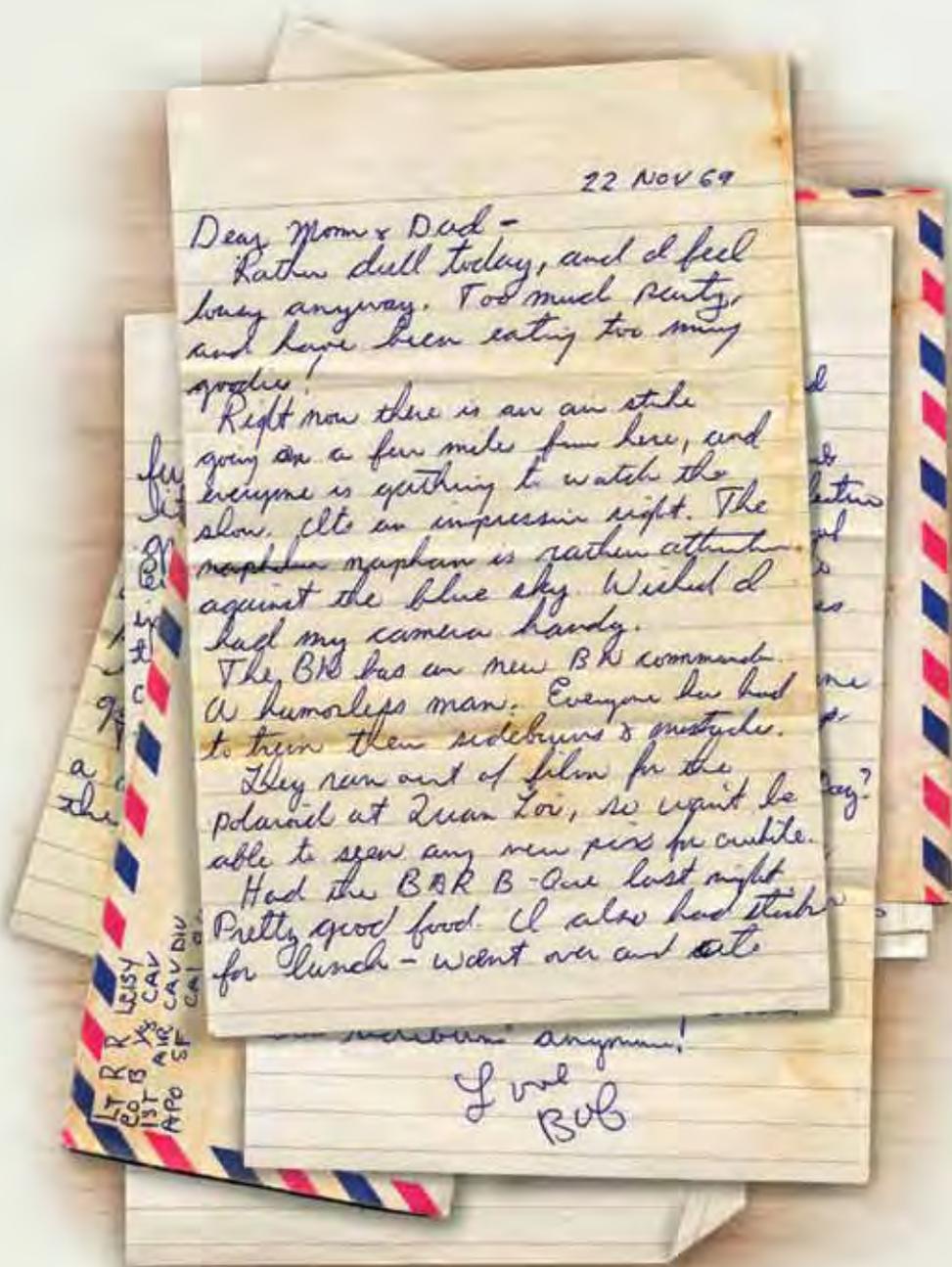


# COLUMNS

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ALUMNI MAGAZINE • DEC 09



**Days after** 24-year-old Army Lt. Robert Leisy, '68, wrote this letter to his parents, he used his body to shield fellow soldiers from a North Vietnamese grenade. They survived. Leisy did not. For his act of bravery, he posthumously received the Medal of Honor. A look at the alum who made the ultimate sacrifice—in his own words.



“You don’t have to be wealthy to leave a legacy.”



Although our planned gift to the UW may seem modest to some, it allows us to support things that mean the most to us – creating an information culture and sharing the joys of the performing arts with children.

As proud alumni, we’ve seen how the iSchool prepares students to understand the relationship between people, information and technology – putting students ahead of the curve as they enter the workforce. And we’re firm believers that the whole community benefits when school children are introduced to world-class artists through innovative programs like the UW World Series’ *Music in Schools* residencies.

Whether it’s information or the arts, we like the idea of having a say in the type of society we and the UW can create with programs like these. Our future gift to the UW is going to make that happen.

— Marcie ('69, '76) and David ('68) Stone



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THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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### ON VETERANS DAY THE UW DEDICATED A MEMORIAL

to eight alumni recipients of the Medal of Honor—the United States' highest award for military valor. The \$152,000 memorial and the dedication ceremony were paid for with private contributions and a match program with TriWest Healthcare Alliance and the Bruce and Jolene McCaw Family Foundation. For more information, go to [www.valor.washington.edu](http://www.valor.washington.edu).

PHOTO BY KERRY DAHLER



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**WRONG ADDRESS? MOVING?**  
If the UW graduate on the label has moved, will the relative or friend reading this notice please send us the new address? Remove the label and send it with the correct address to: Address Correction Dept., *Columns* Magazine, Box 359508, Seattle, WA 98195-9508. Or send corrections to updates@u.washington.edu. Thank you.

# Everyday Heroes

EVERY TIME I HAVE BUSINESS ON CAMPUS, I make a point of stopping at the World War II memorial at the flagpole at the end of Memorial Way. It doesn't matter that I have done so hundreds of times before; I am always drawn to the 255 names etched into the copper plate that wraps around the flagpole.

I'll reach out and run my fingers over the etchings as I read to myself the names of University of Washington alumni, students, faculty and staff who gave their lives for their country. I always walk away from that feeling humbled and grateful.

It's a feeling I experience often here because this type of devotion to making this world a better place seems to be in the DNA of alumni, staff and faculty at the UW.



PHOTO BY JON MARMOR

Consider the stunning achievements that have come out of here and the everyday heroes that have walked in the same places you and I have: someone like William Foege, '61, who helped eradicate smallpox from the planet, or the late Jennifer Marie Caldwell, '07, an Evans School graduate who tragically lost her life recently in an auto accident at the tender age of 24. The recipient of a prestigious Bonderman Fellowship, she had spent time in a desperately poor part of

Guatemala, helping raise \$70,000 so poverty-stricken kids could attend school.

Or Brent Bishop, '93, who was so inspired by what he learned as an M.B.A. student in the Foster School of Business that he started a mission to clean up Mount Everest, which had become the world's tallest garbage dump. He put aside the life-threatening, danger-at-every-turn hazards where humans cannot exist for very long because he wanted to clean up the environment.

It's no coincidence that the UW produces more Peace Corps volunteers than any other university in the nation—or that we have more Medal of Honor recipients than any other public university.

On Veterans Day, the UW honored the eight Medal of Honor recipients at a special ceremony and unveiling of a monument just a few feet from the World War II memorial. When you read our story about one of those recipients, Army Lt. Robert Leisy, '68 (see pages 24-27), you, too, will be in awe of a young man who instinctively sacrificed himself to save his fellow soldiers twice—not only by shielding fellow soldiers from a grenade, but then instructing medics to tend to his comrades first.

While Leisy died because of his actions, his spirit did not. It lives on through all of the alumni, staff and faculty who believe we can make this a better world.

*Jon Marmor*

MANAGING EDITOR

**ON THE COVER** A letter from Medal of Honor recipient Robert Leisy, sent to his parents shortly before he died.

# Explore *the* Unfamiliar

A woman with vibrant red hair, wearing a textured blue herringbone coat over a light-colored top, is leaning forward and looking intently at a skeleton displayed in a glass case. The skeleton is a primate or early hominid, shown in a walking or climbing posture. The background is dark and moody, suggesting a museum or gallery setting.

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**A GEM OF A WRITER**

Congratulations to Sandra Beasley for a superb piece on Marilynne Robinson. It just made my day!

Marilynne Robinson is a gem.

ROBERT W. UPHAUS, '66, '69  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ENGLISH  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
*East Lansing, Mich.*

**HONORING GIANTS**

Please pass along my congratulations to Jeff Corwin for the stunning photograph of Wayne Quinton [*June 2009 Columns*], and to the great man himself, of course. I have a special interest in the Alumnus Summa Laude Dignatus Award, since my father, Trevor Kincaid [class of 1900], was the first recipient in 1938. These honorees have all done remarkable things.

MARJORIE KINCAID ILLMAN, '41  
*Nordland*

**GORDON WAS FIRST**

I just received my September 2009 issue of *Columns*. As usual, a great issue. Just one note: As an old A&A grad and a retired Navy flier, I noted the fact that George "Pinky" Nelson was recently inducted as the first UW grad into NASA's Astronaut Hall of Fame. I found that interesting because Dick Gordon, '51, a veteran of Gemini and Apollo missions, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993.

Additionally, he won the Bendix Trophy in 1961 for establishing a new speed record (869.74 mph) and transcontinental speed record (2 hours, 47 minutes). I've always been fascinated by Dick Gordon as he was a UW grad and flew for the Navy before getting selected for NASA. Thought you'd like to know that.

It's also good to see that my fellow A&A '77 grad just flew on the [space] shuttle—Greg Johnson—also an old Navy aviator.

Keep flying Huskies!

TRIP WIGGINS, '77  
*Fredericksburg, Va.*

**COURAGE DEFINED**

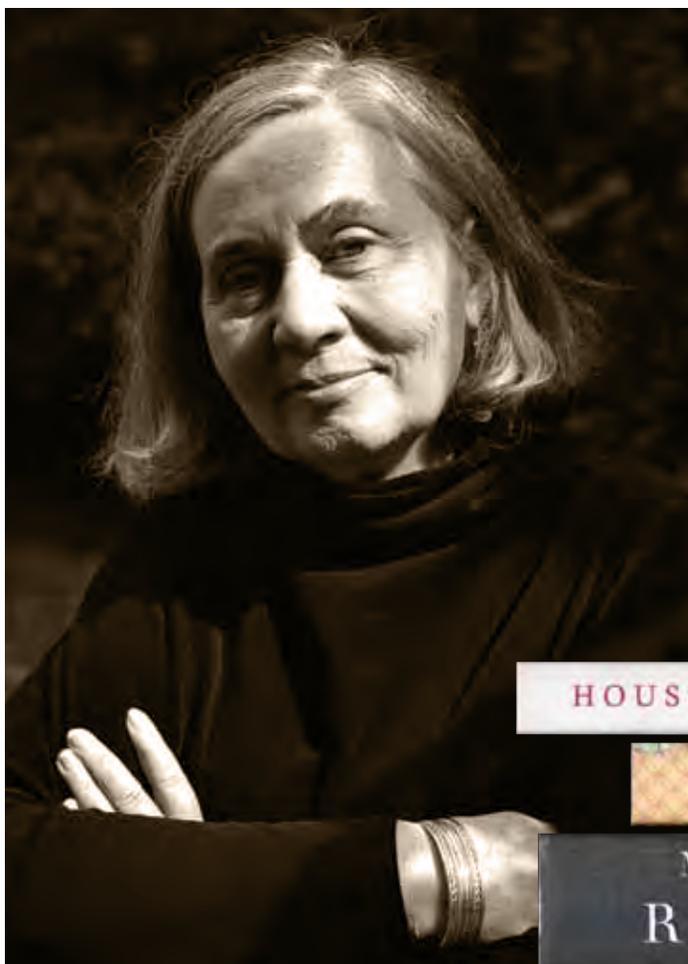
The September 2009 article on UW Medal of Honor heroes mentioned John "Bud" Hawk as one of the honorees.

I first knew him in the Great Depression era of the 1930s, on Manitou Beach on Bainbridge Island. He and his family lived close to us. I remember him as just another scrawny Depression kid. He used to borrow our skiff to catch fish for his family; as I remember, he was usually successful.

Later, I asked him how in the hell did he ever find the courage to do what he did. His reply was that it was not courage but merely acting on training and that afterward, he had a severe session of the shakes. If that wasn't courage, I don't know what was! He also remarked that anyone who had a skiff in the '30s was a king.

He's a great guy and deserves the accolades.

MARTIN PAUP, '52  
*Seattle*



“Marilynne Robinson is a gem.”

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HOME

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# State Support Slips Away, But Our Commitment to the State Doesn't



PHOTO BY DENNIS WISE

## MOST BUSINESSES AND HOUSEHOLDS TODAY

continue to struggle with the financial impacts of the Great Recession of 2009. The financial crisis has altered our perceptions of how businesses should be run and how to pay for those things we care about most. This is every bit as true at the University of Washington as at Boeing, Microsoft or the neighborhood dry cleaners.

The recession has sharply amplified a persistent and steady decline in state funding for public universities in Washington. The 2009 state Legislature cut the University of Washington's budget by 26 percent, one of the largest cuts to a university in the entire nation. This reduction takes the UW's state funding down to a level we have not seen since 1999. To manage this cut, we have had to make many hard decisions, among them to eliminate 850 mostly administrative jobs, close branch libraries and writing centers, freeze salaries, dramatically reduce faculty hiring and, worst of all, serve fewer students than we would like.

The impacts of the budget reduction were offset partly by a 14 percent increase in tuition, continuing a 20-year trend of relying more and more on student tuition to fund the UW while the state has shrunk its share of funding. For the first time in our history, total revenue from tuition is larger than

revenue from state tax dollars, a trend that is very likely to continue.

The pressures on the state budget have once again led to discussions about "privatizing" the UW. Such conversations are both distracting and irrelevant. Our University's mission is a public mission, regardless of our sources of funding. We do not need to change what the UW is, what it does, or why it does it. We will continue to serve the higher-education needs of Washington's citizens through access to one of the best public research universities in the world.

What needs to change is the funding and operating model supporting that mis-

state's short- and long-term fiscal situation and what the governor and Legislature will provide to this institution. We lost more than a decade of state budget growth with the cuts of the 2009 session, and it may take at least that long simply to regain the ground we lost.

Therefore, in order to fulfill our mission as one of the world's great public universities, we have developed three strategic approaches to respond to this dramatic loss of state investment:

**1. Use our existing resources as efficiently as possible:** Research shows that Washington's public universities are already among the most efficient in the

**"The University needs to define a new way to accomplish its core educational mission that will not only sustain us for the current biennium but, more importantly, will enable us to thrive over the coming decades."**

sion. The University needs to define a new way to accomplish its core educational mission that will not only sustain us for the current biennium but, more importantly, will enable us to thrive over the coming decades. How we meet the challenge of the next two years will help define what we can become over the next 20.

While we will continue to make a forceful and passionate case for additional state investment in the UW in Olympia, we also have to be realistic about the

nation in producing bachelor's degree graduates despite being among the most poorly funded. The UW awards more bachelor's degrees per student than research universities in any other state, and we are second in the nation in degree productivity at the graduate level. The six-year graduation rate for freshmen in the state of Washington ranks third in the nation and has improved by 9 percent in the last decade. The UW's six-year graduation rate now stands at 81 percent,

up from 71 percent six years ago. Bottom line: The state is getting extraordinary efficiency in the investment of its dollars in Washington's public universities.

