

# COLUMNS



THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ALUMNI MAGAZINE MAR 19

FEMME FATALE  
HOOSEGOW  
GUMSHOE  
HARD-BOILED  
STOOL PIGEON  
PATSY  
CANARY  
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NOBODY  
KNOWS  
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THAN  
GREG OLSON

# W

## I GIVE TO FUEL INNOVATION

Jeff R. / Entrepreneur, surgeon, mentor

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## UNEASE

I am counting down until spring arrives because I am itching to make it over to the Quad. No, not to see the cherry trees, as much as I love them. My favorite part of campus is up the staircase at the east end of the Quad, where the Art and Music buildings are.

When I was a photography student here in the early 1990s, I spent most of my life in the Art Building, or sitting outside it when I needed to come up for air after hours in the darkroom. There was nothing better than sitting outside on a pretty day, enjoying the sounds of students making music coming out of the open windows in the Music Building next door.

To me, what goes on inside those two buildings is what higher education is all about: inspiration, artistry, creativity, problem solving, the opportunity to learn something new, falling on your face and trying again. Knowing I was walking down the same halls and working inside the same classrooms as legends like painter Alfredo Arreguin, ceramicist Patti Warashina and photographer Art Wolfe never failed to blow me away. But it was more than that. Simply being in that

building—where I soaked up knowledge from impressive professors and fabulous librarians and beyond-talented classmates—enriched my brain cells to no end. I usually walked out of that building feeling uplifted, challenged and inspired.

But now, those feelings have turned to concern. President Ana Mari Cauce said something during her October campus address that I can't get out of

my head: "The University of Washington that you know, that contributes so much to the state, can essentially disappear."

I fear that part of the University is in peril—the humanities, arts, social sciences, museums, libraries. Support often seems tied to outcomes, and if you can't measure it, then, well, the value just isn't there. That is an unsettling way to view the quality this University practices every day. The idea of our programs in drama and music and geography and jewelry design and English and history among many others being vulnerable to disappearing? Everyday Huskies like me—who have a mortgage and kids and two cats and a dog and a lawn I pretend to mow—can't allow this to happen. Our University deserves better.



JON MARMOR, '94, EDITOR

## REQUIRED READING

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### A New School's Promise

by **Tamara Winfrey-Harris**

By focusing on social identity, an innovative Indianapolis charter school could revolutionize education.

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### Heritage Preservers

by **Erin Lodi**

Communities learn how to preserve their history thanks to UW Libraries and the Ethnic Heritage Council.

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### The Man of Noir

by **Sheila Farr**

Greg Olson has kept cinephiles glued to their seats for 50 years as the director of SAM's Film Noir Series.

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### Terminal Case

by **Hannelore Sudermann**

Washington's death penalty is no more. UW research showed that it had been meted out in a racist fashion.

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### Sounding the Alarm

by **Julie Davidow**

Shrinking state support doesn't just mean the threat of higher tuition. The University could be harmed to the core.

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**ON THE COVER** To honor film noir fan Greg Olson, the Columns team created a moody world for him to inhabit. On the cover, you can find him peeking out from the shadows.

## 50 years of play time

Since the late 1960s, students who wanted to clear their heads and have some fun headed down to the IMA Building, the brainchild of former UW Recreation Director John Pariseau, '60, '62. UW Recreation is nationally known for providing students, faculty and staff a wide range of offerings: fitness and sports classes, recreation clubs, intramural sports, swimming, a climbing center, courts and fields, a golf range, UW Wild Adventures, and the waterfront. You name it, you can do it with UW Recreation. Since the 1960s, the IMA Building has changed a lot and is now just one part of the larger UW Recreation department. "The building may be turning 50 but the goal is still the same," says current UW Recreation Director Matt Newman, "to give students a reason to do movement." The IMA Building has added programs over the years to keep up with the changing student demographic such as expanded yoga and meditation and indoor cycling. And, yes, log rolling.

50 I M A

COLUMNS THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ALUMNI MAGAZINE

March 2019

## HATS OFF TO MYLES GASKIN

He closed out his stylin' Husky career by rushing for 5,323 yards during his four years. He leaves as the UW's all-time rushing leader as well as the first player in Pac-12 history and only the 10th in FBS annals to gain 1,000 yards in four seasons.



## Myles to Go

★✉★ Phenomenal talent, humility and class (*Myles Gaskin, Going Out in Style, December*). We'll be seeing this young man on Sundays.

Mike Vandiver  
Facebook

★✉★ Amazing portraits! I got this in the mail and literally gasped.

Amy Wong  
Twitter

★✉★ This man is a true Husky.

Wil Griffith  
Facebook

★✉★ I take it that a football player is more important than Paul Allen or a UW patient who has had two heart transplants. Please do not interpret this as anything to do with race or ethnicity. It's whether a student-athlete on campus for four years takes precedence over one of the most charitable persons in Seattle and UW history or over lifesaving UW-based health-care interventions.

W. Archie Bleyer, '71, '79  
Bend, Ore.

## Sensitivity Missing

★✉★ The December issue of Columns contains two pieces that you should review. The editor's column (*Gizmos, December*) mentions that a UW alum invented the color TV. Although different early systems were developed since the 19th century, the first commercially available TV system was patented

by a Mexican engineer, Guillermo Gonzalez Camarena. Willard Geer, '27, invented a tube that was used in some color TV systems, but that proved to be too complex. Second, the headline "Saving El Salvador" in the Letters to the Editors section might be taken as an insensitive way to portray the great intentions and support that some Americans provided to people in Suchito. The issue might be a lack of awareness of issues of colonialism and imperialism linked to the idea of "saving" others, especially people of color "in need."

Isabel Carrera Zamanillo  
Seattle

## Poets and Profs

★✉★ Your article about poetry in the English Department in the '60s, '70s and beyond (*Powerhouses of Poetry, December*) included all the luminaries of that time. However, you omitted one professor who was just too humble to make the list though he meant everything to me and my poetry career (he was aghast I had not "read" in the '70s). His name was Nelson Bentley. He had many fond memories of Ted (Theodore Roethke), even calling him "Moose." I was horrified that Roethke died while I was a senior in high school, and so I "learned by going where to go" without meeting the great man himself. But Mr. Bentley—I could never bring myself to call him by his first name—was a great man and more than worthy of being mentioned by Columns.

M. Kathleen Thompson (Butler), '70  
Green Bay, Wis.

## Thanks, Dr. Banks

★✉★ Thank you for sharing this fascinating interview and for helping celebrate the incredible contributions and legacy of James Banks (*Thanks, Dr. Banks, Columns Online*).

Amy Gutmann  
President, University of Pennsylvania

★✉★ The interview with Professor Banks brought tears to my eyes. There is wisdom, integrity, grace and hope in his words. He deserves thanks for all he has done in his career, especially for helping us see that racial inequality will only go away when we intentionally work for that end. It won't happen by itself. I think he has earned a "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Tim Burgess  
Former Mayor and City Council member, City of Seattle

## Taking on Travel

★✉★ I enjoyed "Safe Travels" by Sally James (*Solutions, December*). In the spirit of my extremely careful professors at UW, may I gently point out that Augustine of Hippo (cited on page 43) did not live in 400 B.C.E. Placing him in this time period is logically impossible, as Augustine was a Christian theologian. The abbreviation "B.C.E." means "before (the) common era" and is interchangeable with the older form of "B.C." Augustine lived 400 years after Christ in 400 C.E., and he remains a principal source across multiple Christian traditions.

Jane M. Georges, '91  
San Diego

★✉★ "Safe Travels" tells us to travel as much as possible and advises us all, "The world is a book and those who do not travel, read only a page." I would appreciate a follow-up piece by the University's outstanding climate scientists regarding airplane travel and the amount of carbon this puts in the atmosphere.

Susan Evans, '68, '70  
Wenatchee

## AIR BALL. OUR BAD.

We published a photo of former Husky Quincy Pondexter on page 18 of the December 2018 issue of Columns but it was supposed to be a photo of former Husky Dejounte Murray. Columns regrets the error, and we will get our eyes checked.

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## When we come together, anything is possible

*Dear Alumni & Friends,*

**O**

**N THANKSGIVING**, the eve of the Apple Cup this past November, one of the buses carrying the Husky Marching Band and UW Spirit Squad to WSU overturned, sending dozens of students to local hospitals. Thankfully, there were very few serious injuries, for which I will always be grateful.

The crash, which occurred about halfway between Seattle and Pullman, also prevented the band from completing the trip to this highly anticipated event of the football season. As Director Brad McDavid put it, “The Husky Marching Band is like a family, and we do everything together.” The Apple Cup would have to proceed without them.

And that’s when the magic happened.

In rural Grant County, where the accident occurred, local citizens heard the news and turned out in droves. Many left their own family celebrations to bring a community-sourced feast to our students, helping them

recover from a traumatic event. And in Pullman, with only hours to prepare, the Cougar Marching Band learned “Bow Down to Washington” and performed it at the game to honor their absent counterparts. Both of these gestures were proof that whomever you root for, we are all Washington and we are all family.

That spirit of unity—the awareness that we’re all in this together—is our greatest strength, both as a state and as a community of Huskies everywhere. It’s fitting, then, that during the Apple Cup, WSU President Kirk Schulz and I announced a joint initiative—Yes, It’s Possible—to raise awareness that public higher education in Washington is both affordable and achievable for all students. We believe the time for this message is now because the importance of earning a credential beyond high school is growing, yet too many people are deterred from pursuing a degree by misinformation and misconceptions about college affordability and the availability of scholarships and financial aid from our institutions.

Without question, student debt levels in the United States are too high, but here in Washington—and in many other states—public higher education remains affordable, and the benefits of a degree far outweigh the costs. Nearly half of those who earn a bachelor’s degree in Washington leave with no student debt, and Washington ranks second in the nation in need-based grant aid per undergrad student. At the UW, we are proud that a full 60 percent of our undergraduates earn their degree with no known debt, and for those who do owe, the average debt is less than \$22,000. And thanks to the Husky Promise, more than 40,000 low-income students at the UW have had their tuition and fees covered.

The UW and WSU join our state’s outstanding array of public community, technical and four-year colleges in preparing students to make the most of their lives and careers. And all of us are working together to ensure that students have a pathway to the knowledge, experience and preparation they will need. And that need is irrefutable: Whether it’s a certificate, an apprenticeship, a two-year degree or a four-year degree, the next generation of jobs will demand a more skilled and knowledgeable workforce.

Higher education is the surest route to that future, and the UW is proud to partner with the people of our state to ensure everyone has the opportunity to be part of it. And we are equally committed to



Provost Mark Richards and President Ana Mari Cauce with Anthoni Duong and Alhaam Ibrahim, students who are working at a new UW outpost in the Othello neighborhood of Seattle. See the story on page 14.

ensuring that our students, families and communities know about these opportunities. As the collective response to the Apple Cup bus accident showed, we stand united. This spring, when I’m visiting Grant County to deliver an in-person thank-you to the community for the caring and generosity they extended to our students, I hope that this message of possibility is heard loud and clear. We are one community, and everyone has a stake in a well-educated world.

Wherever you are, in Washington or across the world, your support for and engagement with the UW helps create possibilities for students today and for generations to come. We are so grateful for all you do to bolster this great public university and to create opportunities in our communities. Near or far, we truly are in this together.

Sincerely,

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## Come On In

A UW Outpost Opens in Rainier Valley

**ONE EARLY EVENING** in mid-January, a quiet storefront near the Othello Light Rail Station in southeast Seattle burst to life. Several hundred people—neighbors, community organizers, city leaders and students and faculty of the University of Washington—crowded in to celebrate the grand opening of a new community resource.

Othello-UW Commons, a 2,200-square-foot commercial space in one of the country's most diverse ZIP codes, has become an outpost for the University. It features a meeting space where residents of all ages and languages (there are nearly 60 in this immigrant-rich community) can connect with educational, wellness and community-building resources.

Though the UW has a long history of working in Rainier Valley, it has now made a commitment to be visibly present, Sally Clark, director of Regional & Community Relations, told the crowd. Working with residents and local leaders, the school has created a space dedicated to learning and community partnerships.

"This is the fruit of years of collaboration with the community," President Ana Mari Cauce said. "There's something about having a place and having a face right here."

The site now offers SAT prep courses, educational lectures for seniors, and professional development for local schoolteachers. It is also where UW students who live nearby can meet with tutors.

Othello is a neighborhood in progress. To the west, an area of public housing and concentrated poverty was razed in 2000 and redeveloped into NewHolly, a densely built mixed-income community with tree-lined streets and nearly 1,400 homes. To the east sit several churches, a park and older homes dating as far back as 1900. In between, two new modern apartment buildings with ground-floor retail anchor the Othello Station intersection.

"Othello is my home," said UW sophomore Samia Ali. "Its streets are filled with constant reminders of diversity." Among her favorite sights are women in shortened hijabs on their morning powerwalk, neighbors in lawn chairs passing the afternoon and a P-Patch where residents, despite their different languages, encourage one another to garden. "It is more than just the buildings," she said. "It's people and stories. I'm so blessed to be a part of it."



Sophomore Samia Ali speaks at the Othello-UW Commons grand opening.



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# Billy Price

## Game Changer Philosopher Inventor

**I fell out of a three-story window** and broke my neck when I was a freshman. Paramedics took me to Harborview Medical Center. The doctors told me, "You broke your neck, you broke your back, you have a spinal cord injury, and you will never walk again."

**I went to a dark place mentally.** There was a moment when my mom kneeled next to me and said, "It's going to be OK." I kind of lashed back and said, "This isn't going to be OK, and it's not worth living if you can't walk." I was at a crossroads: I could either stay in this darkness and let life pass me by, or shift my trajectory and focus on the things I still have. That was the route I chose.

