting

Professor Sweeney has always been very helpful, supportive and understanding. If he can help, he will definitely help, in any kind of circumstances. No question about it! He is definitely a very valuable mentor and friend indeed.

Alexis S. Tan

Professor, Murrow College of Communication

Nominated by 6 persons

- 1) As the committee chair for my thesis defense, Dr. Tan has given me tremendous help and instructions that enable me to go through this process with the knowledge and assurance.
- 2) Dr. Tan is helping us improve our research skills by letting us work as a team in research projects that we have.
- 3) I am honored to nominate a humble, but an extremely brilliant faculty for the mentorship award, Dr. Alex Tan. I consider myself, not a 'cream' in my field and still a struggling student. Therefore, I had a hard time finding a good mentor, who was willing to invest in me and teach me the skills that I needed, in order to succeed in academia as a researcher. I was under the impression that I would have to find my own way and proceed through the program causing minimum inconvenience to any faculty. Dr. Tan was instrumental in motivating me to write papers that were accepted in conferences and has guided me through the steps of publications as well. Dr. Tan has had a significant impact in keeping me continually motivated towards my educational goals. My impression about how a Ph.D. program should be changed after meeting and working with Dr. Tan. He is making a difference through recruitment and retention of multicultural faculty on campus in various fields including, science and engineering programs, through his administrative duties. He is changing lives and developing careers of many students like me through his mentorship.
- 4) I've been involved in Dr. Tan's research project team since last May, and it's just great experience. He gave us amazingly helpful guidance and we already produced three big conference papers under his guidance.
- 5) I would like to nominate Dr. Tan for the best mentor award because as a professor he not only trains me how to do good research so that I become an independent researcher myself; he also sets me a good model of a pleasant person to work with. To get things done in the present society, we students need people like him who have the above qualities.
- 6) I have known Dr. Tan for close to 5 years. Since my time here at WSU, he has provided me with the guidance, support, and encouragement necessary for my success as a graduate student. If it wasn't for his encouragement, I probably wouldn't have decided to pursue a doctoral degree, which I will be completing next year.

Patriya Tansuhaj
Professor, Marketing

Nominated by 2 persons

1) I've worked with Dr. Tansuhaj this past year, serving as a TA for her courses in International Business and Marketing. I have really valued and appreciated her mentoring, and she has helped my development professionally and personally. Dr. Tansuhaj is extremely committed to her students. She brings a passion for her subject to the classroom, and really works to develop skills in her students which they exhibit in assignments and projects. She exhibits to students a balance between empathy and accountability, and graciously works to assist students outside of the classroom. Students recognize this and respond to this commitment and passion with strong growth and performance.

Dr. Tansuhaj has worked to not only exhibit this to me as a mentor; she has worked to involve me as well. Together, we spend time weighing options and sharing strategies for helping students achieve their potential. Through observing and active participation, I've absolutely benefitted from Dr. Tansuhaj's mentoring. I appreciate the time and talents she has shared with me over this academic year, and I'm honored to have been able to learn from Dr. Tansuhaj.

2) This incredible woman gave me my truest and best cultural experience of my life. I participated in a study abroad program in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2007 in which she spent countless hours (with many months of preparation, and years of establishing relationships) dedicated to making the program a success and catering it to the students so we would benefit most from it. If she had not created an environment and mindset that she had for my time in Thailand, I would not be where I am today. Dr. Tansuhaj stressed the importance of being a good global citizen, cultural sensitivity, and she opened my mind to a world I had not experienced. It was evident that she practiced what she preached to us in our pre-departure orientation meetings, while in Thailand, and today. She has acted as an amazing role model for me and has not only given me great information but more importantly, has led by example. I enjoyed learning about a new culture, a people and a different way of life, and again, I learned a lot through her, especially through her attitude towards life in every aspect. I would like to thank her for all she has done for me, other students, the College of Business and Washington State University. We all are lucky to have her here as an educator, mentor and friend. I appreciate all she has done for me on an individual level and as a whole for our university, country and our relationships with other people and countries as she encourages our relationship building with the rest of the world being ambassadors of goodwill and of our nation.