The UW continues to innovate and seek new economies and efficiencies to stretch our dollars even further. Among innovations in the instructional program are three-year bachelor's degree opportunities for select students; greater use of technology in hybrid models combining in-class and computer-based instruction; integrated five-year bachelor's-master's programs; and growing our online degree offerings. In business operations, millions of dollars have been saved using eProcurement and eTravel technologies, MyFinancialDesktop for budgeting, and expansive use of online student financial services. We want our students to have not just a world-class education, but a world-class value as well.

**2. Manage undergraduate resident tuition:** Now that the UW receives more of its core instructional budget support from students and their fami-

lies than from the state, we need to be in a better position to manage all of our tuition revenues. Since 2003, we have been responsible for managing tuition for all graduate and professional programs, as well as undergraduate non-resident tuition. These tuition rates continue to remain at or below the average of our peer institutions. While UW undergraduate tuition is still the lowest among all of its "global challenge" state peers, future growth can be benchmarked in a fashion similar to those for graduate and professional programs. Further, the UW is deeply committed to increasing financial aid to continue to honor the Husky Promise program for low- and lower-middle-income families. Bottom line: The UW needs to have greater control over its revenue.

**3. Greater management and business process flexibility:** There are numerous examples of millions of dollars that could be saved in operating our University if we had more flexibility over business processes and had to spend less money complying with a number of regulations in the way we operate basic

management systems and processes. These include public works procurement, debt financing costs, purchasing authority, and relief from paying for state systems that we do not use. We want to use all of our resources as wisely and effectively as possible. Bottom line: The UW needs to be granted greater flexibility in costly and time-consuming regulations and processes.

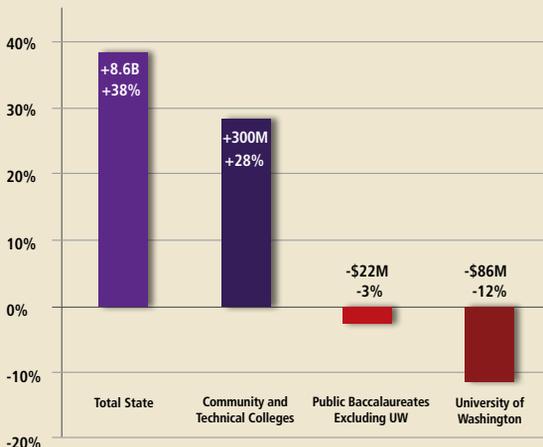
The University of Washington is truly at a turning point. We must find a way to replace critical state dollars that are gone and no longer available to support our instructional activities. A new financial model and new, more entrepreneurial approaches to doing business are called for. Greater management flexibility is required to fulfill the University's commitment to serving the citizens of Washington. If we are able to make these changes, the UW can continue to serve the state in the exemplary manner we all expect for decades to come.



MARK A. EMMERT, '75, *President*

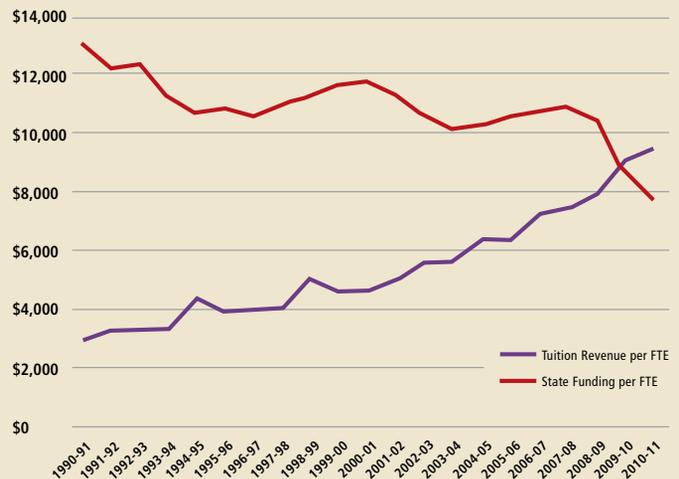
### Change in State Budget 2001-03 to 2009-11

State spending is up since 2001-03, but not at the UW and other four-year baccalaureate institutions



Source: WA Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP)

### Funding per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student at UW (in 2009 dollars)



Source: UW Office of Planning and Budgeting

W

# Thank You Class of 1959!

Thank you to the following donors who raised over \$265,000 for the Cherry Tree Project and the Class of 1959 Endowed Scholarship in Landscape Architecture. Congratulations on your 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion!

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And the Class of 1959 wishes a special thank you to the 550 members of the UW Community who contributed to making the Cherry Tree Project a reality!

*This list reflects donors as of Oct. 27th 2009. If we have misspelled your name or you don't see yourself here, please let us know. Betsy Troutman - betsyt@uw.edu*

## A Garden Takes Shape

From the Ground Up

**NEIGHBORS** couldn't stand the blighted, empty lot on University Way Northeast near Northeast 55th Street. So they are turning it into Shiga's Community Garden, a new addition to Seattle's P-Patch Program. Stacey Gianas, '08 (right), puts the finishing touches on a garden fence as Jordan Brandewiede, 4, looks on. Gianas, who has a degree in conservation biology, started the garden earlier this year with her husband, Patrick Sowers, '08. Photographed by Erin Lodi on Oct. 10, 2009.

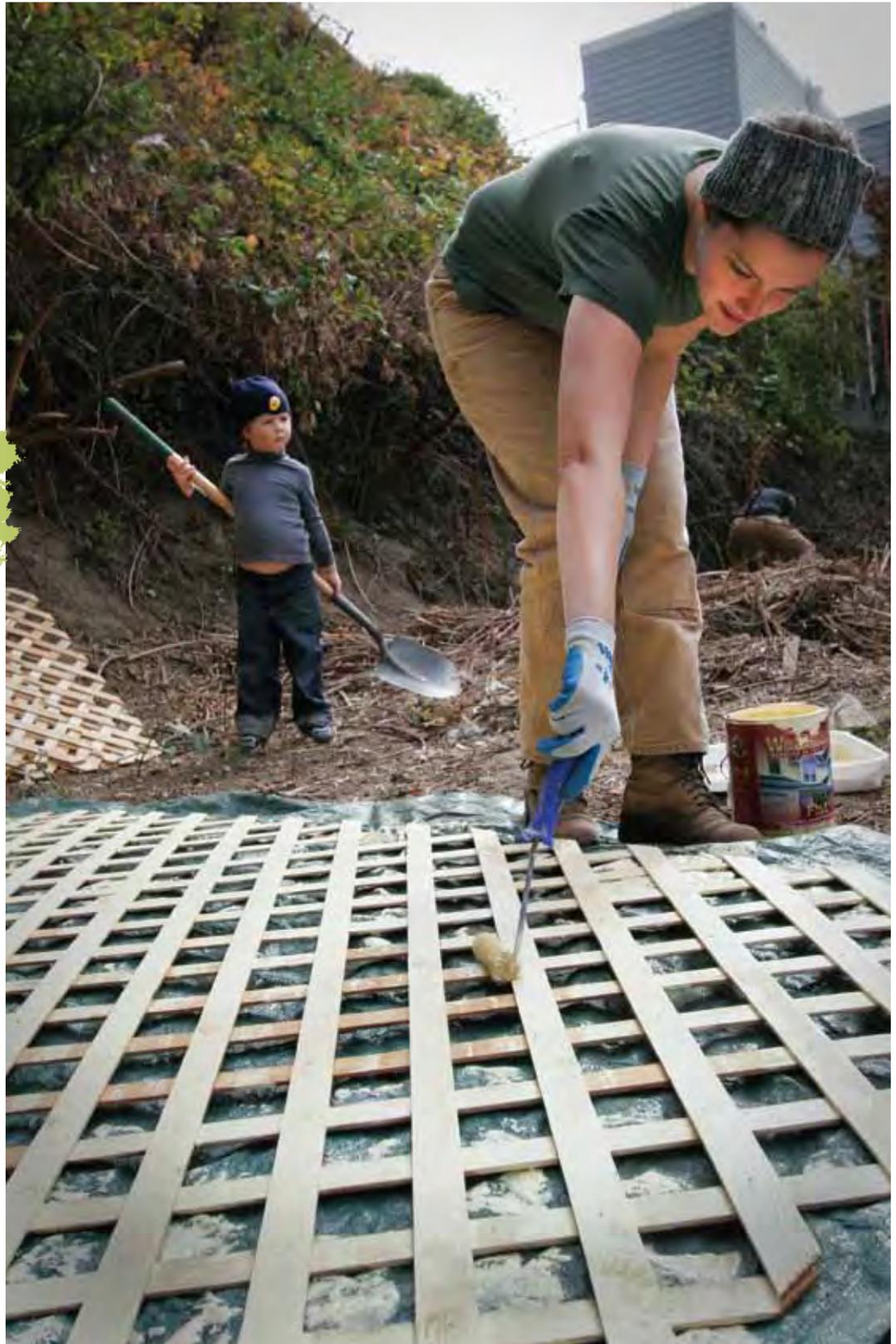




PHOTO COURTESY TY HARDEN



PHOTO COURTESY COLORADO RAPIDS

# The Game of Life

**TY HARDEN, '08  
PROFESSIONAL SOCCER PLAYER**

One year after his rookie season, Ty Harden walked away from his dream job playing Major League Soccer. The former UW men's soccer standout started 24 of the Los Angeles Galaxy's 30 games in 2007 and had a bright future. It was an agonizing decision to quit.

"It all changed when I got drafted," Harden says. "I love soccer but I thought, 'This is what I'm doing with my life?' I wasn't done with school, and I really wanted to finish my degree. There was so much more I wanted to experience."

Harden returned to Seattle and finished his business degree, then went to Switzerland with his girlfriend, Emily Florence, '08, a former UW women's basketball star who had signed to play professionally in Europe. With a pedigree for helping others—both of his parents worked for

Goodwill—Harden moved to Africa for six weeks to work as a volunteer at Hamomi, a children's center in Nairobi.

"That was really eye-opening for me," Harden says. "I taught a class, and I'd never done that before. We arranged for nurses to come see the kids, and we talked to some doctors to see if we could get them some kind of health care. We started doing home visits to meet all of their families. I ended up doing so many things."

He also rekindled his passion for soccer, setting up the school's first soccer team and arranging some games with other schools. "It was fun to coach," Harden says. "The school itself is in a real slum. But what took me by surprise was how happy everybody was. They're loving, friendly and sweet kids. And they're happy with so much less."

Harden left Hamomi in December 2008 and came back home. The Colorado Rapids traded for his rights, and with his love for the game renewed, Harden joined a new MLS team. "I definitely missed it," he says. "I missed the competition, the game, being away from the guys. I trained hard, and as soon as I got back, it was like I hadn't missed a day."

Many MLS stars were moved by Harden's selflessness. "I am completely impressed by what Ty did," Landon Donovan, former Galaxy teammate and U.S. national team captain, told ESPN.com. "I always encourage people to follow their hearts and Ty certainly did that. We tend to get too caught up in sports and start believing that sports are the most important thing in the world. What Ty did was much more important than any soccer game will ever be." —Derek Belt

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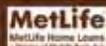
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# Remembering Rwanda



PHOTO BY PATRICIA BOIKO

**Above:** A survivor stands before hundreds of skulls at a Rwanda genocide memorial. **Left:** Friedman interviews Innocent Kamanzi, a spokesman for the Tribunal. **Below:** Prosecutor Charles Phillips.

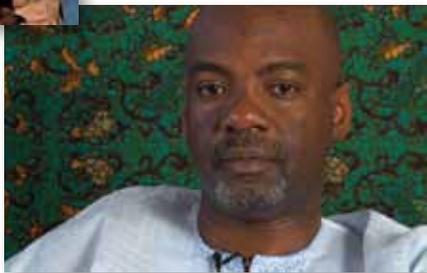


PHOTO BY MAX ANDREWS/NELL CARDEN GREY

More details about Friedman and her team, as well as interviews in English, French and Kinyarwanda, can be found at [www.tribunalvoices.org](http://www.tribunalvoices.org).

FOR 12 YEARS, THE RWANDA WAR CRIMES trials have dragged on as a United Nations-sponsored tribunal attempts to bring to justice those responsible for the killing of 800,000 Rwandans during 100 horrific days in 1994. A team headed by UW Information School Professor Batya Friedman is working to make sure the world never forgets.

With the recently compiled oral history *Voices from the Rwanda Tribunal*, Friedman's group has collected stories from those involved in the trials, conducting 49 video interviews and taping 70 hours of conversations with judges, investigators, interpreters, defense counsel and prosecutors.

It is the first collection of court personnel memories from this dark time in world history. It is also the first time a technology has been used to authenticate and prevent tampering. Friedman and Tadayoshi Kohno, UW assistant professor of computer science, created a simple-to-use digital technology that authenticates *Tribunal Voices* and collections like it so that even subtle attempts at tampering can be detected. It's part of Friedman's work on information systems for human problems that cannot be resolved in a single lifespan.

This past summer, the 10-person Friedman team—which includes legal experts, professional cinematographers and UW specialists in information systems—shared the interviews in Rwanda, hoping to make them part of both healing and remembering.

The tapes are stunning. In one, you meet prosecutor Hassan Jallow, who has confronted individuals responsible for masterminding hundreds of thousands of killings—yet needed all the courage he could muster to ask his driver how he copes with the slaying of his entire family.

Then there is the interview with court prosecutor Charles Phillips, who describes a dilemma he faced. A woman presented him a credible story about being raped, but she hadn't told her husband about it. If she had told him, the woman told Phillips, "I wouldn't have a husband today."

Phillips decided that ethics forbade him from jeopardizing the woman's marriage—so he abandoned the case.

The Friedman team shared the Phillips interview with a number of people, including the director of Hope After Rape, a nonprofit group. It became part of a post-rape workshop in eastern Congo.

"Sexual violence was used to dehumanize people, to spread disease in an intentional way," Friedman says. "Women were mutilated. ... It is a way to destroy a people—physically, mentally, emotionally."

—Catherine O'Donnell



# Huskies helping soldiers

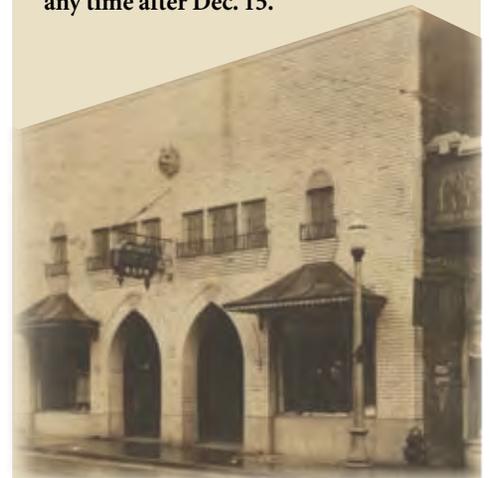
Tameka Lampkin, secretary of Husky United Military Veterans, writes a personal message on a Husky T-shirt that will be sent to troops in Iraq. Members of the group of UW students who served in the military got together in October to prepare care packages—including food items that are hard to find in the Middle East—for soldiers in Iraq. *Photographed Oct. 2, 2009, by Erin Lodi.*

## Turning the Page to 110

**B**orn in a cloakroom next to a university president's office and raised for the first year in abject poverty ... If it sounds like the makings of great literature, you're close: It is the early story of the University Book Store.

