Science is built of facts the way a house is built of bricks, but an accumulation of facts is no more science than a pile of bricks is a house.

—Henri Poincare
Letter from the Dean

Our cover story on the Hess Family and their connection with the College of Science and Mathematics is timely given that WSU recently launched the Friends and Family phase of the Capital Campaign, Tomorrow takes Flight. The purpose of this phase is to leverage commitment from our extended “WSU Family.” If you receive a copy of this newsletter, consider yourself part of the family! Students, faculty and staff often comment that our campus community has a level of intimacy seldom found on the mega campuses. This newsletter is designed to reconnect you with your WSU years. If you send us an email address, we will attempt to include you in some of our alumni activities such as lunches with faculty and the Dean, and social gatherings at WSU athletic events, etc.

2004 will be a landmark year in the life of the college due to major planning for the rehabilitation of several of the buildings that house our college. We have engaged the services of an excellent firm, BHDP, to help us with the complex problem of how to renovate the labs with minimal disruption to teaching and research. Three faculty members are involved in the steering committee, Drs. Mark Mamrack, David Grossie and Steven Berberich. We have acquired a new vocabulary, “adjacencies, net assignable square footage!” In March the firm will be back on campus to present scenarios for the project. As you visit us in the future, you won’t recognize us!

The college has launched a number of new initiatives that are outlined in this newsletter. We are planning on unveiling our mission/vision statements, and we are seeking individuals to serve on our College Advisory Board. If you visit the website and look at our archived annual report, you will probably notice that a lot has changed since you were in the College. But the best thing about “family” is that “there’s no place like home!”

Best wishes to you and your family for 2004

Michele Wheatly
Dean

Everything’s “Wright”...

in graduate school,” said Mike. “Living at home gives us an opportunity to save a little money.” Tom and Joanne pay their children’s tuition to attend Wright State because they believe Wright State offers quality education in just about any academic discipline. The brothers do have to pay personal expenses, however. “Everybody said I should go away to gain independence,” added Matt, “but that’s a false sense of independence if your parents are paying all your bills. A lot of my friends who went away to other schools ended up washing out and starting over again at Wright State.”

Younger brother Mark was a little nervous about breaking with family tradition to major in theater arts, but the family supported his interests and goals. He is in his first year at Wright State and loves his acting major and WSU. Mark describes the theater program as “one of the best in the country,” and he eventually wants to earn an advanced degree and teach acting.

Mike and Matt echo Mark’s praise of the university. In his first year in the biology program, Mike found a job in a faculty laboratory—a rarity for undergraduates in most state schools.

“Working in a laboratory is a great experience,” he said. Matt finds medical school challenging but says, “It’s a great school. The faculty make a big difference.”

Will younger siblings Maryann, Miles and Mikaela follow in their brothers’ and parents’ footsteps, continuing the Wright State family tradition? Only time will tell, but we think the odds are pretty good they will make the Wright choice. Indeed, though it’s a couple decades in the future, we already look forward to the third generation of Hess students!
New faculty

Dr. Yvonne Valdenbrener recently joined the faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences. Her area of expertise is aquatic ecology, and she will focus on the ecosystem-level effects of energy linkages among habitats in freshwater ecosystems.

The Department of Psychology added Dr. David LaHuis, an industrial/organizational psychologist, to the faculty. His research interests include studying how applicants perceive and respond to selection systems, multilevel analysis, and structural equation modeling.

Dr. Allen Hunt recently joined the Department of Physics. He received a PhD in theoretical condensed matter physics from the University of California at Riverside in 1983. Although his education has been primarily in physics, he is very interested in geological and environmental sciences as well. Dr. Hunt earned a M.A. in field geomorphology from Duke University and has since worked at postdoctoral positions in surface and subsurface hydrology, as well as in climate dynamics. He has published over 70 refereed articles on these subjects as well as on basic physics.

Professional Development Leaves

Professor John Flach, Psychology, is in Europe interacting with various universities and organizations on design and human factors. He will spend time at a product design company in Copenhagen and in Linkoping (Sweden) and interact with various universities and organizations on design and human factors. He will teach several courses in organizations on design and human factors. He will teach several courses in organizations on design and human factors. He will teach several courses in organizations on design and human factors. He will teach several courses in organizations on design and human factors. He will teach several courses in organizations on design and human factors.