Pamela Thoma

Assistant Professor, Women's Studies

Professor Pam Thoma has been an inspiration to Women's Studies and American Studies students inside and outside of the classroom. As the chair of my graduate committee she has been enthusiastic to assist me in my research and has helped me to make contacts at WSU and the larger Women's Studies community. Most importantly as a mentor she has been a friend who has taught me a lot about how to cope with the difficulties of graduate school. Last semester Pam was also a dedicated mentor to LGBTQA undergraduate and graduate students after our community had been terrorized by hate crimes. She has continued to work with marginalized students, so that their voices can be heard.

Amanda Vanlanen

Research Assistant, History

Amanda Vanlanen works so hard for her students! She consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty for us. She always finds the time to help her students and make us feel important. She rarely lets five minutes pass before responding to a student e-mail, practically no matter what hour it is. I've had her for two semesters, both this school year. Last semester my mom went into the ICU just before finals week. It was looking pretty grim, but I had a final paper for her class. While she could have made me stay in Pullman working on the paper and worrying about my mom, she told me to get home as soon as possible, and she made arrangements with me to get the paper to her in my own time. She has taught her students so much about so many things, and is an all-around great person. When I'm a history professor, I want to be just like her; hardworking, compassionate, and incredibly passionate about my work. She embodies what a professor should be. I want to work hard for her because she always works hard for me.

Victor Villanueva

Professor and Director, American Studies, English

Victor Villanueva Jr. gave me the most important second chance of my life. When I was rejected from WSU for Graduate School due to my undergraduate GPA, I knew if I could find a department I liked and a director willing to take a chance, I would not let them down!!! I found the American Studies program, wrote my "Statement of Purpose", and submitted it along with other samples of my writing. Soon after, I got a response from Victor. He told me that as much as he liked my writings he would not be able to admit me at that moment, but told me not to worry. He would allow me to register as an Undecided Graduate Student, and if I were to receive a GPA above a 3.0 (preferably higher), he would see what we could do. So I registered for two classes, one of which was taught by Victor himself. At times during the semester I would ask how I was doing, and I would get the quick smile and the "don't worry" response. I received a 3.85 GPA that semester.

Without Victor's help, I would not be certain of my life. He not only gave me a second chance at Graduate School, he gave me a second chance at future. I have been teaching computer software for the past two years, and now teaching is all I know. If I would not have been given this chance I would not know what to do for a career. Thanks WSU for a second chance at life, and thank you Victor for giving me that second chance!

Richard Ward

Program Assistant, Facilities Operations

Rich established a construction and maintenance plan filing system that has made it possible to efficiently store and retrieve large format documents of critical importance. One of my first responsibilities in was managing these documents, and Rick shepherded me through the system, teaching me the various elements of its use and maintenance. Rick has repeatedly come to the rescue of many professionals, finding and providing important, but frequently obscure, information. He has rescued me in this regard many times. Rick has not only been a mentor to me, but in many respects, to the whole campus community.

Karen Weathermon

Director of Learning Communities, Office of Undergraduate Education

Karen has always taken time out of her busy schedule to talk with me about my teaching and the ways I could benefit from my involvement in Learning Communities. She is always positive and encouraging. This year, she has taken the trouble to suggest ways I might progress in my professionalization, and to advise me as I took on new challenges. Karen is a prime example of the type of collegiality and support that make me glad to be at WSU.

