

GSE Spotlight

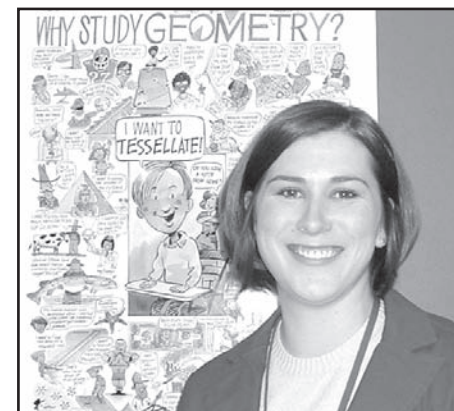
WHITWORTH COLLEGE ♦ SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Advisory Board Serves School of Education Peers

From the Director's Desk

Summer is a busy time in graduate studies as teachers, administrators and counselors continue their preparation programs or increase their skills in the cutting-edge Whitworth Summer Institute courses. Additionally, this summer we had 30 teachers complete the Professional Teacher Certificate Program. On July 19, these outstanding professionals presented evidence from their portfolios and were honored at a reception and signing ceremony. Thirty-three new candidates from districts across our region began the process during July, as well.

Summer is also the time of year for the changing of the guard on our Graduate Student Advisory Board. This board comprises students (one each) from our programs in GSE. Many of our members graduated last spring; therefore, group advisor Vernice Hunnicutt has recruited excellent new members to represent you. The board's role is to serve as liaison between students and the administration. Board members have been active in proposing and helping to implement a number of initiatives to make your graduate-school experience more pleasant and beneficial to you. Two members from last year's board have agreed to



Aubrie Zumini and her research project

take leadership positions this year: Tim Wiersma (M.A.T. Special Education), chairperson, and Jennifer Miller (M.Ed. Agency Counseling), recorder. New members of the board are Linda Smith (M.A.T. Gifted and Talented), Jasmine Wilson (M.Ed. Administrative Leadership), James Ashlock (M.Ed. School Administration), Sarah White (M.Ed. Elementary Education), Kent Hibbard (M.Ed. Secondary Education), Andraya Robertson (M.Ed. School Counseling), and Lezlie Aano, returning as alumni representative. Our special thanks go to board members for the time they've spent on your behalf.

One recommendation to come from this board is the graduate-student orientation. This event is a great help to students who are just beginning a program, or even to those partway through, as representatives from many college departments share the resources and services that are available to graduate students at Whitworth.

Last year, program administrators requested assistance from the GSAB in thinking about options for culminating events or projects in some of the master's programs. Typically, these have included comprehensive examinations along with a thesis or graduate-research project. A

task group from the GSAB took this on and reviewed options that combined academic rigor worthy of a graduate program with a synthesis of the learning throughout the program. The task group brought back a proposal to the entire advisory board, and members determined that a pilot of the recommendation would be appropriate. Barry Moses and Aubrie Zumini agreed to participate in the pilot this past spring. Zumini completed a graduate-research curriculum project in which she developed a supplementary high-school math curriculum to assist students in successfully passing the WASL exam, and presented her project, including the research base, to her colleagues at Rogers High School. A proposal for these changes will be presented to the appropriate decision-makers this fall.

We hope that the summer has provided some time for renewal for each of



Members of the Graduate Student Advisory Board, front row, from left, Jasmine Wilson, Sarah White, Linda Smith and Jennifer Miller. Standing, Kent Hibbard, Tim Wiersma and James Ashlock. Members Lezlie Aano and Andraya Robertson are not pictured.

you and that you will enter the fall inspired to support students or clients with the new learning you have obtained. As always, we feel honored that Whitworth's graduate programs are a part of your professional and personal preparation for the important work that you do.

Sharon H. Mowrey

Grad-School Questions? GSE Orientation Night Has Answers

By Jennifer Miller
M.A. Community Agency

Whitworth Graduate Studies in Education invites you to attend its annual new-student orientation on Tuesday, Sept. 5, from 6-8 p.m.

The meeting will begin in the first-floor classroom of Cowles Memorial Library, where each student will receive a packet of useful information and have the opportunity to learn about tuition, student-accounting services, financial aid, the bookstore, security and other helpful services.

Students will also have the opportunity to meet department representatives, staff, fellow students, and representatives of each education program.