Despite its modest beginnings, the bookstore has grown to become one of the most successful independent bookstores in the nation. In September, University Book Store opened its eighth branch—Husky Central—in downtown Seattle.

On Jan. 10, it will celebrate its 110th birthday with a book-lover's birthday party bash at the main store at 4326 University Way N.E. in Seattle. The bookstore invites all customers and favorite authors to join the fun for food, drink and general merriment at the gathering, which starts at 6 p.m. **RSVP to [ubs\\_events@earthlink.net](mailto:ubs_events@earthlink.net) any time after Dec. 15.**



## Six Honored for Work in Diversity, Social Justice

Six individuals who have promoted diversity and social justice at the University of Washington and in the community were honored Oct. 24 at the Multicultural Alumni Partnership's Bridging the Gap Breakfast.

Receiving Distinguished Alumni and Community Awards were:

(1) **Marty Bluewater, '71**, executive director of the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation; (2) **Bettie Sing Luke, '64**, who co-chaired "Day of Remembrance" activities that led to an art installation commemorating Japanese-Americans who served their country in World

War II; and (3) **Diane A. Martin, '74, '80**, associate director of career services at the UW. (4) **Dorry Elias-Garcia**, executive director of the Minority Executive Directors Coalition of King County, received the Distinguished Community Award; *Seattle Times* columnist (5) **Jerry Large** received the Dr. Samuel E. Kelly Award; and UW Associate Professor (6) **Michelle Habell-Pallan** received the 2009 Vice Provost for Diversity Community Building Award.



### Environmental Efforts Draw

## GREEN REWARDS

The UW's reputation for being green goes way beyond the vast number of trees on campus.

**The UW ranked second in the nation** in the Sierra Club's third annual comprehensive guide to the most eco-enlightened U.S. universities, which came out in late August. With 98 points, the UW trailed only the University of Colorado at Boulder.

**The UW was one of five** universities to host an Arbor Day Foundation tree-planting event this fall. The Arbor Day's Tree Campus USA campaign shows how tree plantings can benefit college campuses.

**P. Dee Boersma**, professor and Wadsworth Endowed Chair in Conservation Science, received a \$100,000 award from the Heinz Family Foundation for environmental achievement. She is founder and executive director of *Conservation* magazine.

**Charles "Si" Simenstad, '69**, research professor in the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, received a national award for habitat conservation from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He is considered a pioneer in coastal marine ecology.



**Top:** Dr. Jill Seaman crosses a river in southern Sudan. **Bottom:** Heather McHugh stands in front of the UW's shoe tree.

PHOTO BY MALCOLM LINTON



PHOTO COURTESY THE JOHN D. & CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

# GENIUSES AMONG US

**Two Huskies** have been awarded 2009 "genius grants" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: Poet and English Professor Heather McHugh and alumna Dr. Jill Seaman, '79.

McHugh, the author of eight volumes of poetry, numerous works of translation and a book of essays on poetics, has been a significant voice in American literary

life for nearly four decades. Her book of poetry, *Eyeshot*, was a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize, and *Hinge & Sign: Poems*

*1968-1993* won the Boston Book Review's Bingham Poetry Prize and the Pollack-Harvard Review Prize.

McHugh has served as the Milliman Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at the UW since 1984.

Seaman, a physician, was recognized

for her work delivering treatments for infectious diseases in southern Sudan, one of the most remote, impoverished and war-torn regions of the world. Currently, Seaman splits her time between Sudan and Bethel, Alaska, where she provides medical services to Yup'ik Eskimo communities.

The MacArthur Fellows Program

awards unrestricted \$500,000 fellowships to artists, scientists, writers, entrepreneurs, social scientists and others of extraordinary

promise and originality based on their "exceptional creativity, promise for important future advances based on a track record of significant accomplishment, and potential for the fellowship to facilitate subsequent creative work."

**The University of Washington now has 13 MacArthur Fellows**



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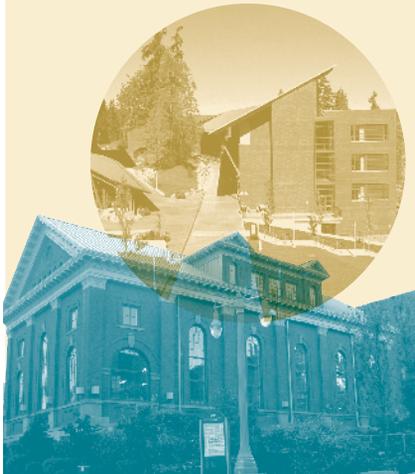
# Enrollment Way Up at UW Bothell, Tacoma Campuses

The University of Washington's campuses at Bothell and Tacoma experienced record enrollments this fall—and if you count all three UW campuses, the total student population is up approximately 3 percent over last year.

At UW Bothell, the number of full-time equivalent students increased by 25 percent, from 1,936 in the fall of 2008 to 2,431. The increase in head count—the total of all students in all categories—was more than 23 percent, from 2,290 to 2,826.

At UW Tacoma, there was a 6.8 percent increase in full-time equivalent students, with 2,718 enrolled. The fall 2009 head count of 3,122 students was 5 percent higher than last year.

The UW's Seattle campus, with a total student head count of 42,933, is up 820 students from fall 2008, an increase of 1.9 percent. Overall, the student head count at all three UW campuses rose about 3.2 percent, from 47,376 in 2008 to 48,881.



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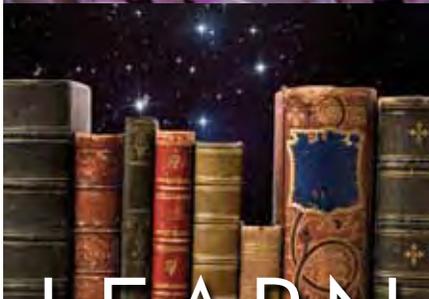


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WHAT'S NEW AT THE U.

### SOUNDBITE



“I played the game with very little emotion. When people see me today, they think I was so cool and calm. They just never knew what was going on inside of me.”

— **WARREN MOON**, former Husky football star, from his book, *Never Give Up on Your Dream: My Journey*, which was released in July.

### Noteworthy

#### CAMPUS NEWS

**Northwest Hospital & Medical Center** is becoming part of UW Medicine. The deal gives UW Medicine a presence in North Seattle and expands UW Medicine’s clinical capacity to include cardiology, oncology and maternal and child care. The other hospitals in UW Medicine are UW Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center.

**The UW Alumni Association** has attained the status of University Laureate. UW Laureates are individuals and organizations whose financial support totals \$1 million or more. The UWAA was honored for raising \$1 million for student scholarships.

#### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



UW DEPT. OF COMMUNICATION

**Joanne Harrell, '76, '79**, chief of staff for the Original Equipment Manufacturing division at Microsoft, has been appointed to the University of Wash-

ington Board of Regents. She was recently inducted into the UW Department of Communication Hall of Fame.

**David Hughes, '60**, president of the Hungarian American Chamber of Commerce in Seattle, has been awarded the Officer’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary. The award honors his work in developing U.S.-Hungarian economic and commercial relations, and his promotion of the Hungarian political and economic democratization process.



PHOTO BY MATT HAGEN



## Healing Through the Arts

This untitled painting (above) is one of the artworks on display at Harborview Medical Center through Jan. 1 as part of the Circle of Friends for Mental Health exhibit. Circle of Friends, which is headed by Carolyn Hale, '78, is a nonprofit organization that enriches the lives of the mentally ill by introducing art, drama, music, creative writing and other experiences that bring fulfillment and help them develop more independent lives. This painting was done by a Circle of Friends client. *Photo of painting by Anil Kapahi.*



PHOTO COURTESY MIKE BROWN

**Under new coach** Steve Sarkisian, the Husky football team started the 2009 season strong, ending a 15-game losing streak with a victory over Idaho then catching national attention by upsetting then-No. 3 USC. The Huskies were 3-7 at press time.

**Washington's men's basketball team** began the year ranked No. 13 in the ESPN/USA Today poll. Fresh off their first outright league title since 1953, the Huskies will rely on senior Quincy Pondexter, sophomore Isaiah Thomas, freshman Abdul Gaddy and reigning Pac-10 Coach of the Year Lorenzo Romar.

**Kendra Schaaf** finished second at the Pac-10 Championships on Oct. 30 to lead the No. 1-ranked and defending national champion women's cross country team to its second straight league title and 10th consecutive win overall. The 13th-ranked men's team placed fourth.

**The UW women's volleyball team** is setting its sights on the program's eighth straight trip to the NCAA tournament. The team has reached the NCAA quarterfinals five times in six seasons. They started the 2009 season ranked No. 4 and were 20-3 at press time.

# ALUMNI VOTE

**This year, the UW** will receive more money from tuition paid by students and their families than from state tax dollars. Washington currently ranks 46th in the nation in state support for higher education. Are you concerned?

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By Sarah DeWeerd

## A WELCOME DISAPPEARING ACT

Researchers use the *Mission: Impossible* approach  
to computer security: *self-destructing data*

### “THE INTERNET NEVER FORGETS.”

That’s Tadayoshi Kohno, an assistant professor of computer science and engineering at the University of Washington, explaining the inspiration behind a new program called Vanish, which causes data posted online to self-destruct. In recent years, popular Web-based applications such as Hotmail, Facebook and Google Docs have opened up new ways to work, communicate and socialize. But these “cloud computing” services—in which data and applications are stored remotely rather than on a user’s personal computer—also can erode individual users’ control of their own words and data.

“Copies of your data are stored at all of these services or intermediaries that you may not know about, and that you don’t control,” explains Roxana Geambasu, ’07, a Ph.D. student at UW who is working on Vanish as part of her dissertation. Moreover, as computer disk space becomes ever cheaper and more plentiful, these services have little reason to delete your data—in fact, it’s easier for them to keep it, more or less forever (in some cases, even if you ask them to erase it). A sensitive e-mail or an ill-advised joke in a Facebook post could come back to haunt you years from now. Geambasu says, “In the current era of cloud computing, we can hardly ever control the lifetime of our data.”

“Forgetting is actually a very important property of the human evolution,” says Kohno, a computer security specialist with an almost military look—close-cropped hair, chiseled cheekbones—who is also interested in the interaction between technology and human values. “The ability to forget allows healing, allows a number of other things. So forgetting is actually very important to society.”

Vanish grew out of Geambasu’s project for a class Kohno teaches on computer security. The research team includes Hank Levy, ’81, a systems specialist who is chair of the Computer Science and Engineering Department, and Amit Levy, ’09 (no relation to Hank), a master’s-degree student who joined the project as an undergraduate.

Though hardly decentralized, the group’s collaborative and non-hierarchical working style has a lot in common with a computing cloud. Kohno says, “It’s kind of hard to attribute who came up with which specific idea.”

The ideas they came up with add up to this: The Vanish program encrypts a message, breaks the encryption key into many tiny pieces, and then sprinkles these pieces throughout a large peer-to-peer network that consists of more than a million computers all over the world. As individual computers leave the network and those that remain purge their memories, pieces of the key are gradually lost. Once a certain number of pieces are lost, the key can never be reassembled and the message can’t be decrypted. A Vanish message can be read for at least eight hours after it is sent, but becomes permanently indecipherable by the nine-hour mark.

Crucially, the person who encrypts and sends the message never holds the key, and so can never be hacked nor forced to give it up. “A major advantage of Vanish is that users don’t need to trust us, or any service that we provide, to protect or delete the data,” Geambasu adds. The recipient of the 2009 Google Ph.D. Fellowship in Cloud Computing, Geambasu is animated in manner and kempt in appearance, with a tidy ponytail, glasses and even, round features.

Vanish isn’t the first attempt at self-destructing data, but the use of the peer-to-peer network to hide the pieces of the key is a particularly elegant approach: The same vast, decentralized nature of the cloud that poses a problem also provides the solution. “I think the really novel part was this idea of using a natural system that already exists to self-destruct data,” Hank Levy says.

“The analogy that we had in mind was of writing a message on the sand at the beach at low tide,” Kohno explains. “As the waves come, a natural process just starts to wash away the message, and the message disappears without any explicit action by any individual.” The constant evolution of peer-to-peer networks emerged

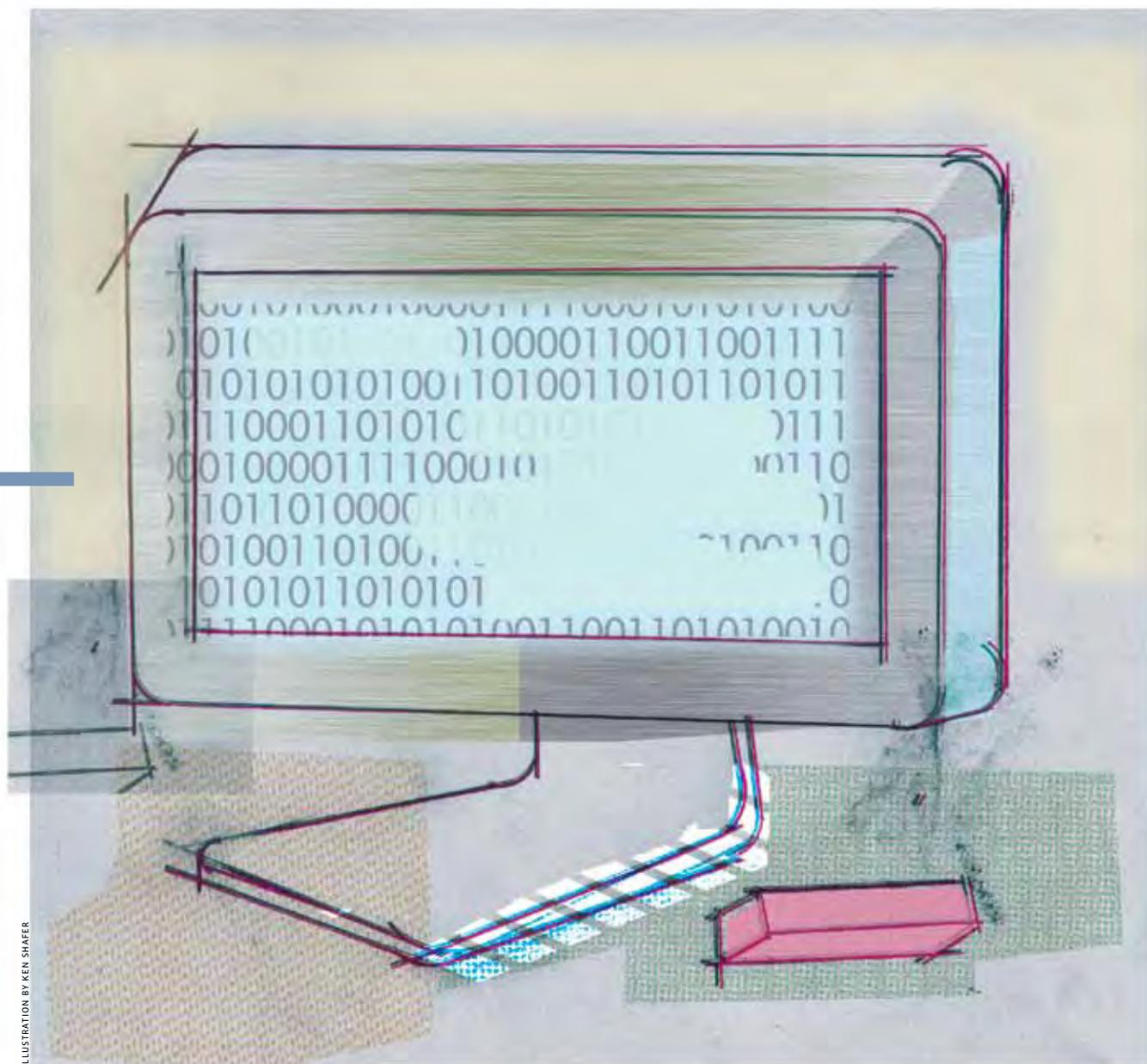


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SHAFER

as the digital analogue to waves on the shore. Or, more precisely—since a message isn't erased but merely becomes unreadable—it's as if the Rosetta Stone needed to read the message gets eroded by the Internet sands of time.