Dr. Krishan Gorowara, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, passed away in June. He joined Wright State as an Associate Professor in 1966 and was one of the architects of the Wright State University Mathematics Department. He was promoted to Professor in 1971. From 1973 – 1977, Krishan served as department Chair and also as an Assistant Dean in the College of Science and Engineering (until 1976). He retired in 1993 and lived in Beavercreek with his wife, Santosh. The Gorowara family recently established an endowed scholarship in memory of Dr. Gorowara to support mathematics and statistics students at WSU.

Student Notes

Micah Frechet, a junior mathematics major at WSU, has been awarded a Goldwater Scholarship. The Scholarship Program honoring Senator Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields. The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship was authorized by the United States Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate.

James R. Bous, a biological science major, was awarded the Trustees Scholarship by the Wright State University Board of Trustees. This four-year scholarship recognizes his exceptional academic achievement and leadership qualities; the award covers tuition, fees, room and board and provides a book allowance. Trustees Scholarship recipients are required to participate in the University Honors Program all four years that the award is in effect and to graduate as University Honors Scholars.

Science Matters!

Dr. Daryle Busch, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kansas and past President of the American Chemical Society, visited Wright State University and spoke to faculty and students.

Internationally known chemist Dr. J. M. Frechet, Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, was the inaugural speaker for the Proctor and Gamble Lecture Series. Dr. Frechet spoke to the WSU community on how to design molecules for special purposes in science and medicine; he is the co-author of some 600 publications and 60 patents involving the fields of polymer and organic chemistry. Dr. Frechet has been elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, U.S. National Academy of Engineering and American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

“Addressing Complexity: Reassessing the Roles of Humans, Science and Technology.” John Flach, PhD, Professor of Psychology, helped organize this conference in which 150 leading scientists from around the world gathered to discuss the relationship of humans, science and technology. The conference was co-sponsored by the Cognitive Systems Engineering Consortium (CSEC) and Air Force Research Lab, Human Effectiveness Branch. CSEC is comprised of Wright State University, The Ohio State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, General Dynamics, and Kleen Associates. Dr. Flach said “the emerging era of cognitive systems engineering is the key to the workshops because it taps into the creative potential of humans to adapt creatively to the demands of an increasingly complex world. We want to focus on how people, science and technology must adapt to address the challenges and opportunities on the horizon and beyond.”

Wright State University and Forensic Bioinformatics, Inc. will be the host for the 3rd Annual Conference on Statistics and DNA Profiling in August 2004. This three day conference is a one-of-a-kind event that draws people from around the country. The conference titled, DNA from Crime Scene to Court Room: An Expert Forum, will feature expert speakers from law firms, public agencies, and universities.

Mathematics is not a book confined within a cover and bound between brazen clasps, whose contents it needs only patience to ransack; ... it is not a soil, whose fertility can be exhausted by the yield of successive harvests; ... it is limitless as that space which it finds too narrow for its aspirations; its possibilities are as infinite as the worlds which are forever crowding in and multiplying upon the astronomer’s gaze.

—James Joseph Sylvester
2004 Outstanding Alumni Recipient

We are honored to announce that U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Deborah Loewer (B.S. Theoretical Mathematics and Computer Science, 1976) is the 2004 College of Science and Mathematics Outstanding Alumni Award winner. She received the award at a ceremony on February 14, 2004 prior to a WSU men’s basketball game. Deborah is the native of Springfield, Ohio and was a softball player for the Raiders while at Wright State.

Rear Adm. Loewer also has a PhD in International Law from the University of Kiel in Kiel, Germany. She has the distinction of being the service’s first warfare-qualified woman to be promoted to admiral. She was the first person to inform President Bush that terrorism had struck New York City the morning of Sept 11 (as the then, director of the White House Situation Room, which is the White House’s crisis-management center). She also helped the President prepare for the national address the evening of September 11. Rear Adm. Loewer is currently Vice Commander of the U.S. Navy’s Military Sealift Command.

There is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere. —Isaac Asimov

Research Spotlight

NSF Grant to enhance science and engineering opportunities for minorities

The CoSM and College of Engineering and Computer Science are WSU representatives on the Ohio Science and Engineering Alliance. This alliance recently received $3.5 million from the NSF to advance minority graduation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. The resources of the participating 15 universities and four agencies will be pooled to boost minority student recruitment and retention.

