

# GSE Sees Changes, Growth

## From the Associate Dean

The month of May indicates both endings and new beginnings for GSE. It is the end of the spring semester and graduation, as well as the beginning of our first summer session and preparation for fall classes. During the spring semester, which now seems so far removed, the School of Education had its long-awaited NCATE/state accreditation site visit. We are very pleased that the process yielded positive results from the preliminary reports from both accrediting bodies. The final report from the state indicates that we meet all of the required standards, and we received several commendations. We anticipate similar results from NCATE when their report is finalized in October.

During graduation (see photo on P. 3) we were fortunate to have Whitworth's 18th president, Beck Taylor, give the 2011 commencement address. His address, "Be Still," was based on the Old Testament reading of Psalm 46 and the New Testament reading from Mark 4:35. In his message, President Taylor emphasized that many challenges exist in our world today, but he encouraged our graduates by saying that when they feel overwhelmed and anxious, they should listen to what God says: "Be still and know that I am God," and have faith that God will be there to help them through any chal-

lenges they may face.

We are pleased to announce that three new faculty members will work with GSE this year: Krista Crotty, clinical mental health counseling; Anne Wilcox, English Language Learners; and Kathryn Picanco,

***If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we aren't really living.***

- Gail Sheehy

director of the Center for Gifted Education and Professional Development. While we have three new additions, we lost two people devoted to Whitworth and GSE to retirement: Margo Long and Roger Long.

In terms of curriculum and program changes, last year the Educational Administration Program was in the process of being

redesigned by Alison Olzendam and we did not take any new students. This fall we will enroll the first students in our newly redesigned cohort model, the Educational Administration Program. We are also exploring additional program offerings, such as internships/field experiences at Whitworth's Costa Rica Center and collaborative programs with other departments within the university and with other colleges.

With the reorganization of the School of Education, my position has changed from director to associate dean for GSE. With all of the changes that have been taking place, one thing remains a constant: the fall semester is here, bringing many new and returning students to campus. We look forward to seeing you!



Roberta J. Wilburn, Ed.D.

## Gifted Teacher Margo Long Retires

By Charlie Cudney, '06, and currently in M.A.T. Gifted and Talented

Let the rumors stop here and the truth be told: Margo Long has retired. There. I said it. Now that the big news is out, let's just back up a little bit and get to know the Whitworth School of Education icon that is Margo Long.

Margo first came to Whitworth as an undergraduate majoring in history. After graduating in 1967, she taught for five years in the public schools and earned a master of arts in teaching degree from Whitworth, in 1973. That same year, Margo returned to the place she truly loved, Whitworth, to work in the School of Education.

Over the next 38 years, Margo helped the School of Education become one of the elite programs in the region. Her career highlights include: founder and director of the Center for Gifted Education & Professional Development at Whitworth; founder and member of Whitworth's Gifted Advisory Board; member of the State Advisory Board for Gifted & Talented, OSPI; member of a committee of the OSPI that examines meet-

ing the needs of underrepresented K-12 gifted and talented students; recipient of the Courage Award from Washington Association of Educators of Talented & Gifted.

In the midst of her dedicated advocacy for gifted education, Margo always kept Whitworth students as her main focus; of her many accomplishments, she says she is most proud of the students she has taught. While her days were filled with teaching, advising, attending meetings and workshops, and presenting at conferences, Margo still made time for her family. She feels blessed to have had such an interactive career with her students, classroom content, and Christian faith.

Margo's teaching style is always memorable. She uses a blend of story-telling, comedy, and sheer knowledge wrapped up like a nice box of chocolates (please excuse the cliché, but "You never know what you're gonna get"). The excitement, passion and unpredictability in Margo's teaching engage and motivate her students. Although she has retired, she plans to keep her foot in the door of gifted education.

Thank you, Margo, for who you are, for all you have done, and for the many lives you've changed for the better.

## Success Is Spiritual

by Roberta Wilburn, Associate Dean

When we set goals for ourselves, it's important that we set realistic timelines for achieving them and that we have patience with ourselves during the process. In this "microwave" time we live in, many of us have grown accustomed to getting everything done "quick, fast and in a hurry," and the smallest delay or setback can be a source of irritation and stress. We become annoyed when others don't do what they say they are going to do when they say they are going to do it.

However, we often extend more patience to others than we do to ourselves. It seems that we frequently experience the most frustration when we fail to achieve our goals in the timeframe we established for ourselves. Francis De Sales said that we should, "Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them. Every day begin the task anew."

A proverb I often say is "patience is a virtue." According to

the Random House Dictionary of Popular Proverbs and Sayings, this proverb can be traced back to Piers Plowman in 1377. The virtue or value of having patience to wait for something without excessive frustration is a worthwhile character trait to have. James 1:3-4 (NKJ) emphasizes the same principal: "...knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

As you travel down your chosen path to success, remember that everything will not always go as planned; there are going to be roadblocks, detours and stop signs that at times may seem like insurmountable obstacles. But that is the time when you need to have the most patience with yourself. Take time to reflect and reassess your strategies and other viable alternatives. Don't give up and don't quit - just keep pursuing your dreams.

