



KATHLEEN CASSITY, PH.D. DEAN, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times ... Often when I think about the work we do here in the university, this well-known opening line to Charles Dickens' 1859 novel *A Tale of Two Cities* comes to mind. In our fall newsletter, I talked about that energizing "back to school" feeling we get every fall. I always enjoy that phase of the academic year. By this time of the term, however, as the days grow shorter and colder and the workloads start to pile up--for students, faculty and staff alike--that "start-up" enthusiasm has typically faded into distant memory. This year especially, many in our college have faced considerable challenges, making this time even more taxing than usual.

Fortunately, after nearly three decades of life on the academic calendar, I know it's possible to get through these late fall/early winter slumps. One of the best ways to do that is to reflect on our many collective accomplishments and experiences. As you'll see in this issue, many excellent things have happened on campus this fall. We've hosted several outstanding, thought-provoking speakers (including a prominent WOU alum) who have shared a variety of perspectives on crucial issues, with more to look forward to in 2020. Our students have enjoyed a wide range of field trips and hands-on learning opportunities, and our faculty continue to accomplish impressive things both inside and outside the classroom.

The stories in this issue are just the proverbial "tip of the iceberg" when it comes to the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. For all the good news here, there are many more outstanding things happening in our college on a daily basis. Here in the Dean's Office, we rely on all of you to share your successes, past and upcoming activities, and interesting stories with us. We are open to all kinds of submissions and look forward to spreading the word more widely about all the impressive achievements and intriguing activities taking place in WOU's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. If you've got news to share, please submit your story using the Google doc located [here](#). We aim to publish two newsletters every term, so keep those stories coming!

We wish you all a happy Thanksgiving holiday, along with best wishes for a successful end to the Fall 2019 term. Soon we will enter a new decade. Onward!



Dean's Newsletter

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dean's Message	1
Upcoming WOU Events	2
German Students Mark 30 th Anniversary of fall of Berlin Wall	3
Criminal Justice Faculty Member Runs in "Steps to Safety" 5K	4
Wedding Announcement: Ron and Kim Harvey	4
Transformative Justice: A Project at the Oregon Penitentiary	5
Trevor Walraven Speaks at Campus Youth Justice Event	5
Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon Visits WOU Students in First Year Seminar	6
Criminal Justice is 50 years old!	7
Model UN Hosts Dr. Warren Binford: "Four Days in Clint"	7
Guest Speaker Heidy Alachán Presents "Honduras Resists"	8
English Instructor Publishes Novels	8
Upcoming Lecture: "No Child Left Monolingual"	9

UPCOMING WOU EVENTS

- ⇒ Sun, 12/01, 7:30 p.m., Smith Music Hall: Emmaly Basaraba's Senior Recital.
- ⇒ M, 12/02, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium: Spectrum & Percussion Ensemble. Mentored by Kevin Walczyk and Dr. Carlos Velez.
- ⇒ T, 12/03, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium: Concert Choir & Chamber Singers. Directed by Dr. James Reddan.
- ⇒ W, 12/04, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium: Wind Ensemble. Directed by Dr. Ike Nail.
- ⇒ TH. 12/05, 3:00 p.m., Werner University Center, Columbia Room: The Pedagogy Series- Screening of "Unlikely" Documentary Film.
- ⇒ F, 12/06, 6:30 p.m., 345 Monmouth Ave N, Monmouth, OR 97361: Holiday Tree Lighting. A parade through campus, the lighting of the giant Sequoia tree, and Santa, bakeoffs and other great fun at Werner University Center.
- ⇒ F, 12/06, 7:00 p.m – 8:30 p.m., Gentle House: Wine, Warmth & Music at Historic Gentle House.
- ⇒ F, 12/06, 8:00 p.m., Smith Music Hall: Western Oregon Voices. Directed by Dr. James Reddan.
- ⇒ Sat, 12/07, 2:00 p.m., Smith Music Hall: String chamber Ensemble. Directed by Obsidian Garber.
- ⇒ Sat, 12/07, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium: Smith Fine Arts Presents Kiran Ahluwalia **(pictured below)**.
- ⇒ F, 01/17, 7:30 p.m., Rice Auditorium: Smith Fine Arts Presents Las Cafeteras.
- ⇒ F, 02/07, 7:30 p.m., Smith Music Hall: Jazz Orchestra & Latin Jazz Ensemble. Directed by Dr. Keith Karns.