Vanish does have limitations. Some are technical—users can't choose exactly how long the decryption key will remain available, both the sender and the recipient of a message must have Vanish installed, and Vanish must be in use when data is posted in order for it to self-destruct later. Some are legal—some companies and government agencies have rules about electronic record-keeping that may make it inadvisable to use Vanish in certain situations. Still others are philosophical—it's not always clear up-front that a message is going to be sensitive, so how do you decide when to use Vanish?

Vanish is a free, open-source program that can be downloaded from <http://vanish.cs.washington.edu/download.html>. But Geambasu cautions that it's a research prototype, not a fully supported

piece of software. "We encourage people to experiment with it, but not rely on it for perfect security."

In fact, other researchers are working on how to hack Vanish. In September a group from the University of Texas at Austin, Princeton University and the University of Michigan announced that they had created a system called Unvanish, which searches the peer-to-peer network for anything that looks like a piece of a Vanish key (key pieces have a distinctive size). Unvanish saves these key pieces, enabling a user to reconstruct a Vanish decryption key long after it has disappeared from the network.

"I think this is very exciting!" Geambasu says of this "attack" on Vanish. "It's a little bit stressful for me, because I have to come up with defenses now, but this is exactly what we wanted to do"—that is, raise awareness of "immortal" data as a problem, and stimulate research into how to solve it. Mission accepted, and accomplished.

## A SEE CHANGE IN CONTACT LENSES

**Babak Parviz's vision** of the future can be summed up in one word: plastic.

A circle of flexible plastic imprinted with tiny electronic circuits, that is. Parviz, an associate professor of electrical engineering at UW, is the head of a multidisciplinary group developing bionic contact lenses—although the idea isn't to give wearers superhuman vision, but instead to create superhuman streams of information.

Eventually, the team hopes to build contacts that can create virtual displays, visible only to the wearer, with words, images and data projected into the air. Such technology could have a variety of applications, from providing information to drivers behind the wheel to, of course, making video games more fun. The team also thinks it will be possible to create lenses that collect information, such as with glucose sensors to let diabetics



keep tabs on their blood sugar continuously and noninvasively.

"We already see a future in which the humble contact lens becomes a real platform, like the iPhone is today, with lots of developers contributing their ideas and inventions," Parviz wrote in the journal *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Spectrum* in September. Is Parviz looking at the world through rose-colored contacts? Maybe, but his group has already built prototype lenses kitted out with a tiny electronic circuit, a power antenna and a single LED light. It would take hundreds of LEDs to create the kind of virtual display described above, although lenses with just one or a few LEDs could also have useful applications—for example, Parviz suggests, by converting a sound into a visual signal to aid the hearing-impaired. —S.D.

ILLUSTRATION BY LYDIA HESS

## RECORD GRANT CONNECTS OCEANS TO INTERNET

**The University of Washington** is slated to receive its largest-ever federal award—\$126 million over 5½ years—to connect the ocean to the Internet, an endeavor that will open a window on a deep-sea world we hardly know and promises to revolutionize the way ocean scientists work. It also represents the culmination of a nearly 20-year odyssey for John Delaney, UW professor of oceanography and project head, who, with colleagues, conceived the idea of the wired ocean.

The work, initially known as NEPTUNE and now the Regional Scale Nodes, is part of a larger National Science Foundation program called the Ocean Observatories Initiative, which will create a network of semi-permanent research outposts throughout the global ocean. Building a cabled observatory connected to the Internet will essentially enable ocean scientists to be in the right place all the time. They'll have virtual access to their deep-sea study site anytime, from anywhere in the world.

By 2013, the UW team hopes to have the main fiber-optic and

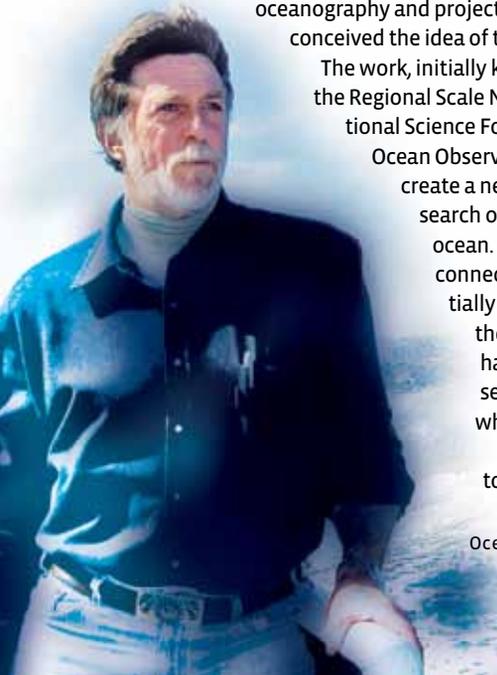
power cables laid and connected to seven hubs—essentially, power outlets and Internet connections—off the coast of Washington and Oregon. Working with colleagues, they will design more than 100 sensors to monitor earthquakes, microbial activity, carbon flux and a host of other ocean processes.

"Not only are we putting things at the bottom of the ocean, we're putting them next to underwater volcanoes, and areas that are prone to earthquakes and ground-shifts and things like that," says the project's chief engineer, Gary Harkins, '68, of the UW Applied Physics Laboratory. "It's almost like sending something into space."

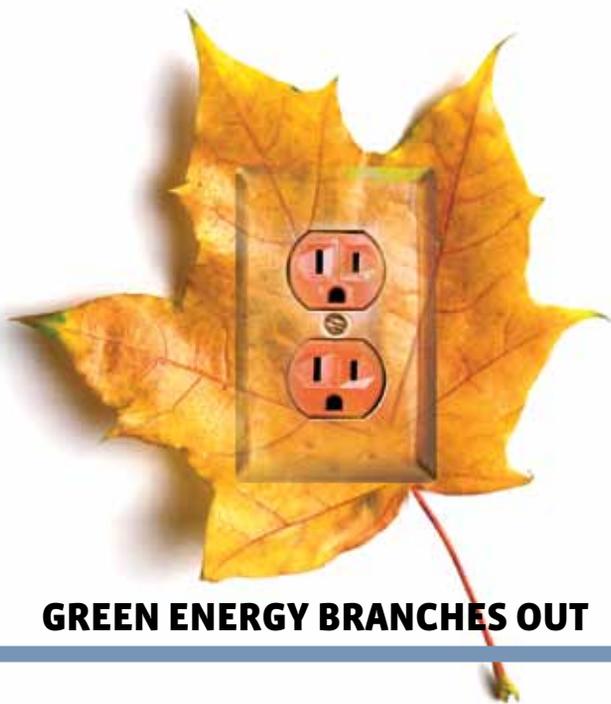
Once online, the underwater research facility will stream live, high-definition video and many other types of data from the deep ocean and even permit real-time, two-way communication with instruments on the system. Researchers will be able to shift a camera angle to get a better view of an erupting volcano, sample the water column more frequently during a phytoplankton bloom, or make other changes in response to unfolding events.

Moreover, most of the data collected will be accessible to scientists in other fields, school children, ocean buffs—pretty much anyone with an Internet connection. "Then what you're doing," Delaney says, "is inviting a gigantic audience to the scientific party." —S.D.

PHOTO BY MARY LEVIN



Oceanography Professor John Delaney.



## GREEN ENERGY BRANCHES OUT

**Trees have energy**—it sounds like woo-woo mysticism, but it's now scientific fact. Researchers at MIT discovered electrical currents in trees last year, and now a UW team has built an electronic circuit that runs on tree power.

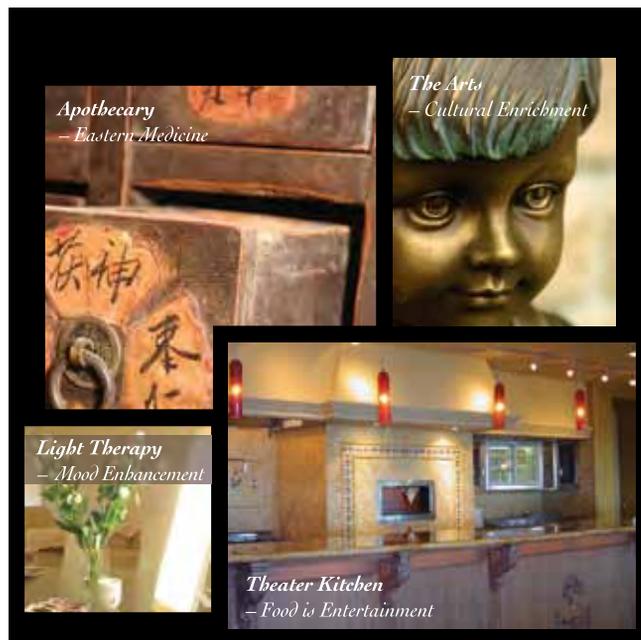
Trees generate up to a few hundred millivolts of electricity—not much and far less than a AA battery can produce. So team member Brian Otis, assistant professor of electrical engineering, led the design of a boost converter chip, which stores up tiny amounts of energy and increases the voltage level. Otis and his team also designed a clock that runs on one nanowatt, about a thousandth the power used by a typical wristwatch.

To test the circuit, the researchers tapped a bigleaf maple on campus, just off the Burke-Gilman Trail and next to the pedestrian bridge leading to the Intramural Activities Building. But you probably won't be plugging your MP3 player into the nearest trunk anytime soon. Even with the boost converter, the power that can be harvested from a tree is very limited. Tree power could be sufficient, however, to run sensors to detect forest fires or monitor other environmental conditions in forests.

The electrical currents might also help researchers understand and monitor the health of the trees themselves. "I'm interested in applying our results as a way of investigating what the tree is doing," says team member Babak Parviz (that's the same Babak Parviz who's developing bionic contacts—he has a wide-ranging interest in the interface between biological and electronic systems). "When you go to the doctor, the first thing that they measure is your pulse. We don't really have something similar for trees."

Meanwhile, a different take on tree power comes from a team at the UW School of Forest Resources. They were recently asked by the Washington state Legislature to analyze how woody biomass—what's left over after logging and thinning forests and manufacturing wood products—could contribute to the state's sustainable energy goals.

Potentially 11 million dry tons of woody biomass are available annually in the state, the team estimated. They concluded that converting this wood waste to biofuel for transportation (rather than burning it to generate electricity) would do the most to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the state's dependence on imported oil. —S.D.

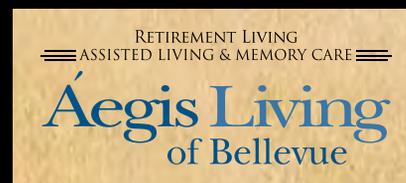


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FORTY YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH,  
A HERO'S VOICE RINGS OUT AGAIN  
THROUGH HIS LETTERS FROM VIETNAM

# THE CARETAKER

BY CATHERINE O'DONNELL

In a cardboard box lay two dozen toy soldiers and two toy military trucks. There was also a Medal of Honor citation for Army 2nd Lt. Robert Ronald Leisy, '68, and 25 letters, some still smudged with the red dust of Vietnam.

Bob Leisy (pronounced Lacey) is one of eight University of Washington alumni who have received the Medal of Honor, in his case posthumously. He died in Vietnam during a firefight after using his body to shield his fellow soldiers—his friends—from a grenade. It was Dec. 2, 1969, and the 24-year-old political science graduate who had enlisted in the Army had been in Vietnam less than three months.

The box of letters that arrived at the UW's Army ROTC earlier this year came as part of an agreement for the UW to inherit material housed in the Leisy Army Reserve Center at Fort Lawton as it closes over the next five years. The center, named in Leisy's honor, is also the site of a particular tradition: Each Memorial Day, a Leisy friend from Queen Anne High School parks a can of beer and an affectionate note to the friend lost in war.

Perhaps that tradition of messages began with Leisy himself, (at left in photo). Between his late-September arrival in Vietnam and his death, Leisy wrote countless letters. Most of those in the box are to Leisy's homemaker mother, Josephine, and his father, Arthur, but some are to friends from Queen Anne. From his station near Quan Loi, just north of Saigon, Leisy covered inexpensive notepaper with blue ink, telling the story of his new home in the jungle, far removed from the Pacific North-

At LZ Ellen, radio telephone operator Dan Houmes teases Bob Leisy (left). Photo courtesy Dan Houmes

CARING | IT'S THE WASHINGTON WAY

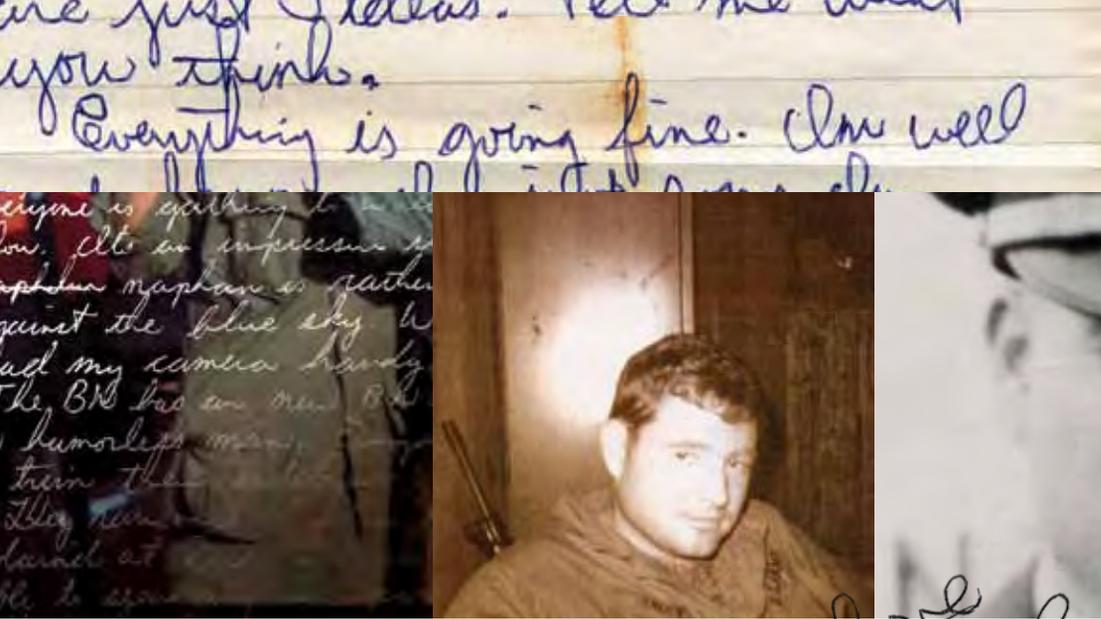
25 NOV 69

Mom & Dad,

Thanks for the cookies. Gobbled  
right up. I don't think I  
need to snag canned goodies  
while I have laid in good  
ones. Also now have enough  
money to last me for

generals are coming to visit  
later this afternoon, so  
I am busily engaged in cleaning  
up the dump. The L 2 is a bit  
better than last time I was  
but it still bears a resemblance  
to slanty town. Considering the  
time I, there isn't anything  
can be done about it.