David Weller

USDA/ARS Adjunct Faculty, Plant Pathology

David Weller has been a great mentor and positive influence on me and all those around him. David goes above and beyond his call of duty to help out students future and current, faculty and staff. Dr. Weller and his lab help raise money for a summer science program on the Colville reservation, free to the students of the local schools ranging from 5th graders to 8th graders. He has also started a summer internship program with the Pullman WSU USDA where he allows those interested in the math and sciences to intern in the labs for a month. The internship program began with one student. Last year he was able to find positions for six and of those interns. Four have come to school at WSU, two are in their second year and three are still working in the same labs. Dr. Weller has also worked with the CAMP program at WSU and is currently involved with helping the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) students succeed. David Weller is a world renowned scientist and WSU is all the better of for having him. I believe that Dr. David Weller deserves recognition not only on a professional level but personally as well.

Jean Wiegand

Academic Coordinator, American Studies

Jean Wiegand has to be one of the most likable people in the entire world. Not only is she happy to help anyone and everyone, she does her job with 200% effort and done not complain about it. Jean was instrumental in helping me get a second chance at Graduate School, a future career, and a life. She advised me to revise my "Statement of Purpose" paper, always asked how my semester was going, and without her I would not have gotten a 3.85 GPA this past semester, I would not have gotten admitted into the program and Graduate School, and I would probably be sitting at home fiddling my fingers what I am going to do next in this economic crisis. Jean Wiegand has become a second mother to me, and is definitely guiding me as such. Thank you, Jean, for "putting me in gear" when I really needed the jolt!

Haifang Wen

Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Dr. Haifang Wen gave me great impact and help this semester. I am a graduate student who just came to the US in January and has faced much difficulty in a new life. Dr. Wen is always ready to give me a hand in my study and my life. Dr. Wen's support not only focuses on specific academic problems, but also on how to deal with difficulties in adapting to a totally new environment. I met great obstacles in the study of Statistics at first. Dr. Wen found some resources suitable for me and it's really great help. At first I was not familiar with how to search literatures and how to write literature reviews. Dr. Wen gave me very helpful comments and advice. I believe I have made great progress now. To live in a whole new environment was not easy at first, culture shock, missing family, inconvenience, and so on. Every time I was depressed, it was Dr. Wen who gave me spiritual support. It seems that every obstacle would retreat when I got help from Dr. Wen. He is so kind to talk with about life in the US. I think sometimes we just need to talk. If we can find a knowledgeable and experienced man to talk to, it's really lucky. In my opinion, Dr. Wen is just this kind of man. Here I want to express my appreciation to Dr. Wen, for his kindness, his time, and his knowledge.

Laura Wintersteen-Arleth

Instructor, College of Nursing

Laura was my clinical instructor for my first and last semesters of nursing school. She has greatly impacted my education. She has given me the support that I have needed both semesters. She is always encouraging and kind. She is always positive and she respects her students. She has always led by example. She has shown and taught me how to be a nurse. I wouldn't be the nurse that I am today without Laura Wintersteen-Arleth.

Demere Woolway

Assistant Director, Gender Identity/Expression Sexual Orientation Resource Center

Demere Woolway has been my boss since 2008. The entire time I've known her, Demere has been supportive both of my occasionally wacky endeavors – which she occasionally magically re-directs into a more productive train of thought – and my academic goals. I've really appreciated working with Demere. She's been the best boss I've ever had and a really excellent resource on campus. She's an endless source of random trivia which is alternately startling and captivating all at once.

Joan Wu

Associate Professor, Biological Systems Engineering

Nominated by 2 persons

- 1) Her encouragement, trust, support, and valuable suggestions were the major reasons I could finish my PhD thesis on time.
- 2) If not for her, I would have quit my master's program a long time ago. Now, having successfully passed the defense, I am preparing to submit my thesis work for publication. I give full credit for my academic achievements to Dr. Joan Wu.

John Yates

Manager of the EME Building, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

John has had a profound effect on many students. When students working on senior projects come into John's shop, they can expect John or one of his employees to assist in finding parts they need or advice on methods. John takes time to teach students soldering in soldering sessions and teaches classes in the hands-on relay school. John has told me, "Do not lose track of what's important. Work hard to support yourself and get a good education." These are the words he uses, but I have also experienced the positive atmosphere when old friends and former students come by to talk and laugh. It is his actions that have taught me that the people in your life are your most cherished gifts. John understands that I need time to let everything sink in and to work with all my heart when I get the inspiration to find out something new. He has given me a job where I can help other students and faculty and have time for reading and studying, so that I may improve myself.