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# Dedicated GSE Advocate Roger Long Retires

By Kim Clark, '02, '08, M.Ed. Educational Administration, Luke Thomas, '00, '01, Professional Teacher Certificate, and Vernice Hunnicutt, Assistant Director of GSE

Roger Long has been a dedicated supporter of Graduate Studies in Education at Whitworth. He came to GSE in fall 2002, after retiring from Seattle Pacific University. Roger had previously been an administrator in school districts on the west side of the state. He brought much experience and expertise to his role at Whitworth as special assistant for marketing and program development.

Roger was instrumental in growing GSE's programs, especially its online offerings. He established the online English Language Learners endorsement program and put educational core courses online. In addition,

through distance-learning opportunities, students can now complete a master's degree at Whitworth online. Roger also traveled throughout Washington State, visiting with and supporting Professional Teacher Certificate candidates, and representing Whitworth to students who were traditionally outside of the School of Education.

Roger taught in the Professional Teacher Certification mini seminars, promoted Whitworth at a variety of venues in the community, and advocated for growth in programs such as ESL. He supported staff and students by sharing his experiences and resources; he genuinely cares about the programs, staff and students at Whitworth. Roger will continue working as an adjunct instructor, supporting the new ProTeach courses to be offered with Gonzaga this coming year.

When interacting with Roger, you could always count on a smile, a personal greeting, and some wonderful stories. Whether

taking calls from potential Whitworth students, reading a professional certification portfolio, or representing Whitworth in public venues, Roger was an impeccable gentleman. He spoke well and connected well with the people around him. Relationships, as we know in teaching, are so important. Roger is the epitome of successful relationship-building and the embodiment of the values expressed in the School of Education conceptual framework.

We are grateful to Roger for his tremendous service to public education and to Whitworth University. Roger, you are cherished and will be missed. Congratulations and enjoy what God has in store for you!

Remember to check online just before your class starts each term for any last-minute room assignment changes.

## Looking Ahead

Fall Term ..... Sept. 7-Dec. 15  
 School Counseling  
 PEAB Screening Mtg. .... Oct. 12  
 Graduation Applications Due. .... November  
 Clinical Advisory Board  
 Interview Mtg. .... Nov. 7  
 Thanksgiving Break. .... Nov. 23-25  
 Christmas Break ..... Dec. 17-Jan. 2  
 Jan Term 2012. .... Jan. 3-27  
 Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday. .... Jan. 16

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# GSE At its best

Andrew Lewis, '01, '10,  
 Educational Administration



By Shakesha Costict, currently in M.Ed. Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Andrew Lewis, '01, '10, Educational Administration, began teaching directly out of college. He found himself getting more involved in the administration side of the school environment and felt led to seek a degree in that area. He enrolled in Whitworth's GSE program and, like many students in a graduate program, he made sacrifices to attend school. "I was an assistant principal at a private school and left my job to begin my internship within the public school system," Andrew says. Since beginning his internship, he has worked as a substitute teacher, teaching twice a week.

Andrew recently landed an assistant principal position in China, which he learned about through Whitworth. "I made up my mind that I would take the first position I was offered," he says. His Whitworth advisor, Alison Olzendam, told him about the position opening in China and asked if he would like to move to China. Andrew took part in a two-hour interview, and two days later he got a call offering him the position.

"Whitworth has been a terrific place to learn," he says. "It really has been an education of mind and heart. I feel prepared to embrace challenges, to lead by serving, and to love it all. I value every minute of my Whitworth education. I have felt especially blessed this last year with Alison, my advisor. She has been, and continues to be, a great mentor. I know I'll be calling her from China when I need some special wisdom and perspective."

Andrew is eagerly anticipating his upcoming move to China. "I'm excited about so many things," he says. "I'm really happy to have a job and to have gotten a position right out of grad school as an assistant principal. It's fun to think of working with other people who, like me, will leave everything behind to have an adventure in a foreign culture, far away from home. I'm looking forward to being stretched and I know this will be an incredible growing experience. What I'm really excited for is the unknown. I would never have predicted that I would be doing this. Who knows where this may take me - God does. I'm excited and a little bit scared, and that's okay."

# Summer Literacy Center Expands Its Services

By Betty Fry Williams, Ph.D.

Thanks to the generous contributions of community donors, the Whitworth Literacy Center expanded to serve 60 children during its summer session this year. Last year, the center accepted 36 children, but had to turn away at least that many. This year several organizations stepped forward to provide funding that allowed us to purchase additional curriculum materials, grant scholarship assistance to almost half of our students, and hire two assistant teachers so that we could run two full classrooms.