Kiran Ahluwalia

German Students Mark 30th Anniversary of Fall of Berlin Wall

Submitted by [Kristen Klay](#)

On Monday, October 28, 2019, German language instructor Kristen Klay and four first-year German students (Cole Somers, Makiah Smith, Mack Olsen, and Jaxon Hutchinson) attended the opening of the exhibit *Beyond the Wall* in the Little Gallery at Oregon State University.

The artist, Stefan Roloff, and Rene Siebenhaar, a representative from the German Embassy, spoke about the exhibit, the importance of the U.S.-German relationship, and the effects of the Berlin Wall on both East and West Germans.

Students described the experience as very impactful and said they had previously no idea what the Berlin Wall actually meant for ordinary people's daily lives.

November 9, 2019, marked thirty years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. The free exhibit in OSU's Kidder Hall runs until December 13. The Little Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 8-5 pm (closed 12-1 for lunch).



Criminal Justice Faculty Runs in “Steps to Safety” 5K Walk/Run

By [Veronica Bailey](#)

At 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019, Jennifer Moreno, an NTT Instructor for Western Oregon University in the Criminal Justice Division, ran in the “Steps to Safety” 5K Walk/Run fundraiser, for which she had been training all summer.

The Center for Hope and Safety states, “Steps to Safety is a fundraiser for the Center for Hope and Safety (CHS), which provides support and advocacy for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.” CHS offers a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, counseling, and

community education and outreach. Participating in this event helps to financially support this wonderful agency and survivors in our community.

Steps to Safety is the only event that allows racers the unique opportunity to access an otherwise closed facility at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, or as some may call it, the “Police Academy.” Racers were able to choose to run or walk a 5K course that winds through the entire scenic campus. We are proud of Jennifer Moreno and her well-deserved accomplishment.



Congratulations, Ron and Kim Harvey!

Submitted by [Karen Bednarowski](#)

Dr. Ronald Harvey, NTT Assistant Professor of English and Writing in the Humanities Division, married his wife Kim on October 9, 2019.

He met his future bride in Portland a year ago while she was visiting from Vietnam. They developed a long-distance relationship and Ron visited her in Vietnam over Christmas break. Kim came to the U.S. in July and Ron proposed later that month. Kim has been a nurse manager for many years in Vietnam and once she obtains her resident status, she plans to be a practicing nurse here.

They are both very happy.
Congratulations, Ron & Kim!



Transformative Justice: A Project at the Oregon Penitentiary

Submitted by **Miyuki Arimoto**

Professor Miyuki Arimoto of WOU's Criminal Justice Division spoke to an audience of students and staff about the healing project at Oregon State Penitentiary at noon on Wednesday, November 13. The talk was part of the Social Science Division Symposium series, "Transformative Justice: Diminishing Boundaries."

Dr. Arimoto states, "Redemption should be granted to anyone, even inmates who must make amends for the hardships they have caused. Restorative justice



helps offenders ask for and find redemption from society, including from their victims. While the concepts of restorative justice are appealing, the traditional justice system makes it difficult to accomplish. As an alternative, transformative justice is a way for inmates to seek redemption by actively transforming themselves for the better. I presented the healing garden



project at Oregon State Penitentiary as an example that represents transformative justice, and I also discussed anticipated criticisms and challenges after completion of the garden."

See the prior LAS Dean's Newsletter for more information about the Japanese healing garden, pictured above.

Trevor Walraven Speaks at Campus Youth Justice Event

Submitted by **Taryn Vanderpyl**

On Tuesday, November 13, the Criminal Justice Sciences Division hosted Trevor Walraven for an event open to the whole campus. Approximately 80 students attended to hear about Trevor's experience growing up in prison.