**After that, I re-enrolled in me-**chanical engineering. When I graduated from the UW in 2002, I landed a job soon thereafter as a mechanical engineer with the Federal Aviation Administration. I just finished working there.



**At a Christmas party in 2011,** my friend Darin Donaldson told me he had set a goal: "I'm going to make a shoe." I told him I had an idea for a shoe, too. Since I had broken my neck, I wasn't able to put on my shoes. I just don't have the dexterity to do the laces or step my foot into the shoe. My thought was to put a zipper around the toe so the whole upper part of the shoe folds over and you can put your foot in flat and zip it up. That's how BILLY Footwear got started.

**Our shoes sell at Nordstrom, Zappos** and our website BILLYFootwear.com. One of our slogans is "Making a measurable difference in the world, one foot at a time."

**Parents are so excited because kids** now are putting shoes on themselves. It's really cool to hear stories like, "It has been a battle to get my child to want to put his shoes on—now he loves it."

**Two big things contributed to** the success that I've had. One is the concept of engineering. The biggest thing I got out of it was problem-solving. The other part was making a choice to not stay in that dark place I was at. Being able to associate with people who not only empower you but are door-openers.

**We also offer a product** called BILLY Cares. It allows me to make presentations at schools, clinics or hospitals or one-on-one, talking about attitude, reminding people of the capacity they have to do great things much more than they can possibly imagine.

**It's really incredible** what each and every one of us has within us. We truly have the ability to do great things if we apply ourselves.

As told to **JIM CAPLE** Photographed by **RON WURZER**

1935 Volume 31, Number 1

Columns

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A PUBLICATION OF  
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**PUBLISHER** • PAUL RUCKER, '95, '02

**EDITOR** • JON MARMOR, '94

**MANAGING EDITOR** • HANNELORE SUDERMANN, '96

**DIGITAL EDITOR** • QUINN RUSSELL BROWN, '13

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From an ad by Victor's in the November 1956 issue of Columns

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Columns, the University of Washington alumni magazine, is published quarterly by the UW and UW Alumni Association for graduates of the UW (ISSN 1047-8604; Canadian Publication Agreement #40845662). Opinions expressed are those of the signed contributors or the editors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the UW. This magazine does not endorse, directly or by implication, any products or services advertised except those sponsored directly by the UWAA. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Station A, PO Box 54, Windsor, ON N9A 6J5 CANADA. (IT'S THE FINE PRINT—IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SMALL)

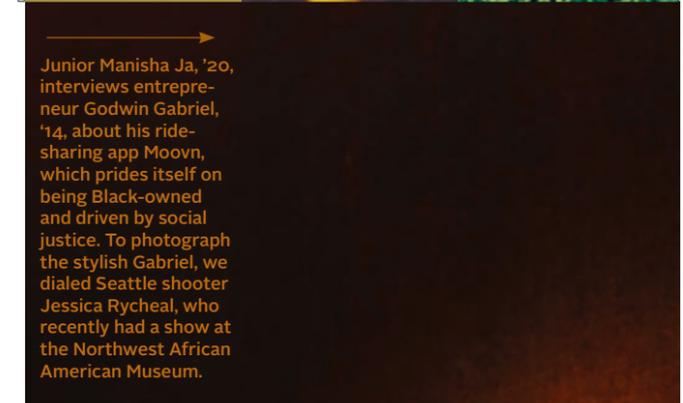
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# COLUMNS

## ONLINE



Photographer David Oh, '10, continues his journey into the world of University rec clubs and the athletes who haunt them. His series "In the Club" now sports new features on lacrosse, rugby and kendo (Japanese fencing).



Junior Manisha Ja, '20, interviews entrepreneur Godwin Gabriel, '14, about his ride-sharing app Moovn, which prides itself on being Black-owned and driven by social justice. To photograph the stylish Gabriel, we dialed Seattle shooter Jessica Rycheal, who recently had a show at the Northwest African American Museum.



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THE U DISTRICT LIVING ROOM

# A GRADUATE WITH HIGH MARKS

THE UNIVERSITY DISTRICT'S new Graduate hotel does not scream UW or Seattle. It gestures. In the lobby, two long, low couches face each other, covered in a plaid fabric dominated by shades of purple. At one end of the room, speakers and amps culled from Seattle venues flank a giant gold-framed mirror, creating a floor-to-ceiling homage to the city's music scene. Vintage landscape paintings from around Washington hang opposite the fireplace. One meeting room is named for Thelma Dewitty, a UW graduate student who in 1947 became the first black teacher at Seattle Public Schools.

Tidbits of local history are scattered throughout the guest rooms. A velvet image of Sir Mix-A-Lot here. A wooden side table carved in the shape of a husky there. When the building first opened in 1931 as the Edmond Meany Hotel, it was celebrated for its unique blend of Art Deco and modernist architecture. In a city known for brick and terra cotta construction, the concrete tower stood out, according to historylink.org. Cantilevered corners rounded the hotel's edges, making "every room

a corner room," with large windows and sweeping views, as a 1940 brochure boasted.

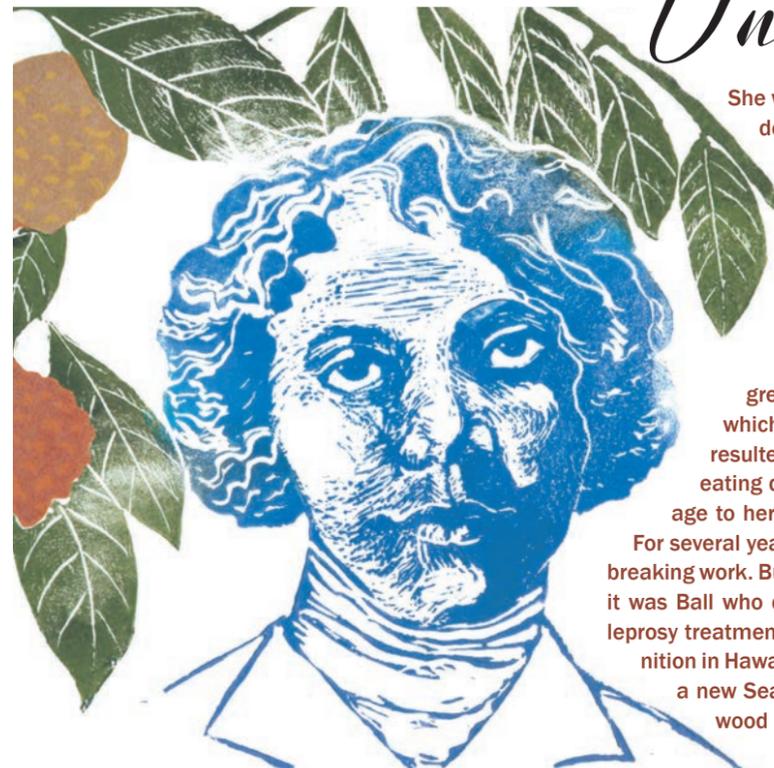
Since opening, the hotel has changed hands and names several times. Its latest incarnation was the Hotel Deca, which closed in 2017 when AJ Capital Partners, which owns the Graduate chain, bought the building. The new hotel reopened with 154 rooms.

For the first time in the building's history, a rooftop restaurant and bar takes advantage of its full height. Located 16 floors up, the eatery includes outdoor and indoor seating with views of Cascade and Olympic peaks and Mount Rainier.

The Graduate considers its street-level floors community space. Students and those who work or live nearby are welcome to study, hang out, drink wine or take a yoga class. The hotel offers free yoga instruction on Tuesday nights and Saturday mornings as well as free wine and live music from 5 to 8 p.m. every Thursday. Says Theresa Raleigh, the hotel's marketing director: "We want to be the living room of the U-District."—*Julie Davidow*



## Unsung Healer



She was a phenomenal student and scientist—one who, at age 23, developed an early treatment for leprosy. But she died before getting full credit for her breakthrough. Seattle native Alice Augusta Ball, born in 1892, completed her UW degree in pharmaceutical chemistry in 1912 and then earned a degree in pharmacy. In 1914, she received a graduate scholarship to the College of Hawaii (now the University of Hawaii), where Ball was the first woman and first African American to earn a master's degree in chemistry. Her thesis focused on the awa root and the extraction of the active ingredient. Then she used the same technique on chaulmoogra oil, which had promise as a treatment for leprosy. Her breakthrough resulted in a therapy that helped many people survive the flesh-eating disease. Sadly, Ball's promising career was cut short by damage to her lungs from chlorine gas during a gas mask demonstration.

For several years, the Hawaii college president took credit for Ball's groundbreaking work. But in 1922, Hawaii's public health officer made it clear it was Ball who developed the extraction method that led to the leprosy treatment. In recent years, Ball has gotten more recognition in Hawaii and across the country. Now a new Seattle park next to the Greenwood Library will bear her name.

ELE WILLOUGHBY



## BLAKE NORDSTROM

1960 – 2019

**B**LAKE W. NORDSTROM was born in 1960 to a family whose name, for many, is synonymous with Seattle. The great grandson of department store founder John W. Nordstrom, and the oldest of three brothers, he graduated from Mercer Island High School and enrolled at the University of Washington to study economics.

Blake was a lot like their dad, brother Peter Nordstrom recalled at Blake's memorial service, which was held Jan. 12 at Alaska Airlines Arena on the UW Seattle campus. He was devoted to his wife, Molly, and children, Alex and Andy. He was authentic, friendly to everybody, and always willing to extend himself. "The work hard, try hard thing was totally part of his persona and he really gravitated to people who had that attitude," Peter said.

Last December, Blake shared the news of his diagnosis of lymphoma, a form of cancer that affects the immune system. He died on Jan. 2 at the age of 58.

While at the UW, Blake rowed on the 1982 men's crew. After college, he maintained a strong connection to the program. Hours of rowing together in the rain on Lake Washington can build a powerful bond, said former teammate Eric Cohen, '82.

For many years during the Opening Day of boating season, Blake and his friends would borrow a boat and load it up with UW crew T-shirts and sweatshirts to hawk to boaters on the Montlake Cut. The money they raised supported the Husky rowing program.

Not only did Nordstrom value the sport and the lifelong friendships he made as a student-athlete, he also mentored many stu-

dents throughout the years, said Michael Callahan, '96, the UW men's crew coach.

As a Board of Rowing Steward, he led the rescue of the Husky II, a wooden coaching launch from the 1930s that had succumbed to rot. After a three-year restoration, it is now back in use. He also donated his own racing shell, the last handmade single built by George Pocock, to the Conibear Shellhouse, where it now hangs near the dining hall.

Blake Nordstrom was a longtime leader of the family company. Like his father, Bruce, '55, Blake started his career in the stockroom. During high school and college, he worked as a "shoe dog," the long-used in-house term for a Nordstrom shoe salesman. Working his way up, he became president in 2000 and then co-president in 2015, sharing the role with his younger brothers Peter, '85, and Erik, '85.

In a store known for its customer service, Blake Nordstrom set the standard. He often went out of his way to connect with customers, employees and community members. He also dedicated many hours toward the revitalization of downtown Seattle as a member of the Downtown Seattle Association. With his wife, Molly, he chaired the major gifts campaign for United Way of King County for six years.

"We will always be grateful for his generous support of our students and, as a dyed-in-the-wool Husky, he embodied the spirit of the Pacific Northwest in so many ways," UW President Ana Mari Cauce said. "We are proud to count him, like so many members of his extraordinary family, among our alumni. His impact will be felt here—in classrooms, on the field, on the water, and in the lives of our students—forever."

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS (2)

**HUSKIES  
WIN  
20-0!**

*Washington owned the fourth quarter.* You want dominant? Try 266 yards of offense, three touchdowns by Myles Gaskin—two running, one passing—and a shutout of No. 6 Ohio State. That was the fourth quarter of the 2019 Rose Bowl. Too bad the No. 9 Huskies were trailing 28-3 by the time the fourth quarter started. Had the final period gone another two minutes or so, well, we can only dream. The Huskies fell 28-23 in their first Rose Bowl since 2001. But that fourth quarter gave notice to the nation and has us itching for fall to come 'round.



**HAVE  
GLOVE,  
WILL  
TRAVEL**

**SINCE 1908**  
The Huskies have played baseball in Japan 5 times.

**The** Seattle Mariners open the 2019 season against the Oakland Athletics in Tokyo in March; it's the second time the M's have played there and the third time for Oakland. But both teams have been to Japan fewer times than the Husky baseball team. The Huskies have played there five times—and the first four trips were more than 90 years ago! In fact, the UW was the first American university team to visit Japan, in 1908. Way back then, you had to sail on a ship across the Pacific Ocean to reach Japan. The 1908 Husky team left on Aug. 18 and arrived 17 days later. Shortstop Walter Meagher wrote in the TYEE yearbook that when they practiced the first day, 2,000 "star struck" fans were on hand to watch. The Huskies played 10 games against Japanese college teams before crowds of nearly 7,000. Meagher described a 5-3, 15-inning victory over Waseda University as the best game ever played in Japan. He also wrote that the experience was "one

of the greatest trips that any college team had ever taken." The Huskies returned in 1913, 1921 and 1926. They did not play in Japan again until August 1981, a gap of 55 years. But by then, they were able to fly there in less than 12 hours. "Even though we didn't speak the same language, there was a real bond of sportsmanship," outfielder Jeb Best, '82, recalls of the 1981 trip. "Before games, we would hand them a gift that had UW on it. I remember the camaraderie and the pride between the two different cultures and teams. It was really exciting to play them and hopefully for them to play us. We also did some sightseeing tours that were really fun. It was just a good experience for the 20-year-olds." Alas, the Husky baseball team has not been back since. But Best, who works for the King County Housing Authority, believes it would be a great idea to schedule another trip. "For sure," he says.

**GIVE ME FIVE**



VENUS, VENUS, VENUS!