Our sincere appreciation goes to these sponsors: a grant to purchase curriculum materials was received from Inland

Northwest Community Foundation; McGraw-Hill kindly picked up the additional cost of materials in order to equip both classrooms; Red Lion Hotels Corporation pledged money dedicated to tuition scholarships; and Williams Northwest Pipeline provided a gift for undesignated use.

We are especially grateful for the work of Maxine Lammers, director of development, major gifts, and to Lynn Noland, director of sponsored programs, who both worked hard to communicate our needs to local and regional corporations and foundations. Thanks to their efforts and to the community support of these sponsors, more children with disabilities and children who are learning English benefited from six weeks of intensive instruction!

## Educational Certification & Career Services

If you are searching for a new job, we can answer questions about letters of recommendation, résumés, cover letters, and the latest trends in the job application process. We also have résumé examples and job search tips available online. Start at [www.whitworth.edu/soe](http://www.whitworth.edu/soe), then choose the Educational Certification & Career Services link on the left.

To receive our weekly job announcements e-mail for teachers, counselors and administrators, just e-mail us at [certification@whitworth.edu](mailto:certification@whitworth.edu) and let us know your preferred e-mail contact. We are happy to keep you on the list as long as you like.

The Whitworth Office of Educational Certification & Career Services is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, excluding the noon hour, to answer your certification and career questions. We are located in Dixon Hall, Room 303. For assistance, please e-mail us at [certification@whitworth.edu](mailto:certification@whitworth.edu), or call or e-mail the following staff members:

- Cathy Stephens, director: 509.777.4405 or [cstephens@whitworth.edu](mailto:cstephens@whitworth.edu)
- Nancy Fahlgren, certification specialist: 509.777.4406 or [nfahlgren@whitworth.edu](mailto:nfahlgren@whitworth.edu)
- Katherine Smith, certification specialist: 509.777.4403 or [ksmith@whitworth.edu](mailto:ksmith@whitworth.edu)

## Dependency Course Benefits All Students

By Mark Kinney, currently in M.Ed. Administrative Leadership

The class Intro to Chemical Dependency: Theory and Practice (EDC 535) will again be offered in fall 2011. This is a newly added required course in the school counselor and clinical mental health programs; it is also open to teachers and administrators. Christine Mackleit, a chemical dependency counselor and adjunct instructor, says the two-credit course, taught over two weeks, provides a basic understanding of chemical dependency to help professionals and teachers better understand chemically-dependent individuals.

The course's structure offers advantages to the busy adult learner, according to Mackleit. "Each person has a unique style of learning, and this course caters to each by providing a workshop-style format, while allowing time between sessions for independent study," she says. "This intensive, fast-paced course is designed to fit into virtually anyone's schedule without adding an additional semester-long week-night commitment."

The course is an introduction and overview of chemical dependency, reviewing DSM-IV-TR criteria, psychopharmacology of addiction, neuroadaptation, socio-cultural trends, family systems, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. Other topics include the continuum of use, recovery, fluidity of success, recovery support groups, the link between trauma and addiction, referral to community resources, and law and ethics of chemical dependency.

"This course will challenge students' belief systems regarding chemical dependency and addiction, while allowing an opportunity to experience 'walking in someone else's shoes,'" Mackleit says.

Chemical dependency treatment is evolving, with varying trends in drug use and individual client needs. The most effective approach is one that is comprehensive, integrated and holistic, according to Mackleit. "A standard cookie-cutter approach is no longer used for treating addiction," she says. "Instead, an individualized continuum of care is created, which utilizes many different modalities of treatments."

## Congratulations!

- **Mary Love, '09, and currently in M.A.T. Special Education**, will teach in Othello School District in a developmentally delayed kindergarten/first grade classroom. Her school district is 80 percent Hispanic, and Mary is looking into Whitworth's online ELL endorsement program.
- **Isaac Myers, currently in M.Ed. School Counseling**, accepted a school counseling job with a 4th-6th grade intermediate school in Bozeman, Mont.
- **Cheryl Henjum, '05, M.Ed. Educational Administration and '06, M.Ed. Elementary Education**, will be the P-12 principal in Ritzville, Wash.
- **Jennifer Siira, currently in M.Ed. Educational Administration**, and her husband, Edsel, welcomed a daughter on May 4. Penelope Joy weighed in at 6 pounds.
- **Jennifer Olson, '02, and currently in M.Ed. Secondary Education**, and her husband welcomed a son on May 19. Jeremiah Conrad weighed 8lbs., 11oz.
- **James Ashlock, '07, '10, M.Ed. Educational Administration**, will be dean of students at North Central High School, in the Spokane Public School District, beginning in Sept. 2011.
- **Ken Russell, '91, '94, M.Ed. Open Emphasis**, principal at Mead High School, has been recognized as "Principal of the Year" by the Greater Spokane League.

Mackleit cautions students taking the course to be prepared to step out of their comfort zones. "No one is immune or isolated from this disease and the detrimental effects it has on individuals, families and communities," she says.



Graduate Studies in Education Class of 2011