That's a damn good sound



Love  
Bob

west where he grew up. Talk of the weather and insects riddles his stories, from the first letters to his parents ...

**6 Oct. 69:** *It's rather warm today. Humidity is terrific. Ma, you would really enjoy the insect life. It's rich and varied. There's a large roach over here several inches long, just the thing for you.*

... to his last missive from the field, sent to friend John Wedeberg, '73:

**1 Dec. 69:** *... The wonderful fauna and wild life really round out your tour: leeches, tiger leeches (one inch and up), pythons, bamboo vipers, other snakes, poisonous centipedes, scorpions. The biggest I've seen was a good nine inches from stinger to claw tip. And of course mosquitoes. I love the out of doors. If I survive, I will never go anywhere without a roof over my head.*

Always, there's the red mud and red dust painting his letters.

**6 Oct. 69:** *There is red mud everywhere. I just got some on this letter.*

**11 Oct. 69:** *The biggest hardship so far is trying to keep reasonably clean. Mud, dust, dirt everywhere, plus the fact that you sweat all day long.*

**22 Oct. 69:** *Dear M & D: Just a short note. Rather dirty right now. We are building a landing pad here in the woods so a chopper can come in and take us out. Will be going back to LZ Ellen—a base NW of Quan Loi. I'm not surprised it is not on the map. It was just a tiny village until we moved in.*

Leisy may have been a soldier—one who very courageously sacrificed his life—but the boy in him shines through. In addition to the ribbing he gives his mom, his letters are filled with references to the cavalry mustache and sideburns he was growing and to food and beer, barbecue and his beloved football.

The 1969 season was not going well for the Huskies, and news of their losses was slowly filtering across the world to Leisy, thanks to letters from friends, subscriptions to the *Sunday Seattle Post Intelligencer* and news from *The Stars and Stripes*.

**21 Oct. 69:** *... Thanks for the clippings. UW is really hurting! Wish I could see them, but maybe it's not worth it.*

**25 Oct. 69:** *I just can't believe the UW scores. Poor dogs.*

His letters are also filled with references to his childhood stuffed animal, "Bugs," and in many he asks about the rabbit, saying it's good he didn't come along. Still, one can't help but wonder how serious his joking is as his tour continues.

**4 Nov. 69:** *Ask Bugs if he would like to come visit me. He could come in*

*a box. What a trip for the Rabbit. I'm sure he would regret it the minute he landed!! Most people do!*

The letters become more serious throughout his tour.

**22 Oct. 69:** *The biggest problem in this DIV is malaria. Far more people are put out of action by this than the enemy.*

Mosquitoes weren't Leisy's only problem. Two days after that letter, while members of Leisy's unit, Bravo Company, were unloading a helicopter, a downblast from the propellers kicked loose a nest of hornets, which stung Leisy several times.

By evening he was vomiting and incoherent. "He scared the daylights out of us," said Dan Houmes, Leisy's radio telephone operator at Landing Zone Ellen.

Apparently, Leisy never told his parents what happened. Instead, in a Nov. 2 letter, he says he has a bit of the flu, including a sore throat and a swollen tongue. He also describes a visit with some Vietnamese nearby: "The other day some of us went up to a village north of here. We passed out goodies to the kids, but the big attraction was a Polaroid Land camera. The people, especially the little kids, loved to have their picture taken."

If the flu was a lie of omission meant to protect Leisy's parents, it was not the last he would tell them. He also had them believing life in Vietnam was more like a boring holiday than a war, and that he was relatively out of danger.

In a Nov. 8 letter, for example, Leisy wrote, "It is so quiet over here it's hard to believe a war is supposed to be on."

It couldn't have been entirely quiet. Houmes recalls a day in mid-October when Bravo Company combed a Michelin rubber plantation for North Vietnamese soldiers. The patrol was relatively uneventful until the moment the enemy opened fire, pinning Bravo men who were in front.

Houmes took cover behind a rubber tree, but Leisy charged forward about 80 feet before issuing a polite invitation back to Houmes: "Would you care to join me up here?"

Instead of waiting for a response, Leisy pounded forward again, directing a counterattack, calling in air support, "getting us through without casualties," Houmes recalls.

Again, nothing about the attack exists in Leisy's letters to his parents. Certainly, some letters could be missing, or it could be

more evidence of Leisy's pattern of protecting his parents. He had also led his parents to believe he had a "beer-in-the-rear" assignment away from the fighting, though in actuality Leisy led a rifle platoon that tracked North Vietnamese soldiers.

Bill Hunt, the executive officer of Bravo Company, recalls that one day Leisy questioned him closely about executive officer duties. Then, in a subsequent letter to his parents, Leisy informed them he was the executive officer of Bravo Company, responsible for such matters as paperwork.

"He wasn't telling the truth," Hunt says, "but maybe he was doing it for the right reason. What a shock it must have been for his parents to find out what he was really doing."

Leisy did let his parents see a few things:

*21 Nov. 69: This letter is getting very dirty because choppers keep flying over and spraying me with dirt and dust. ... The B-52s have been blowing the fool out of the area around here. They strike at night, and the whole earth trembles and shakes. Flying over the country is like looking down on the face of the moon. Bomb craters are everywhere.*

While Leisy ends the letter casually, with talk of a barbecue, a note written on the same day, to friend Verne White, offers a sharp contrast.

*21 Nov. 69: ... The war is going full steam ahead here. Lull! HA. I feel about 10 years older—think I've aged that much. Have discovered real, honest, naked fear. But I gain an appreciation for the small things in life that I never thought of before.*

It is the difference between his last two letters, dated a day before his death, that exposes the chasm between the front Leisy was putting up and the front he was writing from.

*1 Dec. 69: Dear Dad: ... I work mainly at LZ Ellen now. My work mainly involves just B Co.*

*... I want to tell you I don't think I will stay in the Army. There are a great many things I like about the particular job I now have. But I think the promotions after the war is over will be extremely slow... Everything is going fine. I'm well and happy. I'm just sorry I'm going to miss Christmas. We will all have to make up for it next year.*

The letter Leisy sent to friend Wedeberg that same day tells another story.

*1 Dec. 69: Dear John, It's really 30 Nov. but it will be 1 or 2 Dec. before I see any chopper to put this letter on. Airmobile? My ass! Foot CAV. We hump everywhere, carrying everything on our back. About 90 lbs of gear supported by only 2 feet. The Co. is supplied by chopper once every 3 days, a hot meal (sometimes) more C's & water. It's a great life.*

*My nerves are calming down now. We had some nasty contact and some rather hairy experiences on our last mission. Thought I'd bought the farm for sure. ...*

*May I suggest that you stop over at my folks' place and have a look at*

*some of the pictures I've sent home? ... I just request that you tell my folks I have a soft rear job—FAKE IT.*

Those letters, stark in their contrast, would be the last Leisy would send his friends and family.

On Dec. 2, during a Bravo Company reconnaissance mission, North Vietnamese guns trapped one of Leisy's patrols—eight to 12 men. Though by all estimates the platoon was considerably outnumbered by North Vietnamese soldiers—by as much as 10 to 1 according to a follow-up report—Leisy took the roughly 30 remaining men in his platoon to rescue the others.

Working their way through the jungle, Leisy spotted a sniper launching a rocket-propelled grenade at the men. With no time to escape or even yell a warning, Leisy jumped on Bernie Baillargeon, who held the platoon's radio telephone. Baillargeon sustained a leg wound; Leisy's wounds were more serious.

Gene Clark, the then-21-year-old medic, reached Leisy fast. Rolling him onto his back, Clark knew he was in trouble. Leisy's hand was nearly blown off and the grenade had torn a hole in his leg, near his groin. And he was losing blood fast.

Two weeks earlier Clark had joked with Leisy, saying that with so little time left on his assignment in Vietnam, he wasn't taking chances. "When we hit the s—, I'll be too short. I'm not gonna be making house calls."

Lying on the ground, it was Leisy's turn to tease Clark: "I thought you said you weren't gonna make house calls."

"Yeah, well, things change."

"I'm not gonna make it, am I, Doc?"

"You got a hole in your leg," the medic confirmed, "but you'll make it."

Then, Leisy refused medical attention and told Clark to care for others, knowing full well, Houmes says, he wouldn't survive. Yet as he lay dying he continued giving orders, through Baillargeon, his radio operator, and encouraging his men.

"He not only saved Bernie's life, but mine as well and every other member of Company B," Houmes recalls. The sniper, says Houmes, wasn't just aiming at the men; he was trying to knock out the radio. With the first and third platoons separated by a couple of kilometers and without communication, the men would have been cut off from the rest of the company, with no artillery or air support. They would have been massacred.

Leisy's parents may have never known what their son was really doing in the Vietnam war, but his act of selflessness and bravery printed a message in the hearts of the family, friends and fellow soldiers he left behind. ■

—Catherine O'Donnell is a writer for the UW Office of News and Information.

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**On Veterans Day, the University of Washington** dedicated a campus memorial to the eight UW alumni Medal of Honor recipients. The medal is America's highest award for military valor, and the UW has more Medal recipients than any other public university except the service academies. ★ Also, until Dec. 18, "Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Courage," which includes letters, photographs and other material from Leisy and the other seven alumni Medal of Honor recipients, will be exhibited in Odegaard Undergraduate Library.



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ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP | IT'S THE WASHINGTON WAY

# CLEAN CLIMB

by Derek Belt



**MOUNTAIN CLIMBER  
BRENT BISHOP  
WAS SO HORRIFIED  
TO SEE MOUNT EVEREST  
COVERED WITH GARBAGE,  
HE DECIDED  
TO CLEAN IT UP**

At the top of the world, where the jagged peaks and snow-covered slopes of Mount Everest hug even the highest of clouds, garbage besets the brilliance. Empty oxygen bottles. Shredded nylon tents. Solid waste from decades of climbing expeditions once spoiled the long haul up, rendering the world's tallest mountain a giant junkyard in the sky.

Brent Bishop, '93, grew up in a climbing family and knew Mount Everest was dirty. At 27 years old, he was determined to do something about it.

"It was a real symbol," Bishop says. "If we can't keep the highest mountain in the world clean, what hope is there for other areas?"

Bishop's M.B.A. program at the University of Washington tackled cutting-edge environmental management issues and inspired him to create the Buy Back Program, which pays Sherpas—local climbers employed by mountaineering expeditions as guides—a few extra dollars to bring used oxygen bottles and other trash down the mountain to Base Camp.

Whereas earlier attempts to clean Everest's highest camps had cost a fortune, the Buy Back Program was practical and put the onus on individual expeditions to participate. Using this technique for the first time in 1994, Bishop's five-man crew removed more than 5,000 pounds of rubbish.

"Other teams started adopting this practice as well, and the collective consciousness on the mountain began to change," says Bishop, now 43. "It really showed you can be a very focused and dedicated climber—and be an environmentalist at the same time."

One of America's most accomplished climbers and half of the country's first father-and-son team to both summit Mount Everest (his father summited in 1963), Bishop has contributed to cleanup efforts

throughout the Himalayas. But his pioneering work on Mount Everest has garnered international acclaim.

Each member of the '94 team, including the late Scott Fischer, who died tragically on the mountain in 1996, was presented with the David R. Brower Award for environmental achievement by the American Alpine Club. In 2003, Bishop was awarded the Lowell Thomas Medal by The Explorers Club in recognition of his ongoing environmental work.

Today, the Buy Back Program keeps Everest clean. It has been instrumental in removing 25,000 pounds of trash and nearly 1,500 used oxygen bottles from the mountain's highest camps, including the last camp before the summit—the magnificent South Col at 25,938 feet. It also imbedded in the international climbing community a sense of environmental stewardship.

“If you can make economic incentive and environmental concern work together, then it’s a win-win situation,” says Bishop, who lives in Seattle with his two children—both climbers—and who serves as a business development consultant and motivational speaker.

“I went back to Everest in 2002,” Bishop adds, “and there were no old oxygen bottles left to be brought down. The mountain looks amazing.” ■

—Derek Belt is a regular contributor to Columns

**Brent Bishop led the charge to clean up Mount Everest. Insert: More than 25,000 pounds of trash and nearly 1,500 used oxygen bottles were brought down from the mountain's highest camps. Photos courtesy Brent Bishop.**



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# The Changing Face of Pharmacy

Using entrepreneurial ideas and new technology,  
the UW School of Pharmacy is taking an old-fashioned  
health-care system into the future

By Julie Garner

HEALTHY LIVES | IT'S THE WASHINGTON WAY

*Step into Kusler's Pharmacy* in Snohomish (pop. 9,145), and you'll see photos of the champion 2009 Snohomish High School girls' basketball team for sale. Don Kusler, '51, age 80, who opened the pharmacy in 1967 and still works there as a part-time pharmacist, likes to point out that his daughter Janet played on the first Snohomish girls team in 1975 and set a record for rebounding that still stands today. While her dad boasts about her athletic exploits, Janet, who owns the pharmacy today, is out making "house calls," immunizing teachers in the local public schools.

Kusler's is a kind of crucible where the best of old-fashioned pharmacy care, based on relationships and patient needs, meets the newest trends in innovative pharmacy practice.

The practice of pharmacy is changing these days, thanks in large part to the innovations developed by the University of Washington School of Pharmacy, a national leader in health-care research and in meeting the needs of the community.

Pharmacy also seems to lead the nation in being overlooked as a component in health care.

"People think all pharmacists do is take pills from a big bottle and pour them into a smaller bottle and slap on a label," says Don Downing, '75, UW clinical professor of pharmacy. As late as 2004, Downing points out, pharmacists in the state of Washington were not even considered health-care providers. What people don't realize is how much pharmacists do—and could do—to improve public health in the newly reformed health-care landscape.

Most people also don't realize what a huge impact the UW School of Pharmacy has made. Several years ago, for example, Downing and Jackie Gardner, '80, UW professor of pharmacy practice, studied the low levels of immunization across the state of Washington. "Most counties weren't anywhere near their goals for percentage of people immunized," Downing recalls, "especially geriatric patients."

So Gardner and Downing enrolled a group of pharmacists in immunization training offered by the Centers for Disease Control. As a result, Washington became the first state in the nation to grant pharmacists the ability to administer flu shots and other vaccines. Today, pharmacists in all 50 states routinely administer vaccines.

In 2006, the School of Pharmacy created the Institute for Innovative Pharmacy Practice. Under Gardner's leadership, the institute is tackling daunting realities: an aging population that is taking more prescription drugs; a shortage of skilled pharmacists; and lack of affordable access to basic health care.

"Chronic diseases make up about 75 percent of health-care spending nationally," says Jeff Rochon, '99, CEO of the Washington State Pharmacy Association and a member of the UW Alumni Association Board of Trustees. "Pharmacists see these patients on a monthly basis. The access and appropriate medications necessary to keep people healthy is where the future of pharmacy is mostly impacted."

To deal with these challenges, the Institute for Innovative Pharmacy Practice is focusing on educating well-rounded pharmacists who promote entrepreneurial solutions for better health—and better business.

Pharmacists are more involved in health care than most people realize, precisely because they have the most extensive knowledge and training about medications. They operate clinics that address special medication issues, such as how to safely use anticoagulation drugs, and offer advice on how



PHOTO BY KERRY DAHLEN

This “robot” holds and dispenses medication, freeing pharmacists to help patients.

to manage chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure and diabetes.