Later, the group will reconvene in the library's computer lab, Room 223, for a technology-training session. Here, students will learn about the resources available on the Whitworth website and on WhitNet, including how to access student e-mail and how to register for classes and check assignments and grades online.

Whether you have already taken classes or are new to the program, orientation night offers helpful tools

and information. Refreshments will be served. Please respond to 509.777.3228. We hope you'll plan to attend!

Financial Aid: Registration Is Required

By Traci Stensland

Students who use financial aid to assist with their tuition costs must be registered for the number of credits upon which the award was based in order for financial aid to transfer to their student accounts.

Students must register at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the term to assure timely transfer of financial-aid funds to their accounts.

Students expecting to receive checks for the credit balance in their accounts after loan funds have transferred and tuition costs are covered should be able to claim those checks in the Whitworth Student Accounting Services Office after they have

attended their first class.

New students borrowing from the Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program for the first time are required to complete a Stafford Loan promissory note and Stafford Loan entrance counseling; both are web-based processes.

Please visit the Whitworth Financial Aid Office's website at www.whitworth.edu/financialaid/forms for links to both entrance-loan counseling and the Federal Direct Stafford Electronic Master Promissory Note.

Reminder: Students can view their financial-aid awards and student-account information on WhitNet.

All students should check their Whitworth e-mail accounts regularly for campus communications.

Commencement 2006 Fulfills Dreams, Rewards Efforts

By Vernice Hunnicutt
Assistant Director
Graduate Studies in Education

Saturday, May 13, was a day of celebration for Whitworth graduate students as they were granted their master's degrees at the Graduate Commencement Ceremony, in Cowles Auditorium. Proud family members, friends, faculty and staff gathered in support of graduates from Whitworth Graduate Studies in Education, the Master in Teaching Program, and the Master of International Management Program. Fifty GSE students received graduate degrees from among the following programs: M.A. Community Agency Counseling, M.A.T. Gifted and Talented, M.A.T. Special Education, M.Ed. Administrative Leadership, M.Ed. School Administration, M.Ed. Elementary Education, M.Ed. Secondary Education, M.Ed. Community Agency Counseling, and M.Ed. School Counseling.

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Michael K. Le Roy gave the Commencement address, *The Right Side of the Boat*. Student speakers represented each of the three graduate departments. Representing GSE was Matt Beal (M.Ed. Elementary Education). Crediting Christ, his educational family, Whitworth, and Shiloh Elementary colleague/friend Val Laiho as inspirations, Beal urged all to let their lights shine.

The Old Testament Reading (Genesis 17:15-22) was by Barry Moses, M.Ed. Secondary Education. Moses read first in Salish and then in English. He also



offered a prayer in Salish and English and was joined by members of his family in the audience as he sang his father's prayer song.

Following the ceremony, students and their families gathered in the dining hall in the Hixson Union Building for a reception lunch. The day was filled with hugs, congratulations and celebration.

If 2007 is your graduation goal year, mark next May 19 on your calendar, and be sure to attend your graduation ceremony. It's a day of accomplishment, excitement and pride for graduates, families and friends.



Clockwise, from the top: The official photo of the GSE 2006 master's graduates. Next, Amy Ayers, '00, '06 M.Ed. Elementary, with her mother Kathy Ayers, assistant to Dean of the School of Education Dennis Sterner. Then Grant Caldwell, '02, '06 M.Ed. School Counseling, and Aubrie Zumini, '03, '06 M.Ed. Secondary, with their mom, Kristen Caldwell, '00 M.Ed. Secondary, in the center. And Professor Ronald Prosser with M.Ed. School Counseling grads, from left, Jody Harkness, '06, Prosser, Jennifer Roberts, '06, Marcie Koch, '03, '06, and Suzanne Killings, '06. Finally, Nicole Parsons, left, and Nichole Hansen, both '05, '06 M.Ed. Elementary.

