



# WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Social &  
Behavioral Sciences

## e-Bulletin

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### Welcome

Welcome to the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences' third *e-Bulletin* for the 2013-14 academic year. Here are the recent achievements and awards from our college community, as well as upcoming events.

Please continue to give us your feedback and suggestions for the *e-Bulletin*, and your news about SBS faculty, staff and student accomplishments, as well any lectures and other upcoming events.

### Faculty Publications

Asterisks (\*) indicate WSU students.

**Stephanie Wolfe** co-authored "Case of Prosecutor versus Head of State, Post-War Country (ICC)" in *Understanding International Law through Moot Courts: Genocide, Habeas Corpus, Chemical Weapons, and the Responsibility to Protect* (Lexington Books: March 16, 2014).

**Mark Bigler** (Social Work) published an extensive annotated bibliography in January through the Oxford University Press. His topic was harm reduction.  
Bigler, M. O. (2014). *Harm Reduction*. In E. J. Mullen (Ed.) *Oxford Bibliographies in Social Work*. (Ed.). New York: Oxford University.

**Brooke Arkush** (Anthropology) published an article, "Communal Pronghorn Hunting in the Great Basin: What Have We Learned Over the Last 25 Years?" in the *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Quarterly* 49(3):1 - 19.

**Nathan S. Rives** (History) has published "'Is Not This a Paradox?' Public Morality and the Unitarian Defense of State-Supported Religion in Massachusetts, 1806-1833," in the prestigious *New England Quarterly* 86:2 (June 2013): 232-65.

## **Faculty and Staff Achievements and Presentations:**

Asterisks (\*) indicate WSU students.

**JoAnn Reynolds** (Office of the Dean) received the Presidential Outstanding Non-Exempt Staff Award, which is presented annually, in February.

**Susan Matt** (History) received the John S. Hinckley Fellow Award in April. She was recognized for her excellence in teaching, scholarship and service.

**The Neuroscience Program** received the Exemplary Collaboration Award in April.

**Monica Williams** (Criminal Justice) presented her research on "Localizing Moral Panic: Community Responses to Violent Sex Offenders" at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Atlanta, Ga., in November of 2013.

**Dan Bedford** (Geography) co-convened and co-chaired a paper and poster session at the Fall meeting (December 2013) of the American Geophysical Union, entitled "Climate Literacy: Beyond the Comfort Zone-New Approaches to Climate Change in Higher Education". Dr. Bedford is also currently conducting research using his GEOG PS 1400 class, "The Science of Global Warming", to investigate the effectiveness of directly refuting misconceptions about global warming compared with simply teaching what's currently understood. He is also collaborating with Dr. Carla Trentelman on research to examine Weber State's attitudes to water and water conservation, utilizing focus groups and interviews. This project is funded with a federal research catalyst grant from iUTAH.

**Jeremy Bryson** (Geography) is partnering with students, local governments, and community groups to combat light pollution and protect the star-filled skies of the Ogden Valley. The goal of this project is to earn "Dark Sky Park" recognition from the International Dark-Sky Association for Ogden Valley's North Fork Park. Students are already engaged in the process for earning this designation — a process that involves a detailed measurement of night sky quality and establishing a set of lighting and land-use ordinances designed to restrict light pollution.

**Eric Ewert** (Geography) organized and moderated the "Utah Air Quality Expert Panel," which is part of the 2013-2014 "On Air Series" sponsored by the Environmental Issues Committee, January 22, 2014.

**Alice Mulder** (Geography), Chair of the Environmental Issues Committee, organized and presented in an interdisciplinary panel February 29, 2014, "Bringing Sustainability into your Classroom" for the Teaching and Learning Forum Brown Bag series. Other presenters included Stacy Palen (Physics), Jan Hamer (English), Shaun Hansen (Business Administration) and Jenn Bodine (WSU Energy and Sustainability Office). The group reviewed the sustainability in the curriculum definitions for WSU, emphasizing that any subject area can make connections to sustainability, offered examples of bringing sustainability into their own courses, as well as ways to connect coursework with sustainability efforts and issues on campus.

Three faculty members, **Julie Rich** (Geography), **Alicia Giralt** (Women and Gender Studies/Foreign Languages) and Joanne Lawrence (Dance/Performing Arts) are involved in the project "Mozambique: Place, Gender, and Dance," or MOZWOC (Mozambique Womens' Center). They are partnering with No Poor Among Us, a Utah-based non-profit (<http://npau.org/>). The overarching goal is a humanitarian effort to build a women's center in Mozambique, one of poorest nations in the world. Students from Geography, Dance, and Women/Gender Studies are learning about Mozambique this semester and will journey to Mozambique in May 2014 to complete construction on this center, with the idea of educating and supporting women to better the whole community. The women's center will include a classroom, a medical clinic room, small sleeping quarters, a bathroom and a kitchen. Please support the various upcoming fundraising activities (see: <http://mozwoc.blogspot.com/>).

**Julie Rich** (Geography) is collaborating with Chris Soelberg (Construction Management Technology) on a community engaged project to build an environmentally-friendly museum/cultural center for the Timbisha Indians in Death Valley. Their paper "Sustainable Construction Methods Using Ancient BAD GIR (Wind Catcher) Technology" was accepted for publication. They have been invited to present their project at the 2014 Construction Research Congress, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga., this spring.