Peggy Odegard, '85, '90, is a UW associate professor of pharmacy practice who directs the school's Geriatrics Program. She also oversees UW Pharmacy Cares, an innovative medication-therapy management service that is designed to help ameliorate the effects of a fragmented health-care system. Medication therapy management deals with an increasingly common situation: patients who see multiple specialists who prescribe multiple medications filled at multiple pharmacies—with no one clinician seeing the big picture.

Odegard says it isn't uncommon for a patient to take 10, 15 or even 20 prescription drugs. This can create what's called a “prescribing cascade.” It occurs when one drug causes a side effect, and another drug is prescribed to relieve those side effects. Faculty pharmacists in the UW's medication-therapy management program review patients' medication regimens, teach individuals how to use their medicines safely and effectively, and collaborate with the patients' other health-care providers to prevent harmful drug interactions.

“Efforts to focus on quality care through medication-therapy management is huge,” Rochon explains. But it isn't just the patients who are benefitting; Rochon points out how King County saved nearly \$1 million last year by implementing a program where pharmacists

could get involved earlier in patients' care to protect them from harmful drug interactions. That prevented drug-related complications and costly hospitalizations.

Jeff Rochon says medication-therapy management improves patients' health and saves money.



PHOTO BY KERRY DAHLEN

And everyone knows what a huge issue money is. The American College of Clinical Pharmacy estimates that more than \$177 billion is spent every year in the U.S. on medication-related health problems that could have been prevented. Medication-therapy management programs have become so valuable that Medicare and some insurance carriers now reimburse pharmacists to evaluate the medication regimens of patients who meet their criteria.

Ryan Oftebro, '95, '03, president and principal owner of the five Seattle-area Kelley-Ross pharmacies, said pharmacists from Kelley-Ross deliver their medication-therapy management via house calls through an arrangement with Seattle's Aging and Disability Services.

“When a nurse goes into a patient's home and sees that they are having trouble managing their medications, he or she will contact us,” Oftebro says. The pharmacist will then step in and educate the patients, and give them pre-filled pill boxes called Medisets, which are delivered to the home every two to four weeks.

“We have become the manager or coordinator on behalf of the patient in looking for optimal use of medications, cost savings and preventing drug interactions,” Oftebro explains. “A lot of people are on unnecessary medications or taking a brand name when a generic would do the job. We coordinate with providers to adjust the medications.”

In Snohomish, Kusler's Pharmacy also provides medication-therapy management. Dorothy and Joe Clayton, retired Snohomish teachers in their 80s, say pharmacists at Kusler's have done everything from question Joe's Coumadin dose to confer with Dorothy about medication for osteoporosis. “[Janet Kusler has] saved us money by giving us counseling on generic drugs versus brands,” Dorothy says. “She also impressed on us the importance of taking medications at the right time.”

Independently owned pharmacies such as Kelley-Ross and Kusler's have had to carve out niches for themselves—implementing medication-therapy management programs and immunization “house calls”—in order to remain profitable. These pharmacies both have what are called “compounding pharmacies,” in which prescription

products are custom-prepared from individual ingredients that are not available commercially. For example, if a patient is allergic to a nonactive ingredient in a medication, a compounding pharmacist can make the prescription to order without the offending component. Compounding pharmacies also prepare medications for animals that a veterinarian prescribes but which aren't otherwise available.

Kelley-Ross also has a travel clinic, the result of a collaborative practice agreement with some Seattle-area physicians. Kusler's offers wound treatments for hospice patients. Both pharmacies provide tailor-made bioequivalent hormone-replacement medications based on the needs of individual patients.

Ironically, despite the critical role pharmacists play in our lives, the word "pharmacist" didn't seem to be on anyone's lips as the national health-care debate unfolded this fall. Yet they are important as ever. Ninety-two percent of Americans live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy. Rural areas such as Central Washington are facing the possibility of losing local pharmacies because their business practices are threatened by diminished financial reimbursement. It has even happened in some areas of Washington, but UW-trained pharmacists have come to the rescue with innovative programs (see sidebar).

"The state of Washington has had a tradition of leading the profession forward," says Rochon. "For years, pharmacists in our state have provided increased access in emergency contraception, tobacco cessation, anticoagulation clinics, diabetes-care clinics, hyperlipidemia clinics, all of which show the impact pharmacists can have on patient care.

"The UW School of Pharmacy has been recognized as one of the leaders in the country," he goes on, "not only for the faculty but for the leaders that push the profession when they're in school and when they come into practice." ■

—Julie Garner is a Seattle-area freelance writer.



## Turning to Technology

Telepharmacies, robots are two ways technological innovations are making pharmacy services better

*Two* University of Washington alums—Steve Singer, '81, and Ryan Oftebro, '95, '03—are carrying on the School of Pharmacy's tradition of pioneering innovations that improve access to pharmacy services and provide better care for patients in the state of Washington.

Singer, chief operating officer of Bellegrave Pharmacy in Bellevue (owned by Mark Holzemer, '73), has developed a telepharmacy program that allows patients in two Central Washington communities to get prescriptions filled in their communities without having to drive 60 miles round-trip to pick up medications. He undertook this effort after pharmacies in those rural towns went out of business, leaving thousands of people without local pharmacy services.

Bellegrave started telepharmacies at the Mattawa Clinic and Wenatchee Valley Medical's Royal City Clinic in 2008. Here's how it works: The Bellegrave pharmacist talks with technicians and patients at the clinics through the Internet. The techs then fax prescriptions and insurance information to the pharmacist in Bellevue, who provides approval and instructions for filling the prescriptions. The technicians select from 128 prepackaged medications that are most used in community clinic settings. If a medication isn't immediately available, Bellegrave will send it to the patient, usually within 24 hours.

These two pharmacies follow a pilot program started at the clinic on the Stillaguamish Indian Reservation, near Arlington. Singer and his colleagues spent six months working out the telepharmacy concept with the state Board of Pharmacy to receive certification.

The program has been a big hit: "As a Royal City community member

for 45 years," says Sharon Chesterman, "I cannot begin to tell you what an asset Bellegrave Pharmacy is to our community. ... Your presence in our community makes a difference. Keep up the good work."

Ryan Oftebro, '95, '03, owner of five Kelley-Ross pharmacies in Seattle, has been using robots and special packaging to free nurses and pharmacists from spending time filling Medisets (pill boxes divided by day of the week, morning, noon, evening and bedtime) so they can concentrate on patient care and education.

Kelley-Ross purchased a robot in order to develop a solution with Bailey-Boushay House in Seattle to help staff and clients manage medications. (Bailey-Boushay House, which is operated by Virginia Mason, provides end-of-life care for people with HIV/AIDS and similar conditions.)

Patients can take up to 60 or more medications daily, so filling Medisets used to take many hours of nursing time. The robot holds 200 different medications and prepares cellophane strips of packaged medications. These "medistrisps" are labeled by patient, drug and time of administration.

These machine-assembled strips have been estimated to save as much as \$80,000 in nursing hours previously spent packaging pills. Kelley-Ross also uses robots to fill, label and cap bottles of medication. Barcode technology is used to minimize the chance of error.

"Embracing innovative technology," Oftebro says, "has allowed us to respond to our patients' increasing needs, while improving safety and efficiency." —J.G.

# W making a *difference*

STORIES AND HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UW FOUNDATION

## UW Student *is* Good News *for the* Environment

RUSSELL MONTEIRO WAS JUST A MIDDLE SCHOOLER WHEN HE BEGAN FINE TUNING HIS ENVIRONMENTAL SAVVY. HE VIVIDLY RECALLS A SEVENTH GRADE PRESENTATION HE GAVE ABOUT THE RAINFOREST. "THIS WAS WHERE I REALLY STARTED PUTTING TOGETHER THE PIECES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUZZLE," SAYS RUSSELL, NOW A JUNIOR AT THE UW. "I WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROBLEMS GOING ON IN THE WORLD, SO I COULD FIGURE OUT HOW TO FIX THEM."

Armed with his go-green sensibility and a healthy dose of personal ambition, Russell arrived at the UW ready to tackle those questions with both his hands and his head. As the recipient of three scholarships — Gear-Up, Costco and Gates Millennium — this Yakima native turned his focus and energy into a passion: doing what's right to help improve the state of the planet.

A UW exploration seminar to Brazil, as well as a stint volunteering with the Urban Wilderness Project, set him firmly on the path to gaining greater environmental insight and problem-solving skills. In Brazil, he studied

the connections between food, fuels and water and left with a sparked interest in micro-algae producing fuels. And working with low-income youth through the Wilderness Project, he's encouraged a new generation to take care of the world. "I saw myself in these kids, and I'm so glad they have an opportunity like this," he said.

"You can live out your love for the environment here at the UW. Even as a political science major, I'm getting things done," said Russell. "Making a difference starts with just caring."

### ► MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

Do your part to help students like Russell meet their goals. Learn how at [uwfoundation.org/studentsfirst](http://uwfoundation.org/studentsfirst).

ABOVE: UW Junior Russell Monteiro explores the Washington Park Arboretum where he lead an environmental education outing for low-income youth as part of the Urban Wilderness Project.

## Leveraging Legacy and Pursuing Passion

JON ('65) AND JUDY ('74) RUNSTAD KNOW THE REAL VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS. FOR OVER TWO DECADES THESE UW ALUMNI AND LONG-TIME VOLUNTEERS HAVE WORKED TO GIVE UW STUDENTS AND FACULTY AN EDGE IN TEACHING, RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE.

The Runstads know that through the UW they can continue to pursue their personal and professional passions and strengthen UW programs at the same time. To support education in commercial real estate — a field in which both have worked for many years — and address the changing needs of our communities, the couple provided the lead gift to create the Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies in the College of Built Environments. And inspired by their family history — both Jon and his great-grandfather were UW Regents, and his great-grandfather was a UW Chemical Engineering professor — the Runstads' involvement at the UW also reflects their personal interests. For Judy, this means generous support for her alma mater, the School of Law, and as a former Husky Crew member, Jon's tireless dedication to the rowing program is second to none.

"We got a lot out of the UW and we feel indebted to give back," said Jon. "What we do privately through volunteering and fundraising is exceedingly important to carrying forward the success of this incredible place." Not surprising, the couple was recently honored with the 2009 Gates Volunteer Service Award, created by the UW Foundation to exemplify the highest standards of service to the UW.

But it's UW Crew Coach Bob Ernst who best sums up the Runstads' partnership with the UW and its people. "They're the definition of our community: understated, get the job done and do it first class." ■



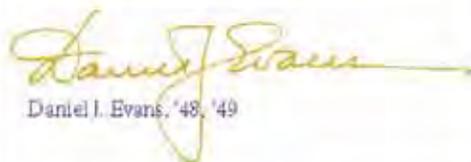
### Message from the Foundation Chair

The impact of people on the environment has altered our world both physically and culturally. As populations expand and the need for energy and resources increases, we must rethink how we live and how we work and develop smart solutions for the critical challenges of our time.

Our region has a well-deserved reputation of being fiercely committed to sustainable practices, with a breadth and depth of environmental know-how that is unparalleled. Here at the University of Washington, students and faculty across our three campuses are harnessing this passion for the environment to resolve some of the most pressing issues — topics ranging from sustainable fisheries to climate change to renewable energy.

You'll see this passion come to life in UW students like Russell Monteiro, who foresaw at a young age the importance of studying the environment. Or in volunteer leaders like alumni Jon and Judy Runstad, whose combined passion for real estate, business and sustainable practices has created a lasting legacy for students and faculty and the communities where we all live and work.

Just as preserving the planet spurs passions in our faculty and inspires our students to take action, so UW donors and volunteers harness their dedication to the UW by supporting students, faculty and programs. Because — in many instances — big-hearted supporters like Jon and Judy Runstad make the stories of students like Russell Monteiro a reality.

  
Daniel J. Evans, '48, '49

#### ► GO GREEN with the UW

Sustain our natural environment, reduce waste and minimize printing costs. Click *Going Green* at [uwfoundation.org](http://uwfoundation.org).



ABOVE: The strong University ties and alliances of this year's Gates Volunteer Service Award recipients, Jon and Judy Runstad, are depicted in an illustration by Hugo Shi.

## Out and About

### 1. HUSKY FAITHFUL

**Nikki Boyd**, '54, meets UW mascot **Dubs**, when the Huskies defeated Idaho.

### 2. SUPPORTING EDUCATION

UW supporters **Othniel** and **Carmelle Palomino** enjoy the annual Experimental Education Unit dinner and auction.

### 3. HUSKY PRE-GAME FUN

**Beate** and **Rolf Fromm**, '60, '61, attend the Football Warm-up in Palo Alto, CA.

### 4. BAY AREA SUMMER CELEBRATION

(L to R) **Ed Montoya**, **Vinesh Mehta**, '97, and **Jeremy Battis**, '92, take in Husky Night with the Giants.

### 5. ALUMNI GATHER IN NY

**Johnny Chen** and **Jesse Hulsing**, '07, attend Husky Night in New York City.

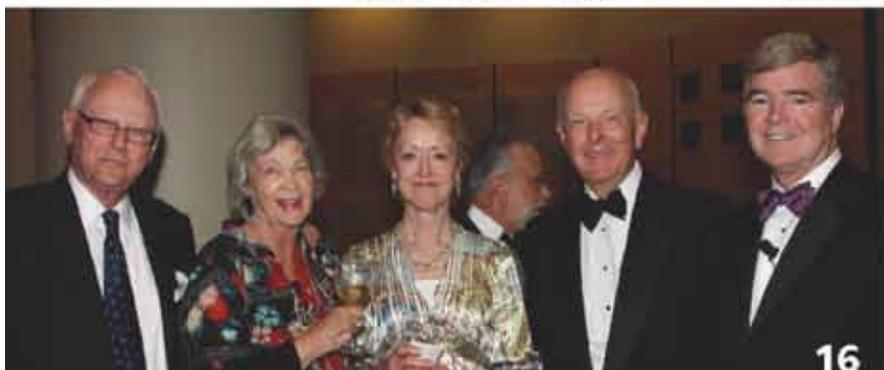
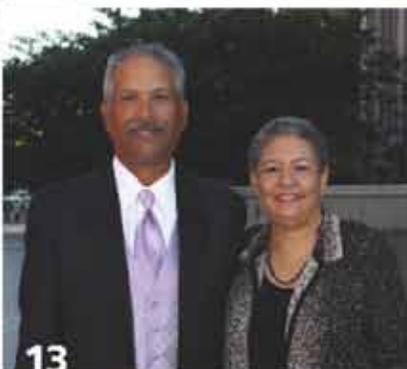
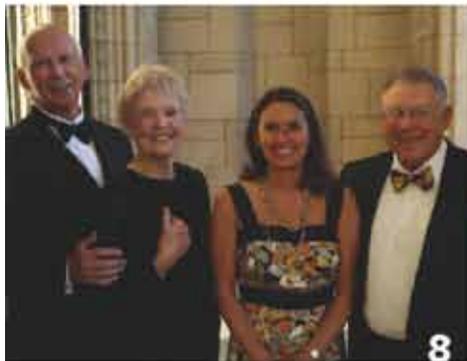
### 6. PHARMACY DEAN'S CLUB

**Elva Gao**, '07, and husband **Song Xue**, '05, gather with Pharmacy alumni for Mariner Night at Safeco Field.

### 7. DAWGS ON WALL STREET

(L to R) **Nick Warren**, '03, **Nathaniel Harrison**, '05, '07, and **Marilyn Kunstler**, '71, '74, '78, gather for a business lecture series in New York City.