Graduate Studies in Education Office

Whitworth College
300 West Hawthorne Road
Spokane, WA 99251

Phone: 509.777.3228
Toll-free: 800.929.6892
Fax: 509.777.4753
gse@whitworth.edu
www.whitworth.edu/gse

WHITWORTH
AN EDUCATION OF MIND AND HEART

Graduate Student Wins Grants to Study, Travel in D.C. and Italy

Linda Smith, art teacher at Saint George's School and graduate student in the M.A.T. Gifted and Talented Program, has been awarded the Annetta J. and Robert M. Coffelt, Sr., and Robert M. Coffelt, Jr., Endowed Fellowship to attend the teacher institute on Dutch Art in The Golden Age at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Smith, one of 30 recipients nationwide, will study the National Gallery's collection of original works by such art-

ists as Rembrandt and Vermeer.

Smith has also been awarded the William T. Colville Memorial Grant, which will allow her to tour some of the world's greatest art venues in Italy and to work on her own paintings of the scenic countryside of Tuscany.

As a teacher, practicing artist, and student (who recently completed the Whitworth Professional Certification Program), Smith is experiencing an exciting and busy summer, immersed in various aspects of the discipline she loves.

Counseling Association Membership – Worth the Cost? This Student Says Yes

By Lynne Bolton
M.Ed. Agency Counseling

As a graduate student in the agency-counseling program, I was encouraged to join the American Counseling Association as a student member. Although I could see that membership would be beneficial later in my program, I wasn't sure whether joining early was really necessary. Would the \$85 membership fee be worth it to me at this point in my education? For me, the answer is a resounding YES!

Once I became a student member, I began to reap the benefits included in my membership. I began receiving copies of *Counseling Today* and *The Journal of Counseling & Development*. The articles in *Counseling Today* provide insight on topics that range from updates in ethical standards to the impact of Hurricane Katrina upon counselors volunteering after the disaster to the importance of counselor self-care. The *Journal of Counseling Development* opens the door to areas such as

research, trends, and best practices. The information in these publications gives me practical insights and reinforces what I'm learning in the classroom. As an additional bonus, I also began receiving information on upcoming continuing-education opportunities. And I have discovered that, in many cases, students pay discounted registration fees.

As "poor, starving grad students," we are always watching our tight budgets. However, from one grad student to another, I encourage you to take advantage of the student membership offered by the ACA. The benefits far outweigh the costs.

Coming Up

In the winter issue of *Spotlight*, read about Keith Kelley, M.A. Agency Counseling, who traveled with seven undergraduate students on a service trip to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Looking Ahead: 2006-07 Calendar

GSE New-Student Orientation	Sept 5 6-8 p.m.	Jan Term 2007	Jan. 8-30
Fall Term	Sept. 6-Dec. 14	Holiday Observed	Jan. 15 Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday
Holiday Observed	Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving		
Agency Counseling Interviews	Oct. 19 (for spring 2007 practicums)		
School Counseling PEAB Interviews	Oct. 23 (for spring 2007 practicums)		
		Comprehensive Exam Schedule	
		2006	Sept. 9, Nov. 11
		2007	Jan. 13*, March 10* May 5, July 14*, Sept. 8, Nov. 10

Congratulations!

- **Marcie Koch, '06 M.Ed. School Counseling**, accepted a half-time counselor position at Connell High School in Connell, Wash., with the possibility of a full-time position next year.
- **Keith Browning, '98, '05 M.Ed. School Counseling**, was hired as a counselor at Mead High School in the Mead School District. In addition, he and his wife are the proud parents of a baby boy, Grant Curtis, born June 9.
- **Jennifer Roberts, '06 M.Ed. School Counseling**, accepted a counselor position at Chaska Middle School West, in Minneapolis, Minn.
- **Erik Brucker, '06 Administrative Leadership**, accepted a position as youth director at St. John's Anglican Church, in Cairo, Egypt. He will be doing youth ministry, teaching, coaching, and taking doctoral classes, as well.
- **Nikki Golden, '01**, who also received her residency administration certificate, accepted a position as principal assistant at Spokane's Chase Middle School.
- **Shari Farris, '99, '03, '06 M.Ed. School Administration**, is the new principal assistant at Regal Elementary, in Spokane.
- **Troy Heuett, '99, '06 M.Ed. School Administration**, will be assistant principal and athletics director for Stanwood High School in Washington's Stanwood-Camano School District.
- **Janet McDonald, '05 M.A. School Counseling**, has been hired by Central Valley School District as a counselor at Summit and Barker High Schools.
- **Joan Swanson, M.A.T. Gifted and Talented** program, accepted a position as a first-grade teacher at Zion Lutheran School, in Corvallis, Ore.