**Trish Bostrom**

**PAC-12 HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEE**

Before Title IX, Trish Bostrom, '72, was the first woman to play on the men's tennis team. After her pro career, she became a lawyer and continued to fight for equality in college athletics.

**1. HOW WAS IT TO RECEIVE THE PAC-12 HONOR?**

I kept thinking 'Wow!' I feel deeply honored that they selected a woman. And that I can encourage young women to keep going for their goals. Because something incredible will happen. Don't give up.

**2. WHAT WAS IT LIKE WHEN YOU PLAYED HERE?**

There were great disparities between the programs. The women's program was basically not funded. For a coach, we had a graduate student who knew very little about tennis, and we had no uniforms. My father ran into a lawyer, Don Cohen, and explained my problem at the UW. He said, 'I'll take your case for free.' We wanted equitable athletic opportunities for women—and for me to try out for the men's team until the programs became equitable. I won both.

**3. BEST MEMORY FROM YOUR PRO TENNIS DAYS?**

The centenary of Wimbledon in 1977. Mary Carillo and I played Billie Jean King and Karen Susman, who had won the women's doubles championship before. We lost the first set 9-7, but won the next two sets. Winning at Wimbledon that year was huge.

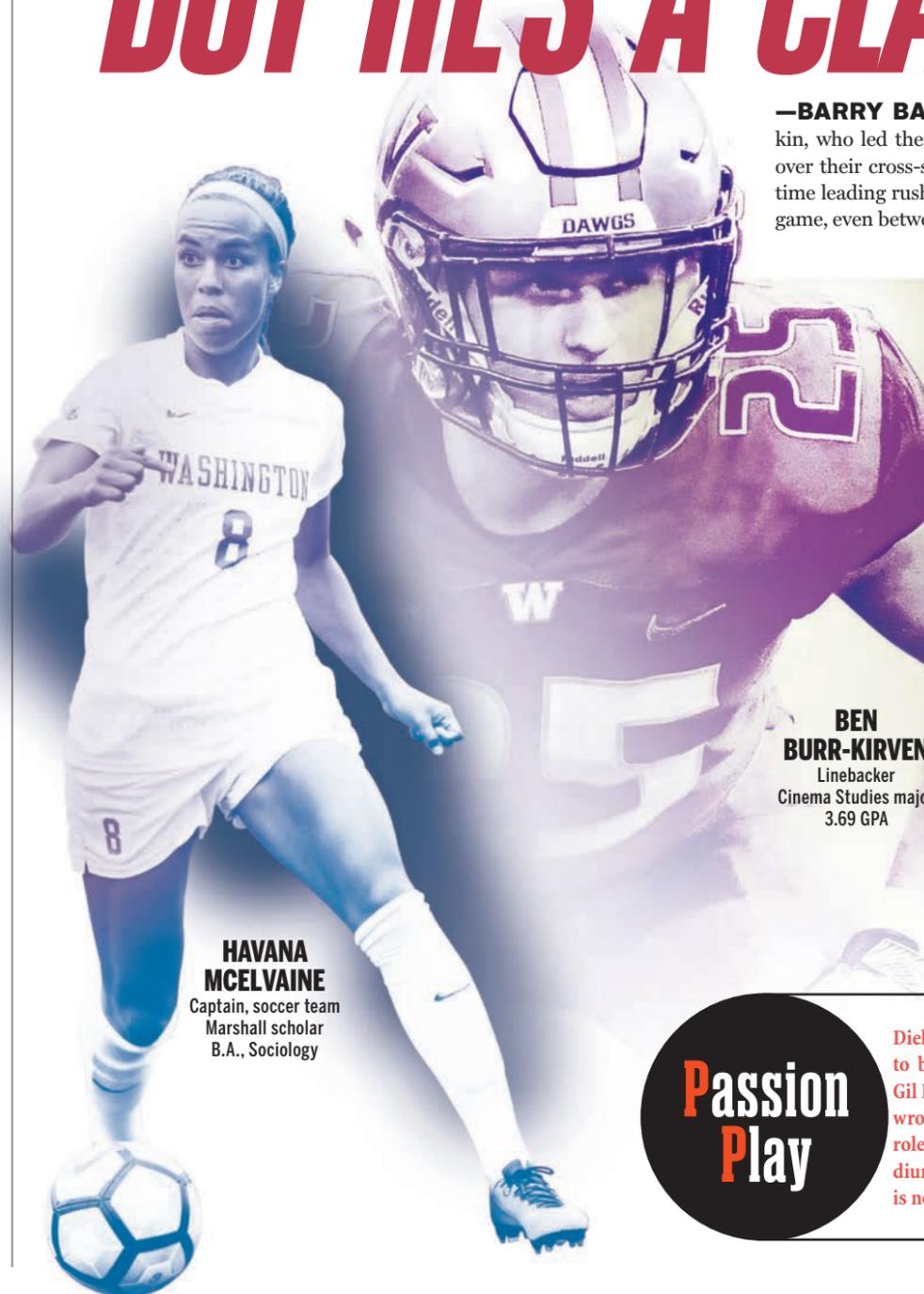
**4. WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE CURRENT PLAYER?**

Venus Williams. Venus has that tall, lanky, long-muscled body you normally see in a tennis player. Even at 38 with health problems, Venus was in the top 10 last year.

**5. HOW MUCH TENNIS DO YOU PLAY NOW?**

I have to play left-handed because I the broke cartilage in my right wrist. But it is just fun to be out there.

**"I'M A COUG,  
BUT HE'S A CLASS ACT."**



**—BARRY BARTLETT** on Facebook, referring to Myles Gaskin, who led the Huskies to four consecutive Apple Cup victories over their cross-state rivals on the way to becoming the UW's all-time leading rusher. Paying tribute to a job well done is part of the game, even between rivals.

**[GRADE A]  
STUDENT ATHLETES**

The Huskies didn't just dominate on the field, they were just as impressive when it came to the classroom. Take senior linebacker Ben Burr-Kirven, for instance. He not only was selected to the Associated Press All-America first team, he was also named Pac-12 Football Scholar-Athlete of the Year. A two-time first-team Academic All-Pac-12 selection, he led the nation in tackles this year with 155. Then there's former Husky soccer captain Havana McElvaine, '17. She became the first UW student since 2008 to be selected as a Marshall scholar, one of the highest honors available to college graduates in the U.S. The Marshall scholarship pays all expenses for up to three years at a British university. She plans to earn two master's degrees overseas. Wow.

**BEN BURR-KIRVEN**  
Linebacker  
Cinema Studies major  
3.69 GPA

**HAVANA MCELVAINE**  
Captain, soccer team  
Marshall scholar  
B.A., Sociology



Diehard Husky football fan Lynn Borland, '66, was devoted to bringing more recognition to legendary football coach Gil Dobie, who went 59-0-3 at the UW from 1908-16. Borland wrote a book on Dobie ("Pursuit of Perfection") and played a role in getting a bronze plaque honoring Dobie at Husky Stadium's Coaches Walk of Honor. Sadly, Borland's spirited voice is no longer with us. He died last Halloween at the age of 76.

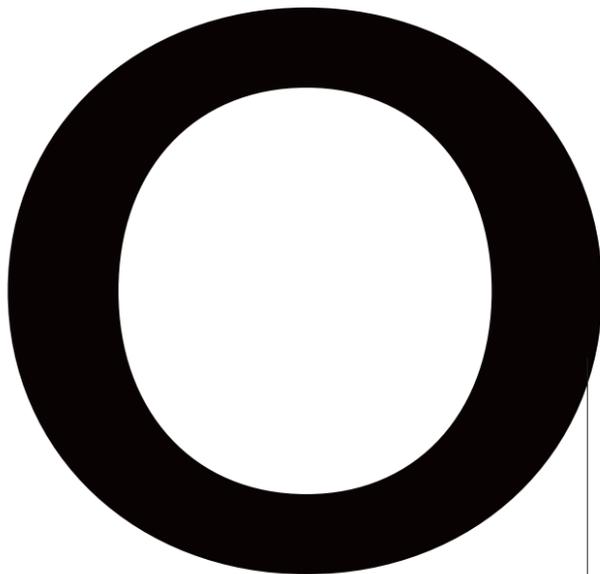


BY TAMARA WINFREY-HARRIS  
PHOTOS BY BOB GWALTNEY

# The Identity Solution

A new charter school that focuses on social identity and civic engagement could transform the educational landscape, especially for students of color

In a quiet and calm voice, Jacob Allen explains to Tywan why he needs to change his behavior in the hallway of the pilotED School.



*n a rainy January afternoon*, 16 second-graders in matching gray sweatshirts file into a bright classroom decorated with international flags, fairy lights and a multicolored rug covered in geometric shapes. Twice a week, the children visit this room to study something overlooked in most American schools. Mr. Laster, a young teacher with dreadlocks gathered into a spiky bun, begins, “Welcome to Identity.”

PilotED Bethel Park, a new charter school launched by UW Bothell alumnus Jacob Allen and his co-founder Marie Dandie, operates on Indianapolis’ south side, in a low-slung 1950s-era building set between a Section 8 housing complex and a sprawling cemetery. The school’s students are mostly black and Latino, but many residents in the neighborhood are white descendants of the Appalachian migration. Visitors can spot a Confederate flag or two while driving down the area’s wide streets past small, worn-but-neatly kept homes. According to Opportunity Atlas, a tool that estimates social mobility by census tract, the average future income of a child growing up in the neighborhood around pilotED is \$21,000 a year. Ten percent of children from the neighborhood might expect to be incarcerated; that percentage jumps to 14 for black children. This is a struggling neigh-

**Azarean and Principal Marie Dandie, right, dare each other to eat one of the mealworms used to feed a frog kept in the office of Jacob Allen. Azarean was one of the students who got to feed the frog as a reward for doing well in the classroom that day.**



borhood in a city where the gulf between have and have-not is gaping and climbing out of poverty is particularly tough. Indianapolis ranks 46th among the nation’s top 50 metro areas in terms of upward mobility. If you are born poor here, you are very likely to remain that way.

But pilotED and the people who work there belie those dire predictions. The school is an oasis—a warm and welcoming space with a young, energetic staff, brightly painted walls, an urban farm and a lovable miniature pinscher named Winston. Children are greeted in the morning with positive affirmations, and classroom conversations are dedicated to students and their experiences—new baby sisters or final immigration papers. PilotED does not suspend students or send them home, preferring instead trauma-informed and restorative justice practices. Students are evaluated based on “satisfactory participation,” not A-through-F grades. The school’s curriculum is centered around academic excellence, civic engagement and social identity training. This last piece—the focus on identity—may just be transformative in the educational landscape, particularly for students of color, including African American students.

For centuries, black people have believed in the power of education to transform their lives. Yet black students receive lower grades and test scores, are more likely to quit school and less likely to graduate from college. And that gap persists across class and circumstance. If education is a “passport to the future,” as activist Malcolm X once claimed, then the future for black America looks bleak.

Many academics, experts, politicians and pundits have tried to grasp the reason for this achievement gap between black students and their white counterparts—often conveniently placing the blame on dysfunction in black families, neighborhoods or culture. But noted Stanford social psychologist Claude M. Steele suggests that there is a “vastly underappreciated” connection between the “endemic devaluation” of blackness and academic achievement.

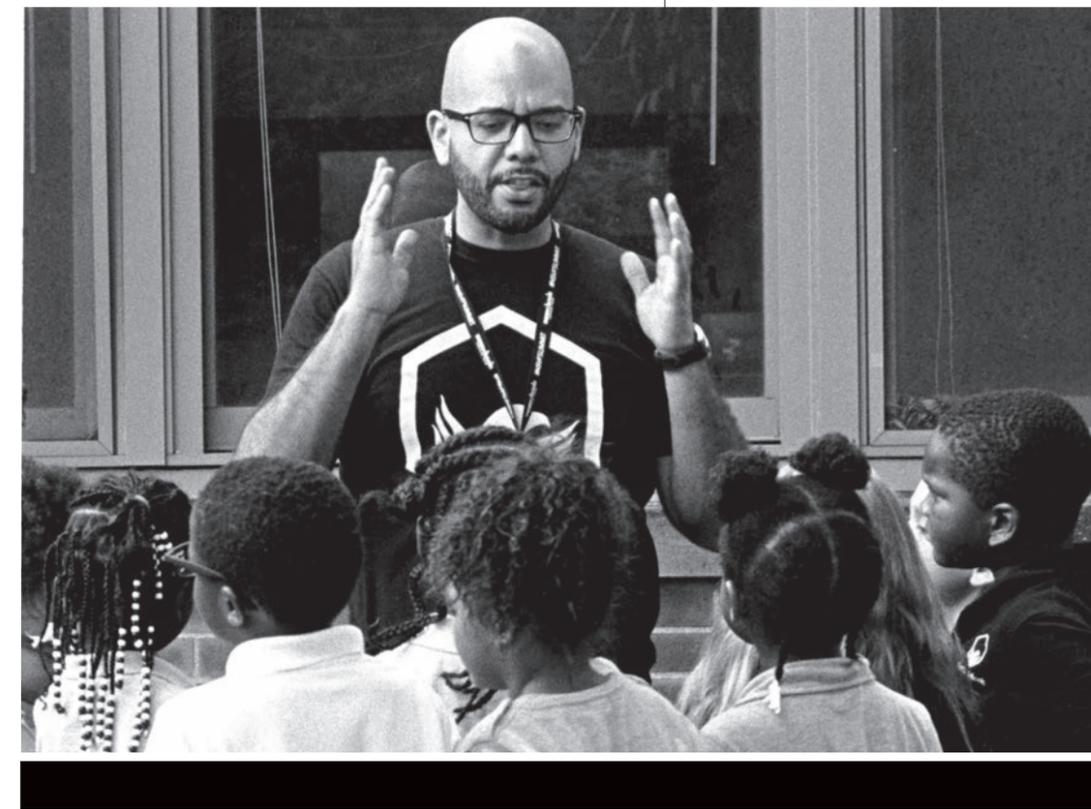
Many black children spend their educational careers learning only what long-dead white men have contributed to the nation. Their hair and bodies are deemed illicit by supposedly unbiased dress codes. They are viewed with suspicion and disciplined more severely than other students. And scant attention is paid to the ways systemic inequality may affect their ability to sit quietly, reading, writing and doing arithmetic.