Trevor is co-founder of the Youth Justice Project with the Oregon Justice Resource Center. He is a formerly incarcerated youth offender who served almost 18 years in correctional facilities, starting at age 14.

In February 2016, Trevor successfully completed outstanding rehabilitation and

reformation under Oregon's "Second Look" statute. He was the second juvenile lifer to be released under Second Look.

While incarcerated, Trevor was the youngest elected president of the Oregon State Penitentiary Lifers Unlimited Club. He led Oregon's Inside/Out Think Tank, which trains Oregon professors to teach Inside/Out around the globe and oversees Inside/Out classes in Oregon.

Trevor's brother, Josh Cain, was sentenced to 25 years for his role in the 1998 crime. He remains in the Oregon State Penitentiary and is an active member of the Lifers Unlimited Club, Inside/Out, and several other programs and services within the facility. He contributed to the presentation via video.

Since his release, Trevor has spoken at many of Oregon's institutions,



including universities, correctional facilities and advocacy organizations, about his experience growing up in the state's criminal justice system.



Representative Teresa Alonso León Visits WOU Students in First Year Seminar

Submitted by [Kimberly Jensen](#)

On October 28, 2019, Oregon Representative and WOU alumna Teresa Alonso León visited the First Year Seminar, "Oregon History Detectives," team-taught by Professor Ken Carano and Professor Kimberly Jensen.

The students researched information about Representative Alonso León and her work in the Oregon Legislature representing House District 22 - Woodburn, and participated in a question and answer session with her during her class visit.

Representative Alonso León shared information with the students about how she gained leadership skills as an immigrant from Michoacán, Mexico, as the oldest daughter of migrant farmworkers, and as a first-generation college student. All of that, she stated, prepared her for her role as a legislator. In



response to student questions, Representative Alonso León discussed policy positions relating to education and health care, the importance of voting and civic participation, and ways that students at WOU can become involved in their communities.

We appreciate Representative Alonso León's inspiring visit to our First Year Seminar and her role as an Oregon history-maker.



Criminal Justice is 50 Years old at WOU!

Submitted by [Vivian Djokotoe](#)

Criminal Justice is a relatively young profession, born in the late 1960s, and Western Oregon University's Criminal Justice Program is one of the oldest.

Criminal Justice as a field was born in response to the federal government's decision to professionalize responses to crime after the crime spike of the 1960s. The program has since evolved over the years and culminated in the beginning of a new division. In 2018-2019, Criminal Justice moved out of the Social Science Division and became its own division exactly 50 years after it made its first entry into the WOU catalog of 1968-1969, offering a Bachelor's degree in Corrections and a Master's in Correctional Administration.

A year later in the 1970-71 catalog, a Bachelor's in Law Enforcement was added. Later as the program evolved, it grew into three majors in early 2000: Law Enforcement, Corrections and Community Crime Prevention, and a Master's in Correctional Administration.

Around 2005, the department shifted to offering a BS/BA in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice.

Three exciting minors have since followed, and exactly 50 years later the Criminal Justice Sciences Division was born!



This year the new Criminal Justice Sciences Division will be celebrating their 50 years in existence at WOU with a number of important program growth and enhancement activities. Stay tuned for updates and information!

Model U.N. Hosts Dr. Warren Binford: "Four Days in Clint"

Submitted by [Amber Holland](#)

To celebrate the United Nations' birthday, the Model UN club hosted a lecture, "Four Days in Clint" on Wednesday October 23rd.

This featured Willamette Law professor Dr. Warren Binford, who described what she observed at the southern U.S. border. She interviewed over 70 children and visited a multitude of ICE facilities. Dr. Binford discussed the conditions and stories, the law, and what we can do as U.S. citizens. A song inspired by the stories of the children was also performed by True North. Students asked insightful questions about congressional funding, DHS policies and the ICE facilities.

This event was made possible by WOU MUN, UNA-USA Salem chapter, and Willamette MUN. Thank you, Dr. Binford, for your contributions.