NIH grant to combat terrorism

Dawn Wooley, PhD, an Associate Professor in Anatomy and Physiology, is involved in a $1 million federal grant to combat terrorist attacks involving biological weapons. WSU is a member of the Midwest Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research; the center is a group of eight universities, which received funding from the National Institutes of Health. “Our goal is to develop the diagnostic tools, therapeutics and vaccines that can be used to combat lethal agents or viruses and other infectious diseases identified by the Centers for Disease Control. We are particularly interested in agents that can spread through the air,” explained Wooley, who holds a doctorate in virology from Harvard Medical School.

Wright State University
College of Science and Mathematics

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Associate Deans—Dr. Terry McKee and Dr. Robert Weisman
Assistant Deans—Joyce Howes, Stacia Edwards, Michael Reynolds

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NIH initiative is named the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program in honor of the Congressman from Cleveland.

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Phone: 937-775-2611. FAX: 937-775-3068. Email: cosm@wright.edu. Send suggestions, questions and comments to Michael Reynolds at michael.reynolds@wright.edu

Website: www.wright.edu/cosm/
Annual Report
The annual report for CoSM is now available online. This report provides a comprehensive view of the college for 2002. Find the report online at http://www.wright.edu/cosm/facts/

Events
About 150 alumni, faculty and staff of the college attended our first and hopefully annual Mexican Fiesta night at the Raiders game against Youngstown St. on February 19.

Watch our webpage for additional details about upcoming events. We have social gatherings on the radar as well as a CoSM day for alumni, friends, faculty, staff and others.

http://www.wright.edu/cosm/

Outreach
The college built on the successful Exploring Behavior program in psychology and expanded it to include all of the basic sciences. More than 500 Dayton area high school students visited WSU the first week of December and participated in the college’s first Exploring Science Event. Students spent a morning exploring programs in biology, environmental sciences, chemistry, geology, mathematics, physics and psychology. Students were given the opportunity to study unique areas of science through hands-on experimentation. “Our goal was to excite students about the many career opportunities that exist within the sciences,” explained Stacia Edwards, Assistant Dean.

Shirts
Official CoSM shirts (100% cotton, 5 oz. weather twill) are now available for purchase in forest green or yellow. The shirts feature the WSU biplane logo; below it on two lines is the text, Wright State University College of Science and Mathematics. These long-sleeve shirts are unisex sized from XS to 4XL. Shirts are $30 plus $5.00 shipping. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

Be the first to email Mike Reynolds (michael.reynolds@wright.edu) and identify one or both of our shirt models in this picture and win a free shirt. And current faculty, staff and existing students are not eligible!

2.5 Million Dollars Donated
Did you know that over the last 25 years, WSU faculty, staff, and retirees have contributed $2.5 million to support university scholarships and programs? Their collective generosity has resulted in innovative program advancements and allowed the university to provide financial assistance to nearly 2,500 promising students.

Last year, the college set a goal to significantly increase participation in this campaign, and we are thrilled to report a 48% increase. Many students are benefiting from this generosity in the form of academic scholarships right now!

Where are they now?
Patrick Murphy, M.S. Industrial/Organizational Psychology (2000), received his PhD in HRM and Entrepreneurship in January and subsequently joined DePaul University as Assistant Professor of Management.

Dan Orr, B.S. ’73 and M.S. ’77 Biological Sciences, is the Interim President/CEO for the Divers Alert Network. He has been with the Divers Alert Network since 1991. He was the Director of Underwater Education at Wright State University from 1977-1988. He has received numerous awards over the years including the Award for Excellence in Education from the Wright State University College of Education in 1985 and the Award for Teaching Excellence from the Wright State University Alumni Association in 1982.

Keep in touch
Send us your news about where you are these days, a new job or promotion, relocation, births, etc. We’d like to start an AlumNotes section in this newsletter.

While you’re at it, send us your email—we’d like to create an email database so that in the future, we can launch a quarterly e-newsletter about happenings in the CoSM such as our renovation, events, etc. Each month, we’ll select at random a winner from those who contribute news; that person will win a European Rosewood College of Science and Mathematics ink pen. Find us at cosm@wright.edu!
NEWS FROM BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THE "WRIGHT" FAMILY

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

NEW FACES

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

A TALE OF $2.5 MILLION

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