Schools have been ill-equipped and unwilling to reckon with blackness and also with the effect of oppression on black lives. Homicide is the leading cause of death for African American youth ages 15 to 24. Sixty percent of black girls have experienced sexual assault by the age of 18. And more than 61 percent of black American children have had at least one adverse childhood experience, a traumatic event associated with negative outcomes in learning and development.

“Biases and racism are alive and well in K-12 public education,” Allen, 12, says. “We shouldn’t be surprised that mental hospitals, prisons, low-income jobs are being filled by a certain type of person ... a person that is black or brown ... a person who attends all of our K-through-12 public education in urban America.”

Allen confirms that this is not a criticism of the many caring, committed educators and administrators who have worked to teach and support black students; it is a rebuke of a system that increasingly fails marginalized young people. He witnessed this failure up close as a teacher on Chicago’s West Side, and as a student growing up in Los Angeles and

**Allen, who experienced a system of biases and racism growing up in big-city America, aims to set a new system in place to give children of a color a chance to become a success.**





**Martavius takes a look back to his mother after she drops him off in front of the pilotED School.**

then suburban Wisconsin. Allen earned his bachelor's degree in Society, Ethics, and Human Behavior from UW Bothell a few years ago and is also a graduate of the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management's executive program for nonprofit management. But he is the only one of four brothers and 62 first cousins to "work the system, get the scholarships, fight depression [and] forget about dropping out."

"There's a million other Jacobs. The world's an unfair place, and if we don't give our kids the emotional, the academic, the cultural tools to not only maybe game the system, but to make the system more fair, then I'm just a blip on the radar."

Allen has made it his life's work to change the often-broken way we educate students, especially the most vulnerable ones.

Five years ago, Allen and Dandie, then an English teacher on the South Side of Chicago, developed a unique curriculum rooted in sociology and identity exploration. Their approach allowed time to acknowledge their students' unique identities and, in an age-appropriate way, to discuss human commonality and difference. When they introduced that curriculum in their classrooms, adding a little time each day for self-exploration and social and emotional learning, student performance improved.

"My students outperformed everybody," Dandie says enthusiastically. "Once you acknowledge who the child is as a human being ... what comes after that are highly engaged students. You've acknowledged their human self, you've validated all of their emotions, their anger, their sadness, their happiness. They understand. Now they can be even more engaged because they have the vocabulary to name the things that happen in them. When they meet characters in their books, they can connect more. They can answer comprehension questions because they've been forced to think about themselves and now they're making those connections with the book."

"[To meet academic standards] you have to be able to think critically, and if our kids don't even know how to navigate their own bodies or communities, there's no way they are going to be able to critically think about Anne Frank and what she went through."

On Aug. 6, 2018, Allen and Dandie opened the doors of their first charter school, pilotED Bethel Park. The school serves 94 students in grades K-2. Allen serves as CEO, while Dandie, a graduate of Central Michigan University and Northwestern University, is the principal. The pair chose Indianapolis because of the city's support of school innovation and its deeply engaged community.

"Three weeks per month we were in Indy," Allen says. "Marie and I bought an Airbnb, and then just started canvassing in the neighborhoods. We started realizing education is at the tip of [everyone's] tongues here. People said, 'If you open a school [like this] in my neighborhood, can I be on the PTA? Can I drive the school bus? Can I be a lunch lady? Can I teach?'"

Five educators followed Allen and Dandie from Chicago to be a part of their work. Ten more relocated from other states. The curriculum is energizing. There is an Identity Class taught every day at the school.

Students discuss things like melanin and chromosomes, the history of beauty in America and discriminatory practices toward kids of color. They mix paint colors to mimic their skin tones and give the colors names like "crumbled cookie" and "cinnamon."

"We are teaching radical ideology in the classroom," Allen says. "I mean, this is essentially ... what I learned my senior year in college is being brought down to kindergarten. How does a 5-year-old grapple with race, gender, sexuality, religion?"

Today, Mr. Laster introduces vocabulary words—*ordinary*, *extraordinary* and *unique*—that the class of wiggly second-graders repeat. Then the class reads and discusses R.J. Palacio's book "We're All Wonders" that encourages children to embrace difference.

"But some people don't see that I'm a wonder. All they see is how different I look. Some people don't see that I'm a wonder. They don't see that I'm unique. They only see how different I look. Sometimes they stare at me. There are 35-year-olds who cannot have these discussions," Allen tells me proudly. An acknowledgment of identity doesn't simply happen in this classroom; it is baked into the ethos of the school. For school administrators, Allen and Dandie are uniquely present in the lives of their students, invested in their positive self-regard.

Dandie, a petite, energetic woman fond of headwraps and natural

hairstyles like Afros and twists, recounts how, earlier in the year, a biracial student with big, beautiful curls drew a picture of herself with stick straight hair. "I don't like my big hair," the student said. The principal not only discussed the beauty of all hair textures with the girl, but also arranged with the Spanish teacher for both educators to wear their hair curly for the next two weeks. Now, the student proudly wears her curls.

PilotED Bethel Park will add a new grade each year up to the 8th grade, but Allen and Dandie are invested in reaching many more children than can walk through the doors of their school. They are working on a national curriculum. Allen says, "Our pie-in-the-sky goal is to get a curriculum published that is then pushed through the K-12 education system [like Common Core] at the state level, including in places like Washington [state]. Because what are we going to do when they become middle-schoolers and they know the world better than the world knows them?"

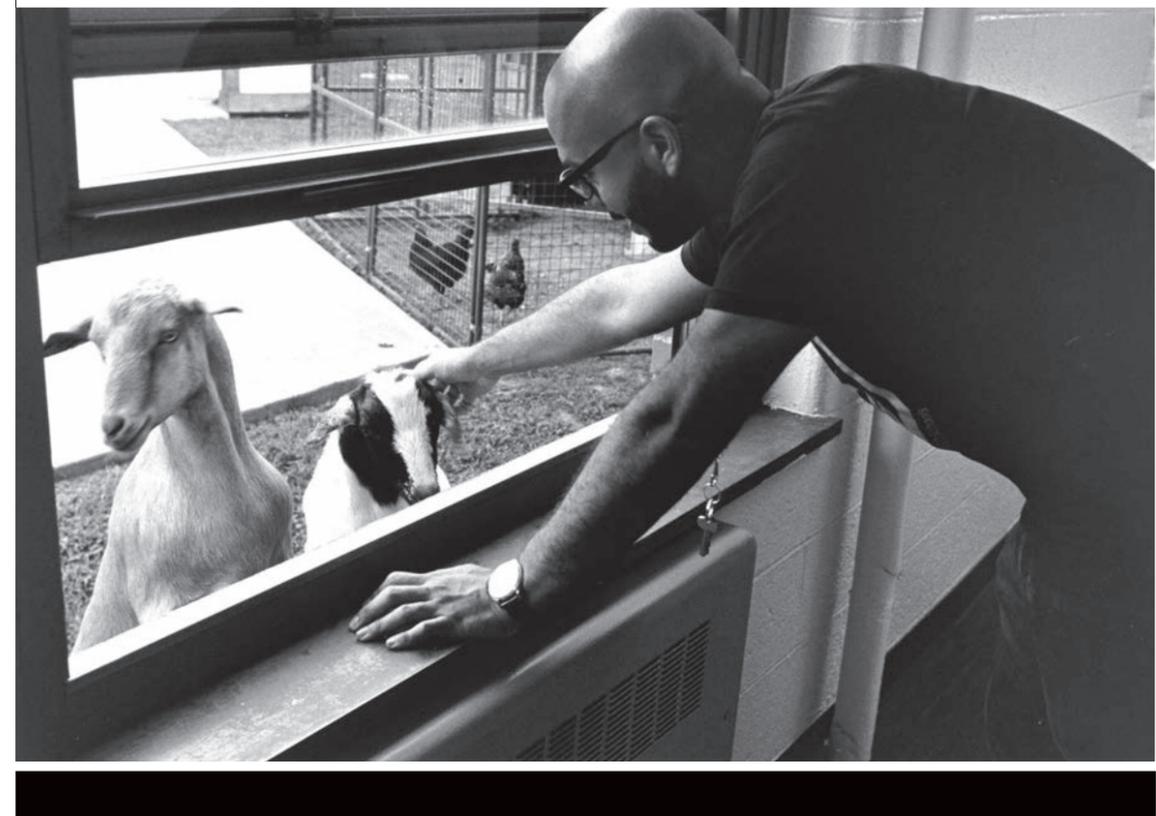
In the meantime, Allen says, "We are creating what we think is part of the solution, which is getting kids the tools, making sure they have the vocabulary to go off and slay it in a way that is—yes, heavy on science, mathematics, and English—but is also heavy on a sense of self, a sense of community, a sense of history."

He and Dandie are in this work for the long haul.

"I'm doing this for the rest of my life, because I have to ... There's this weird fire in me, fueled by ... I don't know if you want to call it God, reality, today, yesterday ... It's just alive and it's not going anywhere."

■—From her home in Indianapolis, Tamara Winfrey-Harris writes about race, gender and their intersection with politics, pop culture and current events. She is the author of *The Sisters Are Alright: Changing the Broken Narrative of Black Women in America* (Berrett-Koehler, 2015). Bob Gwaltney is a photographer and educator in Indiana who worked as a photojournalist for decades. He shot these photos on 35mm film and developed them by hand.

**An outdoor school farm is one of the innovative features the school offers to children, many of whom are Black and Latino.**



# Shaping the Future of History

Creating historical records, archiving photos, recording oral histories—it's all in a program of UW Libraries with the Ethnic Heritage Council

BY ERIN LODI  
PHOTO BY DANIEL BERMAN

Inside a large Ziploc bag, wrapped in an antique flour sack, lay an old, crumbling photo album. Pieces of the thick, black pages flaked off with every turn. Those brittle pages held images captured by a seasoned traveler who recorded his journeys across America. On the first page, he pasted his calling card. The elegant script reads “Mr. Lester Clement Barton,” and adjacent to the card is a cutout of himself from a silver gelatin print.

This photo album is the sort of item that could easily have been discarded. “A lot of people don't really understand that everyday stuff is a part of history,” explains Nicolette Bromberg, visual materials curator with UW Libraries. The album is like many items Bromberg has been shown by participants in a workshop called “We Are History Keepers,” an outreach program of UW Libraries and the Seattle-based Ethnic Heritage Council that has helped communities, families and individuals in King and Pierce counties learn how to preserve and document their place in Northwest history.

The full-day workshops have been held in Seattle at St. Demetrios Hall and the Ethiopian Community in Seattle Center, Northwest African American Museum, Kent Senior Activity Center, Tacoma's Asia Pacific Cultural Center and Kent Lutheran Church. UW librarians and archivists teach participants how to create and preserve historical records, archive photographic prints, store personal emails, and record oral histories. The goal, according to Anne Jenner, '93, UW Libraries Pacific Northwest Curator, is to help participants become “stewards of their own history” and archive their stories on their own terms. Each workshop is preceded by a focus group or planning session comprised of members of the community where it will be held.

Response to the workshops has been enthusiastic, especially in Kent, whose school district is ranked the 10th most diverse in the U.S. and where an estimated 138 languages are represented. Nancy Simpson and Jason Appelgate, '14, '15, board members of the Greater Kent Historical Society, contacted the Ethnic Heritage Council for assistance in outreach to Kent's burgeoning communities of color. “While our Kent museum offers a unique time-travel style experience that showcases how early residents of Kent lived and worked, we want to ensure that future generations visiting the museum will also learn about the people

who are shaping Kent today,” says Appelgate, also a board member of the Ethnic Heritage Council.

The program is already paying dividends for others. “The Korean American Historical Society received an NEH Common Heritage Grant that required us to give donors information about caring for their documents,” says Mel Kang, the society's president. “We were able to use the information packet provided at the “We Are History Keepers” workshop to fulfill this requirement. We also met librarians from the UW Libraries Special Collections who we later called with technical questions about preserving documents.”

“I want everyone to be a historian,” says Rosanne Gostovich Royer, '64, '76, one of the founders of the Ethnic Heritage Council and current president. She helped create the “We Are History Keepers” program with UW Libraries staff and manages the outreach. “It's important to make sure our diverse communities are part of the Northwest story and are empowered by documenting their local experience.”

This includes changes in what are considered artifacts, Jenner explains. For example, dance, music and cultural arts are becoming more recognized ways of bearing a cultural record; the same thing with food. Jenner says individual communities have a broader understanding of how their historical record might be represented. In the spirit of cultural outreach, food from various cultures has also become a signature high point of each workshop. Ask anyone who has attended, and they can't say enough about the dishes served at the workshop at Seattle's Ethiopian Community Center or the delectable chicken dish in the buffet prepared by Nadia Mahmood of the Iraqi Women's Association at the workshop held in the Kent Senior Activity Center.

“The tools and case studies presented at the workshops helped our researchers in the Turkish community save tons of hours so that we don't have to invent something new on oral history projects,” says Ozgur Koc, a member of the board of directors of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington. “The workshops have helped us build relationships with other communities that we never have met.” ■

Want to learn how to preserve your community's history or participate in a We are History Keepers workshop? Contact UW Libraries Special Collections Pacific Northwest Curator Anne Jenner at [ajenner@uw.edu](mailto:ajenner@uw.edu)

4Culture, King County's funding agency, provided partial financial support for the creation of the workshops. [wearehistorykeepers.wordpress.com](http://wearehistorykeepers.wordpress.com)



Paper dolls, 2 inches high, once owned by a U.S. Christian missionary woman working in Korea in the 1920s and 1930s. Dolls provided by Mel Kang of the Korean American Historical Society in Seattle.