## Gala 2009

Passionate UW advocates gathered for the Eighth Annual Recognition Gala on Sept. 11, 2009. This evening of camaraderie and celebration recognizes the University's most generous and dedicated supporters and volunteers and celebrates their role in helping to bolster excellence across our three campuses.

8. (L to R) Kirby, '62, and Ellery Cramer, and Kathy and Budd, '62, Gould

9. Winnie and Ark, '50, '52, Chin.

10. UW Foundation Board member Nate, '82, and Leslie, '83, Miles.

11. (L to R) UW Regent Stan, '61, '63, and Alta Barer with Marika Giers and Will Rasmussen, '02, '06.

12. Gus and Anna Kostakis.

13. Rodney, '05, and Connie, '78, Proctor.

14. Jon, '65, and Judy, '74, Runstad accept the 2009 Gates Volunteer Service Award.

15. Presidential Laureate representatives from Medic One Foundation. (L to R) Barbara Potter and Jean Gardner; Daniel J. Evans, '48, '49, UW Foundation Board Chair; and Jan Sprake.

16. UW President Emeritus Bill Gerberding and wife Ruth, Bob and Jan Kalina, and UW President Mark Emmert, '75.

### ► WHAT will your LEGACY BE?

Learn more about supporting the University in a way that is meaningful to you at [uwfoundation.org/plannedgiving](http://uwfoundation.org/plannedgiving).



PHOTO BY KAREN ORDERS

It's clearly an exciting time to work with UW alumni and friends. With so much happening this next year, I want to give you a glimpse inside the UW Alumni Association and reveal

what's on my mind heading into 2010. As you can see by the figures here, the UWAA supports the University's mission and brings value to our community by engaging alumni and raising money for student scholarships.

To say it was a challenging year would be an understatement. State cuts to higher education went deeper than many expected, and the UWAA budget was significantly impacted as a result. But it was also a rewarding year on many levels. Our organization and our University came together under tough circumstances and remain committed to UW students, alumni and friends.

This year, the UW Alumni Association was granted Laureate status by the University of Washington for having raised more than \$1 million for student scholarships during our 120-year history. This wouldn't have been possible without you. Your efforts and contributions have impacted the lives of many deserving students and their families.

The UWAA—a private, independent, nonprofit organization—works closely with the University to deliver an alumni experience that is both meaningful and memorable. The association is also committed to increasing awareness and understanding of the value of higher education in the state of Washington. Many of our programs and services are open to all alumni, but membership is a special opportunity to enjoy even more great benefits.

Currently, more than 55,000 members are making the UW stronger. I want to personally thank those in our community who are showing their support for the UW Alumni Association and choosing to make a difference through UWAA membership. Here's to another great year.

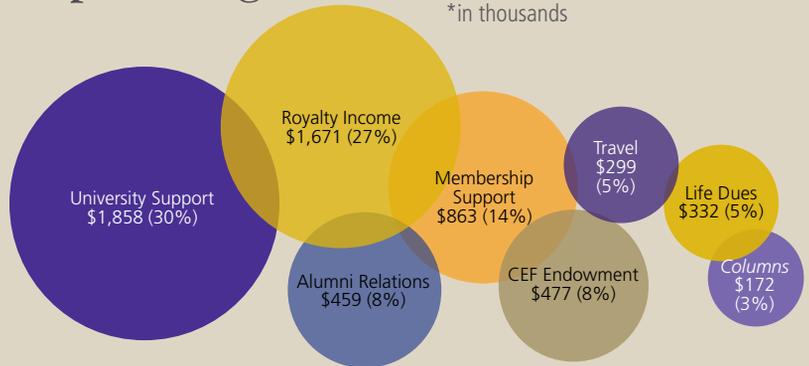
*Euparatiempo*

E.M. "Eddie" Pasatiempo, '77  
President, UW Alumni Association

# UWAA year in review

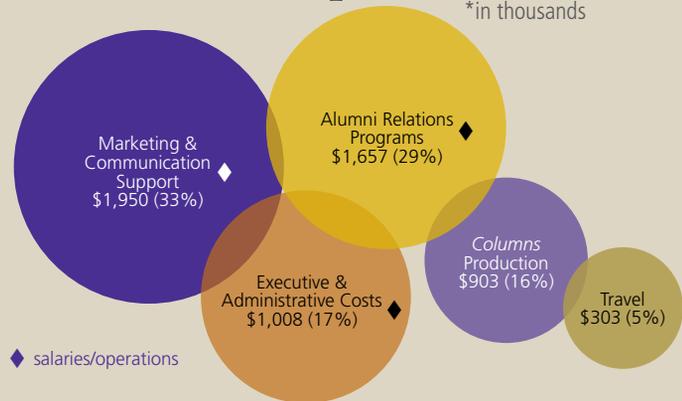
## operating revenues

\*in thousands



## functional expenses

\*in thousands



◆ salaries/operations

55,000  
ACTIVE UWAA MEMBERS

600 travelers  
50 DEPARTURES

MEMBERSHIP FEES  
SUPPORT A WIDE RANGE  
OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMS  
FOR ALUMNI.

GOVERNED BY A 25-MEMBER  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE PRIVATE,  
INDEPENDENT, NONPROFIT UWAA  
SUPPORTS THE MISSION OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS  
NUMBER 200-300 PER YEAR.

\$200,000  
MONEY RAISED FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

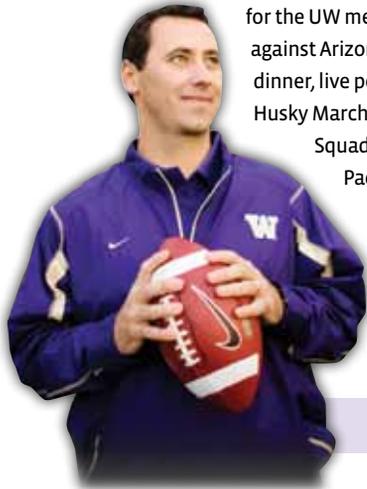
▶ 24,000  
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS REGISTERED  
FOR EVENTS LAST YEAR

Revenues and expenses provided by UWAA Finance and Administration.  
For more information, contact uwalumni@uw.edu.

# HERE COME THE HUSKIES

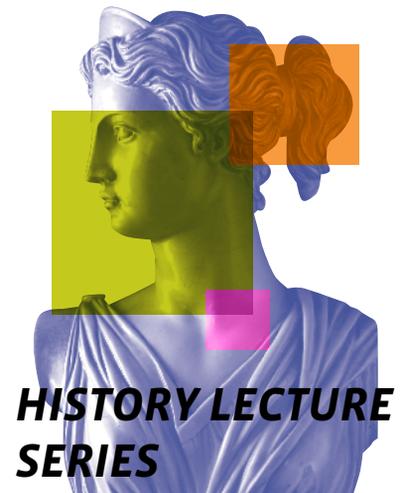
Celebrate your Husky pride with the UWAA this winter.

Husky Hoops Jump Starts bring you closer to the action than ever before. Get ready for the UW men's basketball game against Arizona on Feb. 4 with dinner, live performances by the Husky Marching Band and Cheer Squad, and a chalk talk by Pac-10 Coach of the Year Lorenzo Romar.



**Dawg Days in the Desert**, a beloved UW tradition in Southern California, returns to Indian Wells Golf Resort on March 15–16. Join us for the popular Desert Dawgs Golf Tournament and hear from Husky football coach Steve Sarkisian at the 21st annual Chow Down to Washington banquet.

For more information, visit [UWalum.com/cheer](http://UWalum.com/cheer).



## HISTORY LECTURE SERIES

### The Treasures of Greece: Myth Becomes History

**ANCIENT GREECE** influenced everything from modern philosophy to the American education system. Join the College of Arts & Sciences and UW Alumni Association for a fascinating look at the age of gods and goddesses and the society that changed the world. *Tickets are available at UWalum.com.*

#### Key to Greek History - Jan. 12

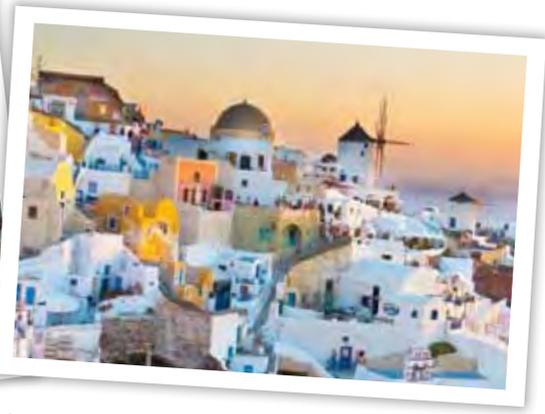
Did Homer's world really exist? Combining the descriptions in the *Odyssey* and the *Iliad* with surviving Greek artifacts has revealed the solid reality of that world—and revolutionized our understanding of Greek history.

#### Inspiring Other Cultures - Jan. 19

Greece may have been conquered by Macedonians, Romans, Crusaders and Ottoman Turks, but the art and philosophy of Classical Greece captivated the conquerors and influenced countless societies, including our own.

#### Forging Modern Greece - Jan. 26

As more and more people began traveling to Greece in the 18th century, they found no match between the country's glorious legacy and the lives of ordinary Greeks. Discover the individuals and states that were inspired to aid Greece in its struggle for independence.



### New tours added for 2010:

Bhutan  
Oct. 16–28

Jewels of the Mediterranean & Greek Isles  
Oct. 23–Nov. 3

Scandinavian Odyssey  
Aug. 5–21

## Take a trip with UW Alumni Tours

Renowned travel writer **Tim Cahill** says, "A journey is best measured in friends, rather than miles." We invite you to see the world with UW Alumni Tours and build new friendships that will last long after you've returned home. As a benefit of UWAA membership, our travel program puts you alongside fellow Huskies and UW professors. **To learn more, visit [UWalum.com/tours](http://UWalum.com/tours).**

# Calendar



Whether you're in Seattle or San Francisco, D.C. or Denver, the UWAA has something for everyone. From career services to on-campus events, we invite you to take advantage of all the UWAA offers alumni.

## Careers



Sign up to receive e-mail alerts on hot career events and resources.

- **Centerpoint Orientation for UW Alumni** - Dec. 9
- **Early Career Passion Search Mini-Retreat** - Dec. 18-20
- **Dependable Strengths for Alumni** - Jan. 22 & 25

Discover what's next at [UWalum.com/careers](http://UWalum.com/careers).

## Lectures

Get involved in one of our first-class discussions. Or download lectures to your iPod!

- **Panel: Human rights. Global cities. Catastrophe!** - Feb. 10
- **Jim Lynch: Libraries and fiction writing** - Feb. 19
- **Patricia C. McKissack: Where stories come from** - Feb. 25

See more at [UWalum.com/learn](http://UWalum.com/learn).

## On Campus

Come back and celebrate what it means to be a Husky.



- **Winemaker Dinner at UW Club** - Jan. 15
- **MLK Day of Service** - Jan. 18
- **Member Appreciation Games** - Feb. 4 & 27

Learn more at [UWalum.com](http://UWalum.com).

## Regional

Connect with fellow UW alumni and friends in your area.

- **Husky Happy Hour in Los Angeles** - Dec. 17
- **Dawgs on Wall Street** - Jan. 18
- **Husky Night with the Portland Trail Blazers** - Feb. 19

More info at [UWalum.com/meet](http://UWalum.com/meet).

## Travel

See the world with fellow Huskies and UW professors.

- **Treasures of Southern Africa** - March 2-16
- **Argentina & Chile** - March 17-27
- **Paris to Normandy** - May 31-June 8



Tour listings at [UWalum.com/tours](http://UWalum.com/tours).

### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY



#### OFFICERS

EDDIE PASATIEMPO, '77, President  
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 ERIC GODFREY, VP, Student Life  
 O.D. VINCENT, '91, ICA Representative  
 MARC GALVAGNO, '93, Partner Representative  
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 JODY NYQUIST, '60, '67  
 GREG OBATA, '79  
 JEFF ROCHON, '99  
 PATRICK CRUMB, '88  
 TISHA PAGALILAUAN, '95, '98  
 MELINDA PARTIN, '90  
 LAURIE SCHUCHART, '75  
 DUANE COVEY, '76  
 ROY DIAZ, '94, '02  
 TYRONE NOBLE, '75  
 SCOTT STUART, '92, '05

#### GEOGRAPHIC/CLUB COUNCIL TRUSTEES

TODD DANKERS, '86, Out-of-State  
 WILL RASMUSSEN, '02, '06, In-State

#### UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE TRUSTEES

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 JOHN HARRISON, '03, UW Tacoma  
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**Data compiled by the GE Lunar Prodigy DXA scan  
Dr. Life's photo is not enhanced in any way**

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## From Making It to Making a Difference

Ask **Geta Asfaw** about his greatest success and you might expect the tale of how he struggled alone as a young Ethiopian immigrant to become a millionaire entrepreneur, or of how he worked as a maître d' and waiter to fund his three degrees. Instead, Asfaw measures his success by the amount he is able to help those in his community.

Owner of eight McDonald's restaurants—with a ninth opening next year—and a philanthropist in the Denver area, Asfaw is a donor to and sponsor for dozens of organizations. The most impressive, however, may be "Arches of Hope," a yearly bike giveaway that has Asfaw providing bikes, helmets and Christmas goodies to underprivileged children.

Since Arches of Hope began in 2006 with 50 bicycles, it has grown to nearly 400 cycles. Fifth- and sixth-graders in Denver are eligible based on financial need, academic merit, community involvement, terminal illness, having parents in the military or good citizenship. For some, it is the only Christmas gift they receive.

"It's designed to encourage success in youth in the area," says Asfaw, who relied on a nurturing community to help him achieve his own goals.

After leaving his native Ethiopia in 1972, Asfaw lived in Seattle, where he attended the UW and developed a support network by contributing to organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and volunteering with the Red Cross. After graduating, he purchased a 7-Eleven store, which allowed him to increase his philanthropy.

### GETA ASFAW, '79, '82



PHOTO BY RICK GIASE

While Asfaw ultimately left Seattle for Denver in order to begin his career as a McDonald's franchise owner, he never forgot his roots.

"UW really helped me a great deal," he says, "not just academically but also giving and sharing."

In 2006, Asfaw and his wife, Janice, began housing their charitable work under one roof when they started the Asfaw Family Foundation International, a charity that, in addition to bicycles, gives away thousands of scholarship dollars each year to Colorado high school seniors—especially to African-American males—and gives grants to elementary schools in Ethiopia, provided most of the

students are girls.

The charity's focus on education stems from its importance in Asfaw's eyes.

"I value education in everything I do," he says. "We tell the scholarship recipients that education will open up any possibility to them."

Today Asfaw considers himself a wealthy man. Though he has the means to live in extravagance, he measures his riches not by his bank account but in the amount he is able to help those around him.

"When you help other people, people go out of their way to help you," he says, "and once you have the desire to succeed, no one can stop you but yourself."

—*Kelly Gilblom*

## 50S

**Julie Hungar, '53, '60**, is co-author of *The Wisdom Trail: In the Footsteps of Remarkable Women*, published by Penguin Press. • **Charles Z. Smith, '55**, of Olympia, former justice on the Washington State Supreme Court, was honored by the Washington State Historical Society for advancing public understanding of the cultural diversity of the peoples of Washington State. • **Guy W. Farmer, '57**, of Carson City, Nev., received an award from the Nevada Press Association for column writing. He has been a political columnist for the *Carson City Appeal* since 1996. • **Gerry Alexander, '58, '64**, will step down in 2010 from his post as chief justice of the Washington State Supreme Court. He will finish his term as an associate justice. • **Ralph Shape, '59**, was recently elected to serve a second term on the SeaTac City Council. He currently serves as mayor of SeaTac.