**Stephanie Wolfe** (Political Science) presented "Teaching and Commemorating the Rwandan Genocide," at the Understanding Atrocities Conference (Mount Royal University, February 2014).

**Stephanie Wolfe** (Political Science) organized the conference "Rwanda 20 Years After: Memory, Justice, and Recovery in the Shadow of Genocide," which was held March 28 – 30 and attracted scholars and leaders from around the world, including UN representative Jeanne d'Arc Byaje.

**Marjukka Ollilainen** (Sociology) presented a research paper (co-authored with Catherine R. Solomon, Quinnipiac University), "Professional Success in Academe: Creating a Model for Work/Family Integration" at the Sociologists for Women in Society conference in Nashville, Tenn. (February 7, 2014).

**Susan Young** (Anthropology) moderated a discussion series in conjunction with a traveling exhibit, *Remembering the Holocaust*, at the Weber County Library Pleasant Valley Branch.

**Matthew Schmolesky** (Neuroscience) was invited to present "The Regulation of Human BDNF and Implications for Mental Health" at California State University, Los Angeles, February 2014.

**\*Houda Nizam, \*Desirae Wood, Matthew Schmolesky** and Barbara Trask (Neuroscience and Zoology) will present a poster on "The Serotonin Transporter Gene Polymorphism as a Predictor of Novelty Seeking, Smoking Behavior, and Cognitive Assessment of Risk" at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Lexington, KY, in April 2014 (OUR Travel Grant). It was presented at Science on the Hill, Utah Capitol Building, in February 2014.

**\*Daniel Linford, Matthew Schmolesky** and Barbara Trask (Neuroscience and Zoology) will present "The Association Between the Serotonin Transporter Promoter Region Polymorphism, Harm Avoidance, and Aggressive Behavior." OUR Travel Grant. Poster to be presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, Lexington, KY, in April.

**\*Desirae Wood, \*Houda Nizam, Matthew Schmolesky** and Barbara Trask (Neuroscience) will present a poster on "The Role of a Serotonin Transporter Gene Polymorphism in Relation to Novelty Seeking and Risky Sexual Behavior," at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Lexington, KY, in April 2014.

**Lauren Fowler, \*Max George, \*Lisa Hornsby** (Neuroscience), and Sally Bishop Shigley (English) will present "Visualization and the Empathic Response: The Use of Movies and Literature to Foster Empathy" at The Visual Image and Medical Humanities Conference in Galveston, TX, May 2014.

**Thom Kearin** (Sociology) completed a series of 15 original color illustrations, modeled on ancient Irish illuminated manuscripts, in January 2014 for "The Quest for Irish Independence 1641-1998." He will present the illustrations to interested audiences and complete a supporting text to accompany the illustrations' publication.

**Lauren Fowler, Matthew Schmolesky** (Psychology), **Briana Stutzman** (Neuroscience), **Jim Hutchins** (Health Sciences) and **Barbara Trask** (Zoology) received the University Exemplary Collaboration Award (\$5000) for the Neuroscience Program for the 2013-14 academic year.

**Brady Brower** (History) was appointed as a Member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ, for the 2014-15 session. While there he will work on his book project on social biology and the evolution of French Republicanism.

**Vikki Vickers** (History) received a monthlong fellowship from the University of Michigan's Clements Library to do research for her book project on citizenship in early America.

\***Christianna Disque** (History) received the second place prize at the 2014 Phi Alpha Theta (PAT) Regional Conference at BYU for her paper on European witches. She won this prize in a field of 44 other competitors. Other students who presented at the PAT Conference included \***Andrew Hyder** (segregation), \***Ben Robbins** (labor law in Utah), \***Ian Crookston** (Central Asian nationalism), \***Helen Elaine Jones** (rescuing children during WWII) and \***Valerie Jacobson** (Renaissance historiography).

## Alumni

**Wayne D. Hansen** (Criminal Justice '90) was named Utah's 2014 Police Chief of the Year. He has worked toward the safety and wellbeing of his officers and community as a member of the Farmington Police Department (since July 1990), and as the police chief (since September 2001).

## Grants

\***Dwight Adams**, double major in Philosophy and English, has received a WSU Travel Grant award to present his paper, "Justified Suspicion of Ontology Speak," at the upcoming Eastern Michigan University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference.

\***Houda Nizam** (Neuroscience) received the Office of Undergraduate Research Long Term Grant for \$2785 to study the impact of a serotonin transporter genetic polymorphism on spatial working memory. (Mentor: **Matthew Schmolesky**)

## Upcoming Events

### April

**April 16** – As part of the Italian Neo-Realism series, the WSU Spring 2014 Film Festival presents "Umberto D," 7 p.m., Shepherd Union Wildcat Theater, free and open to the public, Greg Lewis, [glewis@weber.edu](mailto:glewis@weber.edu), 801-626-6707.

**April 25** – Weber State University Commencement, 9 a.m. Dee Events Center.

**April 25** – The College of Social & Behavioral Sciences' convocation will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Browning Center Austad Auditorium, with Nolan Karras as the keynote speaker.