# WELCOME TO *Mour Town*

*Nobody knows more about film's grittiest genre than Greg Olson. So buckle up and hang on.*

BY SHEILA FARR PHOTOS BY QUINN RUSSELL BROWN

If you need to track down an obscure noir film from the '40s, wheelman Greg Olson is your mark. He knows all the nooks and crannies where the classics hide out.

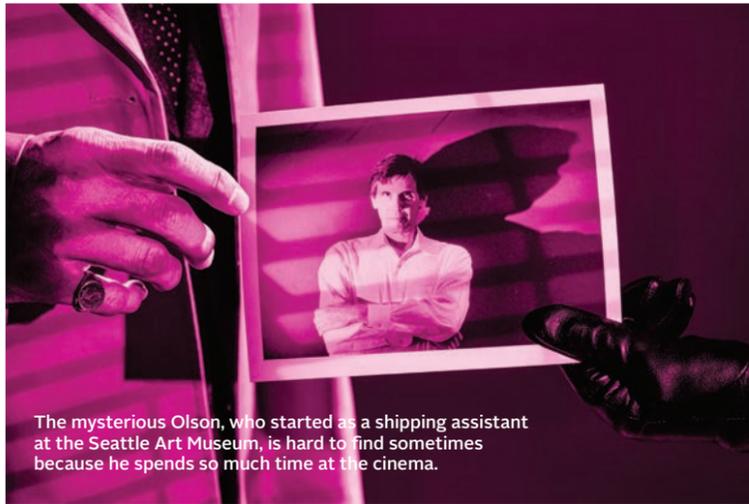
# IN 1969.

**GREG OLSON WAS A MAN WITHOUT A JOB.** With a degree in English and newly married, he had few prospects on the horizon. His work experience to date included: writing film reviews for the UW Daily, temping for the post office, operating a movie projector for home screenings in the Highlands and handling miscellaneous duties for the Henry Art Gallery and a local film crew. Still, when he was hired as a shipping assistant at Seattle Art Museum, Olson saw it not as another fill-the-gap job, but an opportunity to create the future of his dreams.

A half century later, Olson, '67, is celebrating his 50th anniversary at SAM, where he founded the institution's acclaimed film program and initiated the world's longest-running film noir series, begun in 1977. As a pillar of the Emerald City's vibrant movie culture, Olson champions local filmmakers, searches out rare prints of classic and little-known movies, and dazzles film buffs with in-depth looks at great directors and actors from around the globe. He partners with other institutions and participates in annual programming around the cult-worshiped TV series "Twin Peaks" that draws David Lynch devotees from far-flung places.

Olson is a leading authority on Lynch. He researched and wrote the legendary director's comprehensive biography, "David Lynch: Beautiful Dark" and is completing a new book on the series, "Twin Peaks: The Return." Olson's low-key manner cloaks the steely tenacity and self-confidence it took to build a successful career as a film programmer and writer. He credits growing up in a book-filled household with parents who appreciated culture and encouraged his interests. Movies were always part of the mix. As a kid, Greg thrilled to the smart, stylish British horror and sci-fi movies of Hammer Film Productions, like "Horror of Dracula" and "The Creeping Unknown." He even imagined going to work for the studio one day. Hollywood classics also helped shape his view of life: "I grew up on John Wayne movies, where the masculine hero guy saves the woman—those archetypes."

Greg's dad, Carl, was his original hero, a lumberjack off the boat from Sweden, a man with little education who went on to found a successful grocery business, Ol-



The mysterious Olson, who started as a shipping assistant at the Seattle Art Museum, is hard to find sometimes because he spends so much time at the cinema.

son Brokerage Co. His mother Nona, of Russian heritage, and his aunt Pat, who lived with the family, were strong women who ignited Greg's admiration for accomplished, assertive females. "The women in my life were outspoken, a force to be reckoned with," he recalls. "Truffaut made a movie called "The Man Who Loved Women." My inner voice said, 'Right.'"

Growing up as an only child in the 1950s, Greg gravitated to adults. It was the dawn of the "Mad Men" era and his parents had built a house on the shore of Lake Sammamish. Greg remembers his dad's business associates and their wives coming over from Seattle for parties, the men in shirts and ties, smoking, drinking highballs. "I loved those guys and they loved me. I wanted to be grown-up really fast, making moves, really cool ... part of the grown-up world of the movies."

In high school, he subscribed to the Village Voice, smitten with the abundant cultural life of New York City, and kept up with the latest developments in pop art, rock 'n' roll, the political upheavals of the 1960s and the movies of Andy Warhol. He learned that films could be considered works of art and that the Museum of Modern Art had been showing film as early as the 1930s.

When he enrolled at UW, Olson followed his love of literature and writing into the English Department, with no clear idea where it would take him. But in his senior year, Olson signed up for the one film class available: The History and Aesthetics of the Motion Picture, taught by drama professor Vanick Galstaun.

What a vortex of pent-up movie passion that class turned out to be! Greg and his coterie of fellow students were an extraordinary group who would go on to become leading forces in the film and cultural life of Seattle and beyond: John Hartl, '67, film critic for The Seattle Times for 50 years; Bill Arnold, '69, author and film critic for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer for 30 years; Richard T. Jameson, critic and editor of Film Comment, New York; Roger Downey, '65, longtime writer and critic for Seattle Weekly and other publications; Kathleen Murphy (who married Jameson) and Peter Hogue, both film critics and teachers; and Don Bartholomew, who ran audiovisual services at UW. Arnold recalls Jameson later facetiously dubbing it, "The class the stars fell out of."

Like others in the class, Olson would try his hand at writing movie reviews—in his case, for the UW Daily—but quickly realized that was not the path for him. Reviewing was fun, he says, but "I wanted to preserve the childlike joy of being in a theater—not having to take notes and scramble to meet a deadline."

The year after graduating, with few job prospects, Olson took a filmmaking course at Cornish College of the Arts. When that was over, he worked with his instructor on films for the Department of Motor Vehicles about the effects of alcohol and marijuana on driving. The project lasted eight months; then Olson was back to looking for work. One day his wife, Pamela, an artist, told him that Seattle Art Museum had an opening for a shipping assistant. Their marriage ended soon after, but the job turned out to be good fit.

Those were "the glory days" of SAM, Olson recalls, when the museum was housed in its original jewel box Art Deco building in Volunteer Park and founder Richard Fuller still attended to museum business from his wheelchair. Legendary artist Morris Graves might appear on the loading dock,

Stylist: Curtis Bright | Set Design: Lela Wulsin | Hair and Makeup: Angalina Sandoval



Growing up in a household full of books and culture, Olson (seated) surrounded himself with a variety of characters who touched the imagination.

FEMME FATALE

THE GOON

PRIVATE EYE

THE COPPER

**CALAMITOUS CAST**  
(You don't want to get caught in a greasy spoon with these mugs.)

**PRIVATE EYE**  
Greg Olson stars as the hard-nosed antihero of the film noir genre. Dressed in a classic fedora and a cynical smile, this archetype is both a rough-necked seeker of justice and a sophisticated outsider who stays above the fray. He doesn't trust the police. He trades blows with the bad guys. He really should know better than to trust the femme fatale.

**THE COPPER**  
Keeper of the cuffs. Bound by law, tempted by greed. A friend and a foe to the private eye.

**THE GOON**  
Works for somebody in the shadows. Plays rough, hits hard. He'll be history by the second act.

**FEMME FATALE**  
A dangerous woman. Hard to ignore, impossible to forget. As likely to double-cross as any man.

See a storyboard full of these noir scenes at [magazine.uw.edu](http://magazine.uw.edu)

## Olson's Favorites

### PHANTOM LADY

ROBERT SIODMAX 1944

Brooding German Expressionist aesthetics meet American pulp fiction, and the atmosphere of film noir is born: a heroic woman, not the usual deadly one, walks shadowy streets on a mission to save her man.

### DOUBLE INDEMNITY

BILLY WILDER 1944

Night-blooming jasmine, a shady man and woman, a big-money scheme. Smells like gun smoke when they kiss.

### DETOUR

EDGAR G. ULMER 1945

A guy hitchhiking to L.A. to see his girlfriend encounters a wickedly dangerous woman—you never know when the abyss is going to open under your feet.

### MOONRISE

FRANK BORZAGE 1948

The dark, haunting past has a death grip on a man, but his deep sense of alienation yields to love and compassion in this rare redemptive noir.

### POINT BLANK

JOHN BOORMAN 1967

Noir goes corporate. A man double-crossed out of a lot of money comes to L.A. to even the score. He's so cool he frosts palm trees; he'll tear apart skyscrapers if he has to.

—Sheila Farr

and the young guard of Seattle's art scene staffed the museum. Among them was Anne Focke, '67, in the education department, who went on to organize Festival '71—which morphed into Seattle's long-running summer arts celebration, Bummer-shoot—and and/or gallery, which evolved into Artech Fine Arts service and 911 Media Arts. Everything seemed possible in those heady days.

At home in the creative environment of the museum, Olson imagined a future for himself there—and that future was film. He was active in the local film scene, attending the 1970 jurying of prizewinners for the Bellevue Film Festival, which ran from 1967-1981. There he saw an experimental film called "The Grandmother" by a young artist named David Lynch. It was an extraordinary film that won second place that year, and the filmmaker's name would stick in Olson's memory. He soon started organizing film programs himself, checking out 16mm silent shorts and animated films from the library and screening them at the museum.

Then Focke invited Olson to program films for Festival '71. He arranged for 11 hours of non-repeating films to be shown continuously. But Olson wanted more than the occasional gig. He knew other art museums had film programs and took the idea to SAM management: "Why aren't we doing this?" he asked them. "I want to try."

In 1972, he was allowed to schedule films and show them in the museum auditorium—on his own time. But his break came that summer when he advertised a screening of the Frank Capra movie "Lost Horizon." The 200-seat auditorium sold out and afterward, as people streamed out, an older man came up to Olson and emotionally shook his hand. He had seen the film about a fictional paradise called Shangri-La when it first came out in 1937, he said, and never thought he would be able to see it again. "Some kind of electricity went through me," Olson recalls. "This was my calling."

The powers that be at SAM were impressed, too. Not by the emotion, but by the sellout crowd. Olson got the go-ahead to start programming quarterly film series, to be shown once a week.

One of his early series focused on the work of director George Cukor. Among the films were "Camille" starring Greta Garbo, and "Little Women" and "The Philadelphia Story," both with Katherine Hepburn. As Seattle Times critic Hartl pointed out when he previewed the series, Cukor was known as a great "women's director" for

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# ABOLISHED

**PERSUADED BY A UW PROFESSOR'S  
RESEARCH ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION,  
THE WASHINGTON SUPREME COURT  
TOSSED OUT THE DEATH PENALTY FOR GOOD**

Seven winters ago, Heather Evans, a graduate student in sociology, sat at her kitchen table stunned by what she saw on her computer screen. She had been running a statistical model of death sentences in Washington state, and the results were profound and troubling—a black defendant was at least four times as likely to be sentenced to death than a prisoner of any other race. She wondered if she had made a mistake.

“Honestly, I did not think we were going to find a race effect,” she says of the project she had been working on with her professor, Katherine Beckett. So Evans started switching out variables like mitigating factors, the race of the victim, the locations of the murders and the heinousness of the crimes. But little changed. Black defendants were still much more likely to receive a death sentence.

Evans called Beckett with the news. “Then she started asking about changing the variables and re-running the numbers,” says Evans, ’05, ’16. “I kept telling her, ‘Yes, I did that.’ And ‘I did that, too.’”

Evans and Beckett, a UW professor in the departments of Sociology and Law, Societies & Justice, undertook the study at the request of a legal team representing an African American man on death row in Washington. The team asked Beckett for a statistical analysis of Washington’s death penalty cases to see if race was a factor. She agreed, believing the project wouldn’t take more than 20 hours of her time. “But we quickly figured out that this would be much more complicated,” she says. She hadn’t realized it would take years.

Every state’s statute on the death penalty is different, so the UW researchers had to first decide where their study should focus and then figure out what data was available. Using trial report forms prepared

by judges for all of the state’s capital cases since 1991, they decided to home in on two decision-making points—one where prosecutors determine whether the defendant should face the death penalty and one where the juries choose the death sentence.

“Our first report had two surprises,” Beckett says. When the researchers initially looked at the prosecutors’ decision-making, they found that the race of neither the defendant nor the victim had any influence on whether to pursue the death penalty. Media attention, however, did appear to be a factor when prosecutors were more likely to seek death, Beckett notes. The higher-profile the case, the more likely capital punishment would be sought.

The second surprise came with the jury decision. “That’s when I got the phone call from Heather,” Beckett says, “because the size of the effect [that a black defendant was at least four times as likely to get death] was so big.” The sociologists ran the models again and again, considering different data like the defendant’s prior convictions, the victim’s race, the number of victims and whether the victim was a female, child or stranger.

Ultimately, Beckett and Evans reviewed all potential death-penalty cases in Washington between 1981 and 2014—a total of 332. They relied on the judges’ post-trial reports as well as other case materials and legal records. “I was the data geek of the team,” says Evans, who completed her Ph.D. in 2016 and now lectures in sociology at the UW. “As we kept going back to run the numbers with different variables, at first I was concerned that it was going to delegitimize our results. In fact, it did the opposite.”

BY HANNELORE SUDERMANN PHOTO BY QUINN RUSSELL BROWN

That race was a factor here in Washington didn't completely surprise the researchers. "If you just do back-of-the-envelope calculations, you can see with the naked eye that a large proportion of black defendants were getting the death penalty more than others," says Beckett. Among cases in which death notices were filed and special sentencing proceedings occurred, juries imposed death in 38.8 percent of the cases involving non-black defendants, but 64.3 percent of the cases involving black defendants. Many other studies from around the country show the significance of race in disparities in the American criminal justice system.