## ALUMINARIES

### ELEANOR VALENTIN, '75

#### Breaking the Military Glass Ceiling

Eleanor Valentin is not your typical Navy admiral. A master of the rigorous physical and mental discipline required for a military career, she spent her days as an undergrad donning a University of Washington cheerleading uniform while completing degrees in zoology and psychology before going on to earn two master's degrees in public health at the University of Hawaii.

Even after four degrees, Valentin craved a new challenge. She found it in the military. The Navy provided her with the opportunity to marry her passion for public health with her dedication to public service, so she joined her husband, Capt. Dennis Larsen, '74, in the service following her graduate studies and moved quickly up the ranks. She made lieutenant junior grade in 1982, then went on to serve in various department head and administrator positions such as at the Naval Hospital in San Diego, as executive officer for the Naval Hospital

## 60S

**Patricia Doyle, '65**, volunteers at Harborview Medical Center, where she created and manages an annual holiday gift project, which benefits 600 mental-health patients annually. • **Julie Weston, '69**, authored *The Good Times Are Gone*, published by the University of Oklahoma Press. It is a memoir set in Kellogg, Idaho, in the 1950s and '60s.

## 70S

**Bonnie Dunbar, '71, '75**, Washington's first female astronaut, is being profiled by The Legacy Project, a state oral history project. • **Dennis Yamashita, '76**, of Seattle, is chair of the board of directors of the Japan



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

Corpus Christi, and most recently as chief of staff for Navy Medicine National Capital Area.

For the cheerleader-turned-admiral, destroying stereotypes seems to be an M.O. While women only won the right to serve on ships 31 years ago and still aren't allowed to serve in ground combat roles, on submarines, or in most special operations forces such as the Navy SEALs, Valentin is putting women in the Navy full speed ahead. This year she was nominated to the rank of rear admiral, and in October she became the 16th director of the Medical Service Corps, making her the first female Medical Service Corps officer to obtain the rank of flag officer as well as the first female to serve as Navy Medical Service Corps director. —*Kelly Gilblom*

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Melanie Jaeger  
Product Manager, Radiation Oncology Systems  
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**W**  
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WASHINGTON  
BOTHELL

America Society of the state of Washington. • **Pam White, '72, '74**, has been named dean of the College of Human Sciences at Iowa State University. • **Rita Zawaideh, '75**, of Seattle, was honored for the seventh year in a row by *Conde Nast Traveler Magazine* as the top travel specialist for the countries of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Tunisia. She owns Seattle-based Caravan-Serai Tours. • **Debbie Martin, '76**, of Austin, Texas, is worldwide director of infection prevention for BD Diagnostics. She had been the co-founder and CEO of Infection Control & Prevention Analysts Inc., which was purchased by BD Diagnostics in July 2009. She holds a master's in nursing from the UW. • **Laura Das-sow Walls, '76, '78**, the John H. Bennett Jr. Chair of Southern Letters at the University of South Carolina, recently published a book, *Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America*. • **Erik D. Langer, '77**, professor of history at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, published his book, *Expecting Pears from an Elm Tree*. It is an in-depth examination of the Franciscan missions of republican-era Latin America.

## 80s

**Cindy Ryu, '80, '83**, mayor of Shoreline, has been re-elected to the Western At-Large position on the Association of Washington Cities. She is the first Korean-American mayor in the U.S. • **Karen Clippinger, '84**, a dance professor at California State University, Long Beach, received the school's Distinguished Faculty Scholarly and Creative Achievement Award. • **Jenny Durkan, '85**, a Seattle defense lawyer, was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as U.S. Attor-

ney for Western Washington. • **Jon Hauss, '85, '90**, a professor of English at California State University, Dominguez Hills, has been honored with the Lyle E. Gibson Distinguished Teaching Award.

## 90s

**Tanya Egan Gibson, '90**, recently published her first novel, *How to Buy a Love of Reading*. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and two young children. • **Greg Ulses, '90**, a commander in the U.S. Navy, has been selected for promotion to captain. He recently commenced graduate studies at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., after completing tours at the Pentagon and with the United States Seventh Fleet in Yokosuka, Japan. • **Sean K. Fay, '91**, founded Envision Response Inc. in 2003. • **Annie Young-Scrivner, '91**, is the new global chief marketing officer for Starbucks. She had been chief marketing officer and vice president of sales for Quaker Foods & Snacks. • **Robert C. Thomas, '93**, was selected as the U.S. Professor of the Year in the baccalaureate campus category by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He is a professor of geology at University of Montana Western in Dillon, Mont.

## 00s

**John W. Amaya, '01, '05**, is the associate director for immigration with the National Council of La Raza in Washington, D.C. He was a student regent when he was a UW student. ■

### A CHAMPION ON THE WATER

**H. Roger Morris**  
1915-2009

H. Roger Morris, '38, the last surviving member of the UW's legendary 1936 men's crew, died July 22 at his home in Maple Valley. He was 94.

Morris and his eight Husky crew teammates earned worldwide fame during the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games when they overtook the German and Italian teams to win the gold.

The UW had started poorly in the 2,000-meter Olympic race and found itself in last place at the halfway mark, but the crew rallied to overtake the German team and edge the Italian boat just 10 strokes from the finish



H. Roger Morris, far right, helped the 1936 crew win an Olympic gold medal.

line. German Chancellor Adolf Hitler, who was in attendance, was not happy.

Morris grew up in Fremont, earned a B.S. in engineering from the UW and enjoyed a successful career as a me-

chanical engineer. He leaves two daughters, Joan Mullen and Susan Hanshaw; a son, James Morris; and seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. —*Ina Zajac*

PHOTO COURTESY UW ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

**SOWING THE SEEDS OF SUPPORT**

**John F. Behnke**  
1926-2009



PHOTO BY MARY LEVIN

John F. Behnke, '50, who helped build Fisher Communications into a major Seattle media operation and was a passionate advocate for the University of Washington, died Oct. 9. He was 82.

Behnke, a Wenatchee native, spent 36 years at Fisher Broadcasting Inc. He started as an account executive and worked his way up to become president, CEO and chairman of the board.

A former president of the UW Alumni Association, he received the UWAA's Distinguished Service Award in 2005 for 30 years of service to the University, including chairing

the first UWAA Alumni Fund Drive in the 1960s.

He was also an ardent supporter of the Washington Park Arboretum Foundation. Contributions in Behnke's honor can be sent to the UW Botanic Gardens/Washington Park Arboretum c/o UW Foundation, Box 359504, Seattle, WA 98195-9504. —Jon Marmor



*In Memory*

MARY MARROW NUCKOLS, '31, Seattle, age 100. • MARIAN WARD, '32, Wilsonville, Ore., age 96, Aug. 28. • BETTY WYNN ONSTAD, '33, Seattle, age 88, Aug. 30. • SYDNEY KOSSEN, '38, Lakeport, Calif., age 93, Sept. 2. • CHARLES F. HADD SR., '39, Phoenix, age 92, June 8. • FREDERICK L. HOTES, '40, Oroville, Calif., age 90, June 8. • PATRICIA C. COPLEN, '41, Westport, Conn., age 89, Aug. 26. • WILLIAM ROTH, '41, '50, '56, Seattle, age 89, July 20. • ALAN LURIE, '42, Kirkland, age 88, Sept. 21. • HARRIETTE DEMERS ROWE, '42, '57, Olympia, age 98, Sept. 26. • JAMES L. ELLINGER, '43, Yakima, age 87, June 22. • HELEN SWANBERG RIDEAN, '44, Seattle, age 86, Sept. 5. • VIRGINIA LOUISE SWERK, '45, Edmonds, age 86, July 24. • JOSEPHINE ANN OASS STOREY, '46, Seattle, age 87, Aug. 27. • JORGENE HOPPER GIOVANELLI, '48, Mercer Island, age 83, Aug. 6. • THOMAS S. KELLY, '48, Seattle, age 87, Sept. 12. • PETER M. MCLELLAN, '48, Mill Creek, age 81, July 18. • GENE KARN WILSON, '48, Seattle, age 82, July 6. • GLENN O. YOUNG, '48, Bellevue, age 85, July 29. • WILLIAM G. HORROBIN, '49, Redmond, age 83, June 18. • MARIANNE MYERS, '49, Point Richmond, Calif., age 80, June 16. • ROY F. COPE, '50, '54, Seattle, age 84, Sept. 15. • FREDERICK JOSEPH GALENO, '50, Bellevue, age 83, Aug. 19. • ALLEN W. DAHL, '51, Bainbridge Island,

age 81, June 18. • PATRICK THOMAS MALLAHAN, '51, Bellevue, age 85, Aug. 29. • HONORA BOULEY MOORE, '51, Santa Fe, N.M., age 95, Aug. 26. • ROBERT D. MORROW, '51, Issaquah, age 84, Aug. 25. • GORDON EMANUEL PEDERSEN, '51, Seattle, age 92, Aug. 25. • RICHARD BYRD SWARTZ, '51, Bellevue, age 79, Sept. 10. • DONALD J. HESCH, '52, '56, Seattle, age 78, Sept. 17. • FRANCES GRAVES MCTAGGART, '52, Seattle, age 78, March 12. • RONALD GEORGE DOHRN, '53, '56, Renton, age 78, Aug. 26. • DONNA LOIS GAMBLE, '53, '59, '60, Seattle, age 79, Aug. 26. • LEROY GAMBLE, '53, Seattle, age 81, Aug. 25. • LAURON EDMUND LINDSTROM, '54, La Conner, age 77, June 19. • SHIGEO NAGASAWA, '55, age 85, Sept. 29. • CORNELIA ANN ROCHE, '55, Omak, age 77, June 20. • WILLIAM GEORGE STEVENSON, '55, '68, Shoreline, age 85, July 9. • JACQUE MAYO, '56, Edmonds, age 78, Aug. 26. • JIM HAWORTH EGGLESTON, '57, '63, Manchester, age 80, July 31. • NANCY LAING HERTZOG, '57, '69, Orting, age 78, Aug. 8. • ELEANOR E. STILL, '57, Seattle, age 101, Aug. 24. • MARY ELLEN HANLEY, '58, Seattle, age 80, Aug. 17. • JAMES Y. CHINN, '60, Mountain View, Calif., age 76, July 10. • ALLEN I. DRYSCH, '62, Beverly Hills, Calif., age 82, June 24. • EVA HAGEMEYER, '67, '70, Bellevue, age 79, Aug. 14. • DIANA

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MAYHEW ROGERS, '67, Kent, age 74, July 17. • GRETEL MOTULSKY, '68, Seattle, age 85, Sept. 17. • PHILLIP D. NOBLE, '68, '71, Bellevue, age 62, June 21. • MICHAEL STUART MOWRER, '69, Mercer Island, age 62, Aug. 24. • ROGER WALTER VEINUS, '69, '75, Seattle, age 61, Sept. 14. • ABE ZELIKOVSKY, '69, Bellevue, age 77, Sept. 8. • JEANIE HOLMQUIST IRVINE, '72, '77, Indianola, age 59, Sept. 6. • INGER M. HEIDEMAN, '74, Seattle, age 84, June 13. • DOUGLAS G. WISDORF, '76, Seattle, age 55, Sept. 17. • KENNETH E. PETTY, '79, Seattle, age 57, June 15. • REINHART D. COOK, '81, Vashon Island, age 58, Aug. 5. • PHILIP PERRY, '81, Victoria, Australia, age 81. • NANCY MELTZER, '84, Seattle, age 65, Sept. 30. • DONALD D. KUHN, '88, Seattle, age 49, Sept. 6. • MEAGHAN M. HICKS, '04, Gig Harbor, age 28, Jan. 30. • THEODORE ALAN MILLER, '07, Kent, age 28, May 16.

## FACULTY & FRIENDS

DOUGLAS STEVENS COOK, '68, '90, a UW professor of social work who was an advocate for people with developmental disabilities,

died Sept. 10. He was director of social work at the UW Center for Human Development and Disability. He was 63. • MICHAEL DAILEY, an art professor who taught at the UW from 1963-1998, died Sept. 9. A celebrated painter, he was known for transforming landscapes into works of abstraction. He mentored countless UW art students. He was 71. • ELOISE GIBLETT, '42, '47, '51, a professor of medicine whose research on blood made transfusions safer, died Sept. 16. She worked at the UW from 1955-1987. Her research helped make bone-marrow transplants successful and led to her discovery of the first recognized immunodeficiency disease. She was 88. • FRANK HANAWALT, '48, a major proponent of civil rights who served the Seattle Public School District for more than 30 years, died Aug. 18. While principal of Garfield High School in 1961, he welcomed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to speak, shrugging off death threats and hate mail. Throughout his career he actively promoted a number of human rights causes. He may be best known as the principal who expelled a student named Jimi Hendrix for

skipping classes in 1960. After retiring in 1981, he headed the Saul & Dayee G. Haas Foundation, which offers grants to schools across the state. He was 87. • RYAN JOB, a former UW student and Navy SEAL who was blinded by a sniper's bullet in Iraq, died Sept. 24. After being injured, Job went on to become a spokesman for an organization that helps wounded veterans transition to civilian life. He was 28. • ROBERT MERWIN LEYSE, '62, who taught thoracic surgery at the UW School of Medicine, died Sept. 2. He was 80. • PATRICIA WELLS LUNNEBORG, '59, professor of psychology, died Aug. 17. She had a lifelong interest in promoting opportunities for women, and helped develop the UW's women's studies program. She was 76. • ROBERT SEIDL, a timber industry leader who was an affiliate professor in the College of Forest Resources, died Sept. 19. A scholarship in his name was established at the UW for students studying the pulp, paper and forest resource industries. He was 94. • BETH MACHLAN SHARP, research scientist in the UW Department of Pharmacology, died June 22. She was 56. ■

## PUTTING PAIN IN ITS PLACE

### Wilbert E. Fordyce 1923-2009

Wilbert "Bill" E. Fordyce, '48, '51, '53, a University of Washington faculty member who did pioneering work on the psychology of chronic pain, died Oct. 15. He was 86.

A clinical psychologist by training, Fordyce joined the UW School of Medicine faculty in 1959 and worked with the late anesthesiologist John Bonica to create a multidisciplinary pain center at the UW. That center—one of the first of its kind in the nation—became a model for research on, and clinical care for, pain.

Fordyce developed approaches to dealing with chronic pain that were unheard-of at the time. He encouraged chronic-pain patients to become active again and to cut back on the amount of pain medication used. Today, pain clinics throughout the United States use Fordyce's methods.

He was a founding member of the International Association for the Study of Pain and the American Pain Society, which named an annual research award in his honor.

He is survived by his wife, Eleanor, and two sons, David and Richard.

—Jon Marmor



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TRADITIONS:

**SAYING "I DO" AT THE U**

For Jennifer Faubion, '03, '07, and Amit Ranade, '98, '03 (below), there was no better setting to begin their new life together than where they'd first met: the University of Washington. The July 11, 2009, wedding of the two former student regents was one of 200 weddings that occur at the UW's Seattle campus every year. The Sylvan Grove, featuring the four ionic columns patterned from the first UW campus downtown, remains one of the most popular places on campus to wed, but Grieg Garden, the Quad, the UW Club, Center for Urban Horticulture and Washington Park Arboretum draw their share of lovebirds.—*Erin Lodi*





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