Johathan Yoder

Associate Professor, School of Economic Sciences

I work with Jon Yoder in three projects. I am grateful for his help in starting my research program at the IMPACT Center. He is very accessible if I have some questions about our projects; provides encouragement and feedbacks on my work; and gives me opportunities to grow as a researcher. He is a wonderful colleague and a leader with a sense of humor.

Anna Chow Yung-Hwa
Academic Advisor, General Studies,
College of Liberal Arts

Anna has been a huge inspiration for me in my return to school. She has helped me to make the transition as easy as possible. She is very easy to get along with and very understanding of the trials and tribulations that come along with being a student. The advice she gives is always truthful and forthright and I feel comfortable with how she is advising me to complete my undergraduate degree. I truly feel that Anna has my back as an advisor and also a friend. She is truly an inspiration to me and all the students she mentors.

Rich Zack
Chair & Associate Professor, Entomology

Since the fall of 2004, Dr. Zack has helped me get situated within the department of Entomology here at WSU. He provided me with a job in the department and has helped me through the transition from being an undergraduate to joining the graduate school. Dr. Zack has always provided welcome assistance and advice whenever I needed.

Christy Zlatos
Director of Reference Services, Holland Terrell Library

Christy has been the most supportive and encouraging supervisor. She has both taught me and encouraged my own professional development as a Reference Service Worker. Through her mentoring and guidance, I have furthered and improved the quality of both student and faculty services at WSU. When I was a student she worked closely to guarantee I was able to complete my education and as a continuing employee, she has been the most supportive mentor and supervisor.

Jinwen Zhang
Assistant Professor, Wood Materials and Engineering
Laboratory

He is a very diligent professor and always keeps on working at weekends. He taught me to know what a scientist really is.

Mentor Nomination Evaluation Criteria

1. Is the nominee a current WSU Student/ Employee/ Faculty member?
2. Evaluate how long has the mentoring relationship existed – how long has the nominee been mentoring?
3. Who initiated the mentor/mentee relationship? Does this mentor take the initiative?
4. Does the mentor go “beyond the call” – is the mentoring being accomplished more than a part of their normal responsibilities?
5. How broad is the area mentored?
 - a. Do they mentor in more than one area – academic, professional, personal,
 - b. Do they mentor in more than one way – occasionally fun stuff, sometimes stern, sometimes leading, sometimes pushing...
6. How much of a difference – impact – does the mentoring relationship make on those mentored?

Women & Leadership Alliance:

Statement of Purpose:

- Affirm the value of all women as leaders
- Empower women to assume personal, professional and institutional leadership roles
- Provide opportunities for women to develop their leadership skills
- Promote a supportive environment for women throughout WSU

In 1993, a small group of faculty women met monthly to discuss leadership issues for women at Washington State University. The meetings were organized by former WSU Administrator Karen DePauw. The following year, the monthly gatherings were open to interested faculty, staff, and students. Meetings were held over WHETS to facilitate the involvement of WSU faculty, staff, and students located throughout the university system. These gatherings provided the beginnings for the WLA and the Forum. Support came from the Provost Office.

For more information about WLA, contact: Vickie Chalmers at 509-335-5573 or vchalmer@wsu.edu

2009 Women & Leadership Committee Members:

Vickie Chalmers, Capital Planning and Development

Carlie DeBuysscher, CougLink Mentor Program

Gretal Leibnitz, EXCELinSE Center

Debi Robinson-Smith, Women's Resource Center

Bobbie Ryder, Capital Planning and Development

Zoriah Wieth, Student, WSU Advertising Club

Kendra Wilkins-Fontenot, Human Resource Services