But the 45-page analysis that would eventually be known as the "Beckett Report" would not only deepen the understanding of the institutional racism in the judicial system, it would profoundly—and permanently—change the law in Washington.

**I**n December 2012, Lila Silverstein, an appellate public attorney with six years in practice, was invited to join the biggest case of her career. Working alongside criminal defense lawyer Neil Fox, she would represent Allen Eugene Gregory, a Tacoma man on death row since his conviction for the 1996 rape and murder of his neighbor, Geneine Harshfield. Gregory was 24 at the time of the crime. His criminal record was not imposing; it held just one drug possession conviction and a conviction for the theft of a skateboard when he was 13. But because of the brutality of the 1996 crime, Gregory was charged with aggravated murder and the prosecutors sought the death penalty, which the jury imposed.

Six years later, Gregory's death sentence was reversed by the state Supreme Court for reasons of prosecutorial and judicial misconduct. Then, in 2012, the case was tried before a second jury. That jury reimposed the death penalty. So Gregory was onto his second appeal—one in which he and his attorneys could bring up legal issues from the more recent trial as well as raise new constitutional claims.

This was just the sort of work Silverstein had in mind when she enrolled at the UW Law School in 2004. She knew she wanted to have a career in civil rights or criminal defense. "Those were two ways you could protect marginalized communities and support individual rights," she says. She joined the law school's Innocence Project Northwest Clinic, which works to free innocent prisoners and remedy causes of wrongful convictions. Silverstein also took classes in constitutional law and appellate practice, knowing those would provide expertise she'd need. "I feel like UW Law really prepared me for a career in public service," she says. "It made a difference right out of the gate."

After graduating, Silverstein, '06, was hired by the Washington Appellate Project, a nonprofit dedicated to providing legal counsel to indigent clients. Since then, she has argued more than 26 cases before the Washington Supreme Court. One involved race discrimination in jury selection while another addressed a client's First Amendment right to criticize police.

For Gregory's defense, Silverstein took the lead in commissioning a statistical study to look at whether race had a role in death penalty sentencing. Right away, she knew she wanted Beckett to take on the project. She had seen another of the UW sociologist's studies, one that focused on racial disparity in the enforcement of drug laws in Seattle. "I knew she was respected in both the social science and legal communities," Silverstein says.

The Gregory case came on the heels of another, failed, death penalty

appeal from a black defendant. Though the appeal had failed, Silverstein pointed out a dissenting opinion where a judge noted that there seemed to be racial disparity in the application of the death penalty. "It was really a call to action in future cases," says Silverstein. It was time to look at the numbers and see if race had a role. "We knew we had to take that step."

**O**n February 25, 2016, Silverstein stepped to the front of a crowded courtroom at the Temple of Justice in Olympia and argued that the numbers in the Beckett Report showed that the death penalty in Washington is imposed with racial bias. The justices peppered her with questions, but Silverstein stuck to her message. "In every single model analyzing jury decisions [the UW team] tested, race always mattered and it was always statistically significant," she said. "Had Allen Gregory been white and everything else were exactly the same, his likelihood of receiving the death penalty would have been notably lower. ...The system as a whole is unconstitutional because it is infected with arbitrariness and racial bias."

Later that day a Pierce County prosecutor stood before the justices and questioned the value and integrity of the Beckett Report. She argued to uphold Gregory's death sentence. Kathleen Proctor, a deputy prosecuting attorney for Pierce County, said that her office hadn't had time to review the Beckett Report and that, since it was not brought up at Gregory's criminal trial, the Supreme Court shouldn't consider it at all. "We are not talking about some sort of independent scholarly research thing that was done," Proctor said. "It was hoping to show this bias."

But the judges didn't agree. "We've got a piece of evidence here ... statistics or evidence that is based on trial reports that are public records ... a numbers-crunching exercise to arrive at certain conclusions," said Judge Charles Wiggins. Several weeks after the oral arguments, the judges issued a ruling instructing the state to conduct its own review of the Beckett Report. Beckett, a widely published scholar who has been at the UW since 2000 and a full professor since 2009, wasn't too worried. "We're used to having our work evaluated," she says. "Peer review is standard practice."

But it turned out that this evaluation was far from a typical peer review. The prosecutors found their expert at UC Irvine. He was an assistant professor of psychology who had joint appointments in the departments of Psychology and Social Behavior as well as Criminology, Law and Society. The prosecution's expert wrote that he couldn't reproduce Beckett's findings. Not only that, but he wrote that when he used the data that the UW team had used, he found that black defendants were not more likely to be sentenced to death. He even suggested that Beckett and Evans had manipulated their results.

Beckett was traveling with her family in Italy when she heard about the state expert's review. "The tenor of his report was unlike anything I've ever seen in a peer review process," Beckett says. "It took us aback."

Beckett cut her trip short and flew home. She and Evans had just a few weeks to rebut the prosecution's report. "We spent a lot of time at Heather's kitchen table with three computers running," Beckett says. "We were just trying to be so careful and so thorough."

First, it took the UW pair some time to figure out how the other expert reached his results. But here's where the "genius of Heather" served them, says Beckett. Evans started imagining what mistakes she might make with less experience and was able to reproduce his results.

Reviewing the state expert's report, Beckett and Evans found two key concerns. First, because he failed to conduct necessary data transformations, he dropped 22 cases from his analysis. Beckett and Evans suspected these cases were ones in which the defendants had no prior convictions, no mitigating circumstances or both.

The prosecution's expert also made an error in measuring for race. He only looked at cases involving white and black defendants and white and black victims. That meant he didn't consider the cases in which the defendant or victim were neither white nor black. And he didn't count the cases with multiple victims of multiple races.

The UW team had just 45 days to write its response. Even after updating the report to include data from the death penalty trial reports that had become available since they first ran the study, the results continued to show that black defendants were four times as likely to receive the death penalty. A court-appointed commissioner reviewed all of the reports and responses. Then she followed up with her own questions for Beckett and Evans. Then there were briefs filed by leading scholars from around the country supporting Beckett's findings and arguing that the death penalty in Washington failed to comport with the state constitution. The process went on for many more months.

Ultimately, last Oct. 11, the Supreme Court revisited the constitutionality of the death penalty—and determined that it violated the state constitution's prohibition on cruel punishment because of its disproportionate use for black defendants.

In the end, Silverstein and Fox were not only able to help their client, they, with the Beckett Report in hand, were able to convince the court to end the death penalty in Washington. Gregory and the seven other men on Washington's death row had their sentences commuted to life without parole. The majority opinion pointed to the Beckett Report, crediting it for convincing them that "the association between race and the death penalty is not attributed to random chance."

Washington became the 20th state to abolish the death penalty, and only the third—after Massachusetts and Connecticut—to do so based on racial disparities. In the first days after the ruling, the Chronicle of Higher Education wrote about Beckett's role in changing state law and detailed some of the extended debate and attacks aimed at undermining her work. A piece in The Atlantic focused on the Washington Supreme Court's finding that data should matter in judicial decision-making and, in ending the death penalty, the state court made a bold decision that the U.S. Supreme Court has avoided. The author described the ruling as a "kind of judicial declaration of independence."

Despite the arduous experience, Beckett and Evans continue to take on projects where data analysis can be used in support of change. "I went to a community college and a state university," says Evans. "This is a way I can stay connected and give something back to my community." One of their current studies looks at the role race plays in long and life prison sentences in Washington state.

From Beckett's standpoint, her work furthers the UW tradition of providing solid data from social science to inform public policy and practice. She points to faculty predecessors like Robert Crutchfield and George Bridges, '72, whose work led to changing bail practices in King County. "I have examples in my department of people whose work had a real focus and impact," she says.

While Silverstein continues to serve indigent defendants charged with serious crimes, she doesn't expect to see another case like this one soon. "This was a really stressful, brutal project," she says. "But it was worth the effort. Nothing exactly like this has happened in other states ... there aren't many state Supreme Court cases that you can point to like this one. It's a great case, and it should inspire other attorneys and other courts around the country to take similar action." ■

## THE UW HAS A TRADITION OF ITS RESEARCH AFFECTING PUBLIC POLICY. A FEW EXAMPLES:

### VACCINATION

The School of Pharmacy made Washington the first state to train pharmacists to provide flu shots and other vaccinations. Other states have followed suit.

### SUICIDE PREVENTION

The School of Social Work's Forefront Suicide Prevention Center led Washington to become the first state in the nation to require suicide-prevention training for behavioral and health professionals.

### MINIMUM WAGE

The Seattle Minimum Wage Study, produced out of the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, is assessing how raising the city's minimum wage to \$15 is affecting employers, workers and the local economy.

### KILLER WHALES

The UW Center for Conservation Biology's study on pregnancy failures in the orca population in southern Puget Sound linked the whales' problems to a scarcity of salmon and nutritional stress.

### OCEAN TRAFFIC

Tugboats and commercial crab fishermen often clashed about the placement of crab pots because they could damage shipping traffic. The UW-based Washington Sea Grant now leads the effort to provide information on tugboat and barge lanes between Cape Flattery and San Francisco.

### VISION TESTING

The routine eye test for school children, an eye chart that has been in use since the Civil War, can't detect whether a child's eyes work together, track properly or change focus easily. UW Bothell Professor William Erdly convened a symposium that led to a new law requiring that near-vision testing be included with the standard eye test.

By Julie Davidow ✿ Photos by the Voorhes

# DOWN TO THE CORE

WHILE THE UW MAY LOOK ROBUST,  
long-standing cuts in state funding are eroding the school's  
ability to maintain buildings, raise salaries and retain faculty

**LAST APRIL**, University of Washington President Ana Mari Cauce picked up a purple shovel to break ground on the new Population Health building—a \$230 million investment in reducing health disparities locally and worldwide. About \$210 million of the project will be paid for with a donation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Six months later, as the footings for the building emerged from the site, Cauce appeared across the Seattle campus at wə'təb?altx<sup>v</sup> — Intellectual House to deliver her state of the University address. She was in a less celebratory mood.

After a decade of diminishing state funding, the quality and affordability of the University is in jeopardy, Cauce warned. "It's time to sound the alarm that our great public service mission is at risk."

Like many top public research universities nationwide, there is a tension at the center of the UW's finances. While rising private donations have created pockets of prosperity, other corners of the University are struggling. State funding for higher education—the core of the UW's operating budget and what pays for the majority of undergraduate teaching, basic operations and building maintenance—has declined in what public universities nationwide are calling a "lost decade" for public funding.

To weather the 2008 recession and balance their budgets, most states slashed support for higher ed. Here in Washington, state cuts chipped away about half of the UW's per-student funding.

"We really haven't recovered from that," says Sarah Norris Hall, UW's vice provost for planning and budgeting. Although higher education

funding has ticked up slightly in recent years, a UW budget office study shows that Washington's flagship university still receives among the least state dollars per student compared to 22 other top public research schools around the country.

**ON A LATE DECEMBER AFTERNOON** in his office, Robert Stacey, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, recalled what drew him to the UW three decades ago. In 1988, Stacey decided to leave his job teaching medieval history at Yale for a position at the University of Washington. Going west meant more to him than a better shot at tenure. It gave him the opportunity, he says, "to teach at an institution where middle-class kids like me could get a really good, affordable education and, if they did well, they could go anywhere in the world."

Stacey often draws upon the past to make his case. His examples sweep from education in ancient Greece to the postwar baby boom. He turns wistful as he describes the rise and what he fears could be the decline of a public commitment to higher education.

During the heyday of public funding for higher ed, which began with the GI Bill after World War II, states met the demographic boom in middle-class, college-aged Americans by expanding and opening new campuses. "I think that model is up for grabs at this point," Stacey says. "Whether it will survive or not, I don't know, because one of the things it rests on is the idea that higher education is a public good and its pur-



## EATING AWAY AT THE UW'S QUALITY

The UW now serves nearly 60,000 students across three campuses—but with less state funding than it had a decade ago. Today, the quality of education and student experience is at risk.

poses are greater than simply to provide workers for industry.”

When the conversation turns to budgets, Stacey becomes practical. The College of Arts & Sciences is a workhorse for the UW, he says. It grants 60 percent of all undergraduate degrees and most students, regardless of major, take their prerequisites in the college.

In the past three years, the college has lost 56 faculty members due to retirement or offers from other schools. Last year, for example, a recently promoted associate professor in chemistry left for the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in large part because of the cost of living in Seattle, according to Stacey.

In the decade since the Great Recession, as concerns about cost and student debt weigh on Americans across the political spectrum, the value of higher education is increasingly measured by how well students are prepared in certain high-demand fields like STEM, Stacey says. That means funding for less popular subjects can be hard to come by, he adds.

When professors resign or retire, money to replace them is scarce, especially in the humanities and social sciences, where enrollments are down. The history department, for example, no longer has a full-time faculty member who specializes in U.S. history between 1750 and 1900. “To not be able to offer a class on the Civil War and Reconstruction is really kind of embarrassing,” Stacey says.

But there are only so many ways to slice up the state budget. Unlike the federal government, states must balance their budgets. That means tough choices. Washington is also one of only seven states without a personal or corporate income tax, leaving it dependent on property and sales taxes for more than 50 percent of its revenue.

In most states, including Washington, Medicaid is one of the fastest-growing expenses, second only to K-12 education for the portion of the budget it consumes. When a recession hits and state revenues fall, taking money from higher education carries a certain logic in the minds of some legislators, who reason that universities can draw on tuition and seek private support, says Douglas Webber, a professor at Temple University who specializes in the economics of higher education.