Guest Speaker Heidy Alachán Presents “Honduras Resists: Confronting a US-Fueled Human Rights Crisis”

Submitted by **Ricardo Pelegrin Taboada**

On November 4, 2019, the Latin American Studies Program, the Social Sciences Symposium, the Humanities Division and the Communications Studies Department co-sponsored the visit of Honduran lawyer Heidy Alachán to Western Oregon University. She is a representative of the Broad Movement for Dignity and

Justice and was taking part in the Witness for Peace: Solidarity Collective 2019 Speaker Tour.

In her presentation, Alachán examined the current political and social crisis in Honduras as a narco-state and documented the participation of the government in drug traffic and other illicit actions.

Alachán also explored the impact of American foreign policy on Honduras during the Cold War and its role in the formation of paramilitary groups and gangs that destabilized the region and created migratory crises, such as the caravans that marched toward the southern American border last year.

Finally, Alachán discussed the current investigations in which she has been



involved regarding political assassinations in Honduras, such as that of political activist Berta Cáceres.



English Instructor Publishes Novels

By **Veronica Bailey**

Maren Bradley Anderson is a published author, alpaca rancher, blogger, and NTT Instructor of English Studies at WOU. She has now published two books published, *Fuzzy Logic* and *Closing the Store*, both released by Black Opal (<https://blackopalbooks.com/>). They can be ordered for Kindle or other e-book formats.

Fuzzy Logic is about a divorced woman who moves from the California life to the countryside of Oregon to own an alpaca ranch. Before she can settle into her new life, she meets two handsome men: Evan, a confident, charming security co-worker, and Cody, a shy veterinarian, vying for her attention. Who Megan choose? Taylor Jones' review states, "The story has a strong plot, with several subplots and a spicy romance that heats up the pages."

Closing the Stores tells the story of a popular TV talk show host who is convinced by a close friend to run for President of the United States. During her first debate, Liz loses her temper and declares that all American women should go on a "sex strike" to end the current war. At first the men find it funny, until all over the country women are "closing the store." Will Liz end the war and win the election? Reviewer Regan Murphy calls this riff on Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* "a delightful, intriguing, and entertaining romp through the world of politicians and election campaigns- one that will have you in stiches from beginning to end." Congratulations to Maren on her ongoing accomplishments as a novelist.



Upcoming Lecture: “No Child Left Monolingual”

Submitted by [Patricia Gimenez-Eguibar](#)

On Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 4:00 p.m., Dr. Kim Potowski will present a lecture, “No Child Left Monolingual,” at WOU under the joint sponsorship of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and the College of Education. This will take place in the Willamette Room at the Werner University Center.

Dr. Potowski is a Professor of Hispanic Linguistics in the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She studies the promotion of minority languages and multilingualism, particularly via elementary schooling.

Her work particularly focuses on Spanish in the United States, including factors that influence intergenerational language transmission, connections between language and identity, and heritage language education. Some of her recent research includes language development in dual immersion schools; Mexican and Puerto Rican Spanish in Chicago, and the language and identity of mixed “Mexi-Rican” individuals; the teaching of heritage languages, particularly Spanish in the U.S.; Spanish use in Chicago quinceañera celebrations; and the use of “Spanglish” in commercially published greeting cards. She is the author of multiple books (<http://potowski.org/publications>) and journal publications.

Dr. Potowski states, “The U.S. has always been a linguistically diverse nation, but the overall climate usually discourages and sometimes

outright discriminates against the use of non-English languages, to the point that the grandchildren of immigrants often don’t speak their grandparents’ language anymore. This wastes the wonderful resource of hundreds of non-English languages spoken in communities across the U.S. In addition, overall we don’t do a great job teaching foreign languages to monolingual English-speakers.”

This talk will explore several myths about

languages in the U.S., presenting arguments and strategies that favor promoting multilingualism among our population.

If you have questions, please contact Patricia Giménez-Eguíbar at gimenezp@wou.edu.