Higher education is also an investment in the future—a future lawmakers may not be around to claim as a victory, Webber says. “Spending on health care will help people today in a tangible way,” he adds, explaining that legislators tend to prioritize immediate results for which they can take credit. “When you cut higher education, you’re not going to see any bad effects for the next two or three years or even decades.”

**IN 2003, STATE MONEY MADE UP** about two-thirds of the University’s general operating costs. Today it covers just one-third. Tuition fills much of the gap left by the loss of state dollars. Still, despite a 66 percent increase in undergraduate resident tuition adjusted for inflation between 2003 and 2018, the UW’s tuition remains among the lowest of top public research universities in the country.

That relatively low tuition combined with lagging state funding leaves the University with few options for paying the bills, says Norris Hall.

In 2013, the state Legislature froze tuition for two years, then reduced it for two years, before authorizing a roughly 2 percent increase in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Limiting tuition helps keep the price of college in check for students, but when paired with a lack of state funding, there is also a cost to students, Norris Hall says. Less money coming in means fewer classes can be offered, new labs do not get built, and a backlog of \$2 billion in deferred maintenance persists, she explains.

Private donations can help to some extent, but that money does not flow into the University’s budget to spend as needed. Nearly all gifts are tied to donors’ priorities, whether for specific building projects, scholarships or particular research efforts.

“There’s a lot of things that gift money will never do for you,” says Walt Dryfoos, principal analyst for the UW’s fundraising department.

At private universities, donors are accustomed to writing checks for unrestricted donations to the institution, he explains. In contrast, the UW encourages donors to give based on their personal commitments or values—an approach that until about a decade ago assumed state funding would cover necessities like teaching and operations, leaving donors free to contribute added value to achieve greater impact, Dryfoos says. The Population Health building or a gift from Paul Allen of \$40 million to an endowment for Computer Science & Engineering and \$10 million from Microsoft in Allen’s honor are ways in which donor dollars are now supporting the core mission of the University, rather than providing the “margin of excellence,” Dryfoos says. “We really don’t see private support as additive anymore.”

The UW’s Be Boundless fundraising campaign has received more than \$5 billion to date. The new Population Health building will be one of the most visible landmarks of the campaign’s success. But donor support reaches all over campus and beyond, including nearly \$250,000 in fellowships for students who plan to go into public service, two recently endowed real estate professorships in the College of Built Environments, a new building for Computer Science & Engineering called the Bill and Melinda Gates Center, and a research vessel for exploring the waters in and around Puget Sound.

When state funding is declining, balancing the two messages can be tricky, Dryfoos says. “We have a huge challenge. We need the Legislature to be more supportive—we’re not going to be successful if they don’t reinvest. On the other hand, we need our prospective donors and current donors to understand we continue to be among the best in the world in areas they care deeply about and that their investments are a part of that success,” he explains. “They need to know that the state’s issues don’t mean we are going to take their money and put it into deferred maintenance.”

The UW, like many public universities, has long benefited from private philanthropy to round out the money it receives from state funding and tuition. In 1861, the Denny and Lander families donated 10 acres in downtown Seattle for the original University of Washington campus. “It started with a gift,” Dryfoos says.

He began his career in 1981 raising money at the University of California, Berkeley. He says research shows that most people want to give, but “you have to ask.” Public universities came to the practice of asking relatively late compared to their private counterparts. The UW hired its first professional fundraiser in 1958 to help manage bequests from alumni, but the school did not begin actively soliciting donations until 1966.

During the 1980s, in the wake of severe state budget cuts and campus layoffs, UW President William Gerberding launched a new approach to private fundraising. He oversaw the UW’s first capital campaign, which brought in \$284 million between 1988 and 1992.

Last year, the UW ranked second behind UCLA in the average amount of private money raised by public universities over five years, according to the Council for Aid to Education.

As president of a flagship public research university that can attract prominent donors, Cauce is wisely “going all in on both” private dollars and state support, says Scott Jaschik, editor and a co-founder of Inside Higher Ed, an online news outlet that covers higher education. Robust private fundraising helps public universities rely less on other, often unpopular strategies for bringing in more cash, including tuition increases and recruiting out-of-state students, Jaschik explains.

**THE STATE’S ROLE** *in higher education is about more than funding, Jaschik says. “If you focus entirely on private money and don’t think about the state mission, it’s easy to lose sight of the connection between the university and communities all over the state.”*



**NO  
MATTER  
HOW  
YOU  
SLICE  
IT,**

the University is getting a smaller piece of the state pie. Today, state funding is the same as it was in 1990, even though the UW serves more than 10,000 additional students. The steepest decline came in 2009-2011 as a result of the Great Recession. Over that two-year period, the University lost more than \$132 million in state funding, roughly 30 percent of its state appropriation.

**IN DECEMBER, GOV. JAY INSLEE**, ’73, released his proposed two-year budget, which includes a capital gains tax and other new revenue sources. It would provide more money to help the UW pay for salary and benefits as well as a \$103 million increase in financial aid to students from families whose incomes are 70 percent or less of the state’s median. Inslee, who has proposed changing the name of the State Need Grant to Washington College Promise, says his plan includes enough funding for all qualified students by 2021-22.

“We’re thrilled and we have a ways to go,” says Norris Hall, from the office of planning and budgeting. “We look forward to seeing what the Legislature proposes, as well.”

To that end, Cauce and her fellow college and university presidents from around the state are approaching lawmakers with a pitch to emphasize the value of higher education statewide. With the Legislature’s constitutional obligation met to fully fund K-12 education, “the air has finally cleared to focus on the next step for students: higher education,” wrote Cauce, Kirk Schulz, president of Washington State University, and Jan Yoshiwara, executive director of the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, in a recent Seattle Times opinion piece.

At an event in January sponsored by UW Impact, the legislative advocacy arm of the Alumni Association, Cauce joined other higher education leaders and legislators in a panel discussion about the public perception of higher education and the appetite in Olympia for increasing funding to the state’s public colleges and universities.

Rep. Drew Stokesbary, the ranking Republican on the House Appro-

priations Committee, said while there is broad support for higher education in the Legislature on both sides of the aisle, there are also many competing priorities.

“Nobody wants to make cuts to higher education,” Stokesbary said. “Nobody thinks that college is dumb, but there are a lot of other important things, too.”

In November, Cauce and Schulz offered an unusual display of unity around the Apple Cup football game in Pullman. The two presidents jointly delivered the message that higher education is “affordable and achievable” for all Washington state residents. University leaders hope their ongoing “Yes, It’s Possible” public awareness campaign will convince families that a state college or university is within their reach.

This sort of cooperation is especially critical for reaching legislators across the state and for overcoming what William M. Zumeta, a professor at the UW’s Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy & Governance and the College of Education, calls higher education’s “long hangover” after state cuts. In Washington, where there is no statewide system of colleges and universities, working together helps counter concerns among lawmakers in Eastern Washington, for example, that the UW is not relevant to their constituents, Zumeta says.

Given the state’s thriving economy and Inslee’s proposal to raise revenues and increase the state budget by 20 percent, Zumeta says the timing is right to ask lawmakers to give more to higher education.

“If you can ride the wave while we’ve got it before the economy tanks again,” Zumeta says, “you’d better get it while you can.” ■



Tearjerkers and epic female-driven novels have earned Kristin Hannah an international following

# Best Friends and Betrayal

By Hannelore Sudermann  
Photo by Meryl Schenker

KRISTIN HANNAH, the best-selling author of historical romances, does her writing in a most unromantic way. On a yellow legal notepad.

Admittedly, she chooses some pleasant perches from which to compose. She starts her days up in her bedroom, in a chair next to the fireplace. If the weather's nice, she will move to the patio of the wood-shingled waterfront home near Seattle that she shares with her husband, Benjamin.

But really, it's her process—efficient and orderly with outlines, research, drafts and dedicated writing time—that seems to run counter to the lush landscapes and lively tales she brings to life in her sweeping novels.

"I don't think of myself as one of those freewheeling muse-driven writers," says Hannah, '83, during a recent interview at her home. "I'm more organized, descriptive and analytical." It has served her well as she has written more than 20 books, including "The Nightingale," her 2015 novel about women in the French Resistance. The book has sold more than 2 million copies and been published in more than 40 languages. It was a No. 1 New York Times best-seller and a Wall Street Journal Best Book of the Year.

Hannah's methodical approach to her work may come, in part, from her training and practice as a lawyer. Or it may be an instinctive response to the free-spirited childhood her family provided.

When Hannah was 8, in 1968, her parents decided to flee crowded Southern California. They loaded Hannah, her younger brother and sister, and a couple of friends into a VW van and took off on a 16-week quest. "What my dad said was, 'Raise your hand when you see home,'" says Hannah. Everyone in the van found something they liked in the Pacific Northwest.

So they settled in Snohomish, and from there frequently made their way up to the mountains and to Alaska to go fishing. That Pacific Northwest grounding is why the region factors into Hannah's books, whether it is a brief stopping point or a central character.

While she started out writing romance, Hannah has evolved to be master of the tearjerker: Best friends and betrayal, a family torn apart by war, a fragile child, mother-daughter bonds. Other writers have asked her if she gets caught up in the emotions and experiences of her characters. Hannah laughs. "For me, writing is a job," she says. "I do my job and then I stop.

"I do sort of consciously put my characters through really terrible things. In doing that, they find out who they really are."

Just as her novels are tinged with heartbreak, so is Hannah's own story of finding her calling. When she was in her third year of law school at the University of Puget Sound, her mother was in the advanced stages of breast cancer. "I would go to see her every day after class and somehow one day I was complaining about one of my classes. She said, 'Don't worry about it, you're going to be a writer anyway.'"

That premonition became a plan for mother and daughter to work together on a book. Hannah wanted to try writing horror, but her mother held sway with historical romance. "She said, 'I'm sick, I pick,'" says Hannah. "Who can argue with that?" Hannah spent hours by her mom's hospital bed, capturing their ideas on paper. As her mother grew weaker, their story came to life. "It gave us something uplifting to talk about in the last days," she says.

When her mother died, Hannah bundled the draft, notes and research into a box and put it away while she went on to become a lawyer. Not until a few years later, when she was pregnant and ordered to

bed rest, did she return to the book as a way to beat the boredom. She quickly found she liked telling stories as well as the accomplishment she felt as she progressed through the novel.

She decided to keep at it after her son was born. "I thought I'd give myself until he left for kindergarten," she says. Now, he's through college and has a family of his own. And writing has become such a part of her that if she goes more than a day or two without it, she feels on edge.

Hannah's first novel, "Handful of Heaven," published in 1991, was a Gold Rush-era Alaska romance starring a beautiful, adventurous woman and a gruff, misunderstood man. It had a classic cover of lovers in a clinch. With it, Hannah was on her way, cranking out another book the following year. And then another the year after that. In 2004, the paperback edition of "On Mystic Lake" became her first book to make The New York Times Best Seller list. In it, as in all her novels, her characters deal with love, loss and recovery. Hannah says her aim is not to write "great literature" but to craft compelling stories.

"What people choose to read is not necessarily what they've been told to read," Hannah says. Among her own favorites are "Gone With the Wind," "The Thorn Birds," and "Anna Karenina." "I have always loved best the big emotional epic female-driven novel that takes me to another time and place," she says.

While romantic, traditional love still threads through her tales, Hannah now turns her focus to other relationships—sisters, best friends, parents and children. Bonds built and broken, misery, tragedy and recovery set against different backdrops.

"'Firefly Lane' is my UW book," Hannah says of her 2008 best-seller that features two best friends over 40 years. It is, she admits, the most personal and autobiographical of her books. It draws details from her 1970s-era childhood in Snohomish and her college years at the UW. The characters cross Red Square to hear lectures in Kane Hall and hang out at the HUB. One majors in communication, just like Hannah did. The other contends with breast cancer, like Hannah's mother. The book, which sold more than 1.2 million copies, gave the author a chance to explore and understand her mother's experience as well as to spend some time in the "REI-clad" Seattle in which she came of age.

But it was "The Nightingale" that became a professional turning point. "It's the book where I found my voice, my footing and my future," Hannah told The New York Times last year. It covers an important time in world history and takes inspiration from real stories of women in the Resistance. Like those women, her characters rescue Jewish children from the Nazis and help downed Allied airmen escape from France. In taking on the subject, Hannah manages to provide a rarer, women's point of view of World War II.

Hannah's most recent novel, "The Great Alone," features a 1970s Alaska homesteading family. It's a tale of human struggles and survival set in a beautiful and dangerous landscape. The book, released last spring, shot to the top of The New York Times Best Seller list and was a Washington Post "notable work of fiction" of 2018. Both "The Nightingale" and "The Great Alone" have been optioned by Tri-Star Pictures.

She has surpassed her mother's vision, becoming an internationally famous author with a massive fan following—her rare book signings are typically jam-packed. Even so, Hannah, in classic Northwest fashion, has kept a low profile at home. "I don't think my neighbors even know I'm a writer," she says.

With plenty of books behind her, she is now shifting her pace. "For years and years and years, I wrote a book every year," she says. "Now I'm taking 2 to 2½ years, with a break in between." Still she is halfway through her next work of fiction, she says, waving toward an inked-up notepad. "It's a historical novel about two women, and it's set in America," she says, demurring when asked for more detail.

In fact, she's ready to get back to work, she says, waving goodbye from her front door. "I've got writing to do." ■

Should a dose of nature be doctor's orders?

# Go Outside and Play

BY JULIE DAVIDOW

*At least two decades* of research confirms what might seem obvious for many residents of the Pacific Northwest: time in nature is good for you. It can lower blood pressure, alleviate depression and anxiety, and even reduce nearsightedness in children.

But how often should you interact with the natural world? Where? And for how long? Is gazing at the stars from your backyard enough to reap rewards? Would a solitary, seven-day backpacking trip in the Cascades yield greater results?

Can you really take two hikes and call the doctor in the morning?

A wide-ranging team of researchers at the University of Washington hopes to answer many of these questions through the Nature for Health initiative. The effort, launched in October with a \$1 million grant from outdoor retailer REI, brings specialists from disciplines including ecology, urban planning, public health, geography and the visual arts together with pediatricians, child-care providers and mental-health professionals.

This diverse group has one common goal: to understand why and how an afternoon skipping rocks at the beach, for example, or walking through a field bursting with wildflowers is beneficial for our health. Their research will focus on nature's effects on the health of children, veterans, seniors, health-care providers and underserved communities.

With screen time on the rise and time outside in decline, UW researchers hope their work will give policymakers, teachers, doctors and parents a well of evidence to draw from when designing schools, parks and treatments—or just planning a Saturday.

"The more we know about the reasons we get these benefits—is it the lack of people, is it the quiet, is it visual cues or smells, is it the chemicals coming from the trees—the better we can describe the kind of outdoor experience you need," says Joshua Lawler, an ecologist and lead Nature for Health researcher, whose own office at the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences is filled with greenery. Ivy drapes down his bookshelves and potted ferns sit atop his desk.

About a year ago, Lawler made a personal calculation about the relative benefits of exposure to nature. Then he traded a short commute to the Seattle campus from Wedgwood for 5 acres on Vashon Island. From his new home, he walks to the water with his boys, ages 8 and 12, and watches sea lions play near the shore. Twice so far on his way to work, the ferry stopped for a passing pod of orcas.

His is a life built around the greens and blues of the Puget Sound—

something he realizes not everybody can have or would necessarily want. And, in many cases, nature on a grand scale may not be required.

Children should be inspired to explore small patches of nearby nature, says pediatrician Pooja Tandon, '10. Tandon is an assistant professor at the UW, a member of Seattle Children's Research Institute and part of the Nature for Health team. Working with Best Start Washington, a Seattle nonprofit focused on improving children's health, she helped design a program to encourage outdoor play.

During checkups, pediatricians hand their tiny patients age-appropriate toys to play with outside: sidewalk chalk for a 1-year-old or a kite for a 3-year-old. The gifts create a moment for parents, children and their doctors to talk about making nature play a regular event. "Unless there's evidence and some sort of priority given to these things that feel so intuitive and obvious, I think they can get lost," Tandon says.

Some Washington doctors are already suggesting doses of nature to their adult patients to treat conditions ranging from heart disease to depression. Berdi Safford, a doctor in Ferndale, recently started giving out "parkscriptions"—prescriptions for spending time outdoors. A new park-finding app created by Recreation Northwest, a nonprofit in Whatcom County, helps her and other medical providers identify parks and trails near patients' homes.

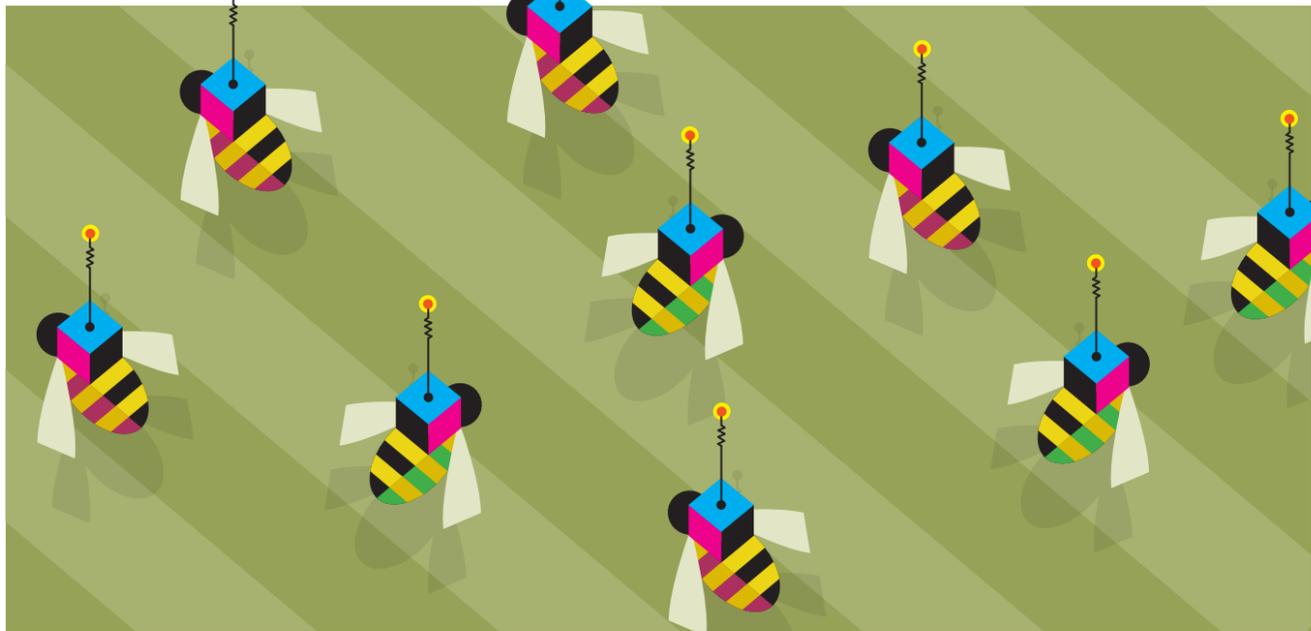
Safford moved to Seattle in 1970 for a mountain-climbing class and ended up enrolling in medical school at the UW. She is a lifelong advocate for outdoor time. She grew up in New Hampshire and spent family vacations in the White Mountains.

But persuading her patients to embrace outdoor workouts, especially in the cold and rain, is often a tough sell. Many of Safford's patients at the Ferndale Family Medical Center, a federally designated rural health clinic, are low-income and do not have the time or money for ski trips or mountain bikes.

Even suggesting an inexpensive alternative like walking close to home can be complicated, says Safford. That's especially true in Ferndale, she says, where a good number of her patients live on rural roads with deep drainage ditches, no sidewalks and cars rushing by at 50 mph.

By providing specific spots to safely enjoy nature, Safford hopes the parkscriptions will remove at least one obstacle between her patients and the fresh air. "Houses are full of exercise equipment that doesn't get used," Safford, '76, says. Parks offer an "added benefit of seeing other people, being out in nature. It's just so much nicer." ■





## Busier Bees

Using teeny, tiny batteries and sensors, insects provide a valuable eye in the sky for agriculture

BY SARAH MCQUATE AND HANNELORE SUDERMANN

**In the latest** buzzworthy contribution to the Internet of Things, engineers at the UW have created a sensing system small enough to ride aboard a bumblebee.

Because the insects are fueled with their own food—as opposed to mechanical drones that require power of some sort—only a tiny rechargeable battery is needed to run the sensors. And it can do so for seven hours of flight and then recharge while the bees are in their hive at night.

“We showed for the first time that it’s possible to actually do all this computation and sensing using insects in lieu of drones,” says Shyam Gollakota, an associate professor in the UW’s Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering and one of the faculty leads on this project. “(Small mechanical) drones can fly for maybe 10 or 20 minutes before they need to charge again, whereas our bees can collect data for hours.” The researchers were drawn to bumblebees because they are tiny, highly efficient and present in many ecosystems. While they’re out doing their own work drinking nectar and gathering pollen, they could also be helping with precision irrigation and providing environmental sensing. They outshine mechanical drones because their energy is stored in fats and carbohydrates, providing much higher energy mass density than a drone’s batteries.

The research team outfitted three species of bumblebees commonly found on the East and West coasts with a microelectronic package weighing 102 milligrams—the weight of about seven grains of uncooked rice. Since the battery is 70 milligrams, the rest of the sensor equipment had to stay around 30 milligrams. Still, that was enough to include sensors to measure temperature as well as humidity and

light intensity. Though honeybees are the primary workers for most crops that need pollination, the bumblebee is growing in use, particularly in greenhouse farming.

While they can fly longer than drones, bees aren’t the perfect sensor carriers. They can only carry small payloads, which limits the size of sensors and precludes the use of power-intensive GPS. To counter that, engineers came up with a power-free method to know where the bees were going. Multiple antennas broadcast signals across a specific area. A receiver in the bee’s backpack uses the strength of the signal and the angle difference between the bee and a base station to triangulate the insect’s position.

Also, it is hard to control where the bee might go. But that might also be valuable. “It would be interesting to see if the bees prefer one region of the farm and visit other areas less often,” says co-researcher Sawyer Fuller, an assistant professor in the UW Department of Mechanical Engineering. “Alternatively, if you want to know what’s happening in a particular area, you could also program the backpack to say: ‘Hey bees, if you visit this location, take a temperature reading.’”

This isn’t the first insect endeavor for Fuller and Gollakota’s labs. Their teams also recently collaborated on “RoboFly,” the world’s first fly-sized drone that does not need a wire from the ground to supply power and control signals. And their students already had some practice putting backpacks on bees, having recently done a similar sensor-load experiment. The process of attaching the pack involves chilling the bumblebee in a freezer for a few minutes to slow its movement, and then gluing on the unit of sensors and battery. A similar process is used to remove the device.

## Family Planning

Topical gel for men could be next big thing in contraception

**A** topical gel used daily could be the next big thing in contraception. For men. Scientists at UW Medicine and their colleagues at the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute have taken the gel to the real world for testing. Over the year, about 400 heterosexual couples in Seattle, Los Angeles and Kansas City, Kan., as well as several countries around the world will try the hormone treatment that allows men to control their own fertility. The gel contains a progestin hormone that is already in use in female contraceptives. Paired with testosterone and applied once a day to men’s backs, the hormone inhibits sperm production. In earlier trials, the contraceptive gel has been shown to have minimal side effects and to be safe, reversible and easy to use. The developers see great potential for the gel because, contrary to common misperceptions, men are interested in controlling their own fertility and currently have few options other than condoms and vasectomy. The results of the trial are scheduled to be released in 2022, at which point the gel may move to a final, wider-scale clinical trial for the purpose of obtaining FDA approval.

## A Whale of a Find

No teeth, no baleen, no problem for 33 million-year-old whale

**T**here’s a new whale in the fossil community, and this one is named in honor of one of the UW’s very own scientists. The *Maiabalaena nesbittae*, recently identified by Smithsonian scientists, is a 33 million-year-old fossil in the Burke Museum’s collection. Named for Elizabeth Nesbitt, the UW associate professor and Burke curator who works primarily with marine fossils, this whale is a link between the ancient whales with teeth and the modern ones with baleen, rows of flexible plates that allow the whales to filter food like krill, zooplankton and small fish out of ocean water. This fossil was discovered in Oregon in the 1970s but only recently have scientists at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History been able to fully clean and examine it. It had no teeth, but neither did it have baleen. They believe it had strong muscles that allowed it to feed by sucking fish-filled water into its mouth.



Get the big picture on UW research at [magazine.uw.edu](http://magazine.uw.edu)

### New Heart In, Hepatitis Out

The Pacific Northwest’s first heart-transplant recipient to purposely acquire the hepatitis C virus from the donor organ has been cured of the virus by medication. UW Medicine researchers gave the recipient, Kerry Hayes of Anacortes, an eight-week course of daily antiviral medication following his July 3 transplant at UW Medical Center. Because of this new protocol, UW Medical Center could see as much as a 10 percent increase in transplants according to Jason Smith, associate professor of cardiac surgery.

### Uh Oh, Our Snow Might Go

Snowpack accumulation in Western Washington is not looking good over the next few decades. That could spell problems for skiers and for anyone who drinks water. A new study co-authored by Cristian Proistosescu, a postdoctoral researcher at the UW’s Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean, shows that weather patterns over the previous few decades protected the Pacific Northwest from the scourge of climate change. But no longer.

### Early Gender Transitions Aren’t Random

A new study suggests that children most likely to socially transition to a gender other than their sex at birth already demonstrate the strongest “cross-gender” identities. The study also found that transitions don’t appear to alter a child’s gender identity or preferences. Kristina Olson, associate professor of psychology, said that “the new findings suggest that early childhood social transitions are not occurring randomly.” Olson launched the TransYouth Project at the UW to examine gender development and well-being among children.

### Doctors, Elderly Don’t Agree on Dialysis

Elderly people suffering from kidney failure are routinely steered toward dialysis even when they don’t want it. A study led by Susan Wong, assistant professor of nephrology at UW Medicine and a core investigator at the VA Health Services Research and Development Center, reveals that benefits from dialysis are “less certain in older, frailer patients.” This frustrates physicians, whose “values are very much entrenched around longevity being most important,” Wong says.

### Bike-Share Riders Not Using Their Heads

Bike-sharing is finally catching on in the Emerald City. That’s great news except for one troubling thing: people who ride bike-share rentals are not wearing helmets often. Only 20 percent of those riders wore helmets, according to the study by the Harborview Injury Prevention & Research Center. “What we’re concerned about is: What are the implications of casual riders not wearing helmets?” asked Stephen J. Mooney, a Harborview epidemiologist and lead author on the study. “What’s the risk for them and other people?”

BY HANNELORE SUDERMANN

PHOTO BY DAVID OH

# Gaveling Man

House Speaker Frank Chopp has spent his life helping underserved members of the Evergreen State

For a couple of months in 1974, Frank Chopp lived in a Seattle parking lot. The UW student wanted to draw attention to the demolition of low-income housing nearby. He rented a parking stall for about \$10 a month, and then he and his dad, a Bremerton shipyard electrician, built a small geodesic dome for shelter.

At the time, the city was a blue-collar town grappling with Boeing layoffs, high unemployment, power brownouts, and a national oil crisis. Low-income housing was vanishing, and Chopp felt driven to help.

Now, as he wraps up 21 years as the Washington State Legislature's longest-serving Speaker of the House, Chopp, '75, pauses to reflect on his lifelong habit of shaking things up and finding ways to help the underserved members of the state.

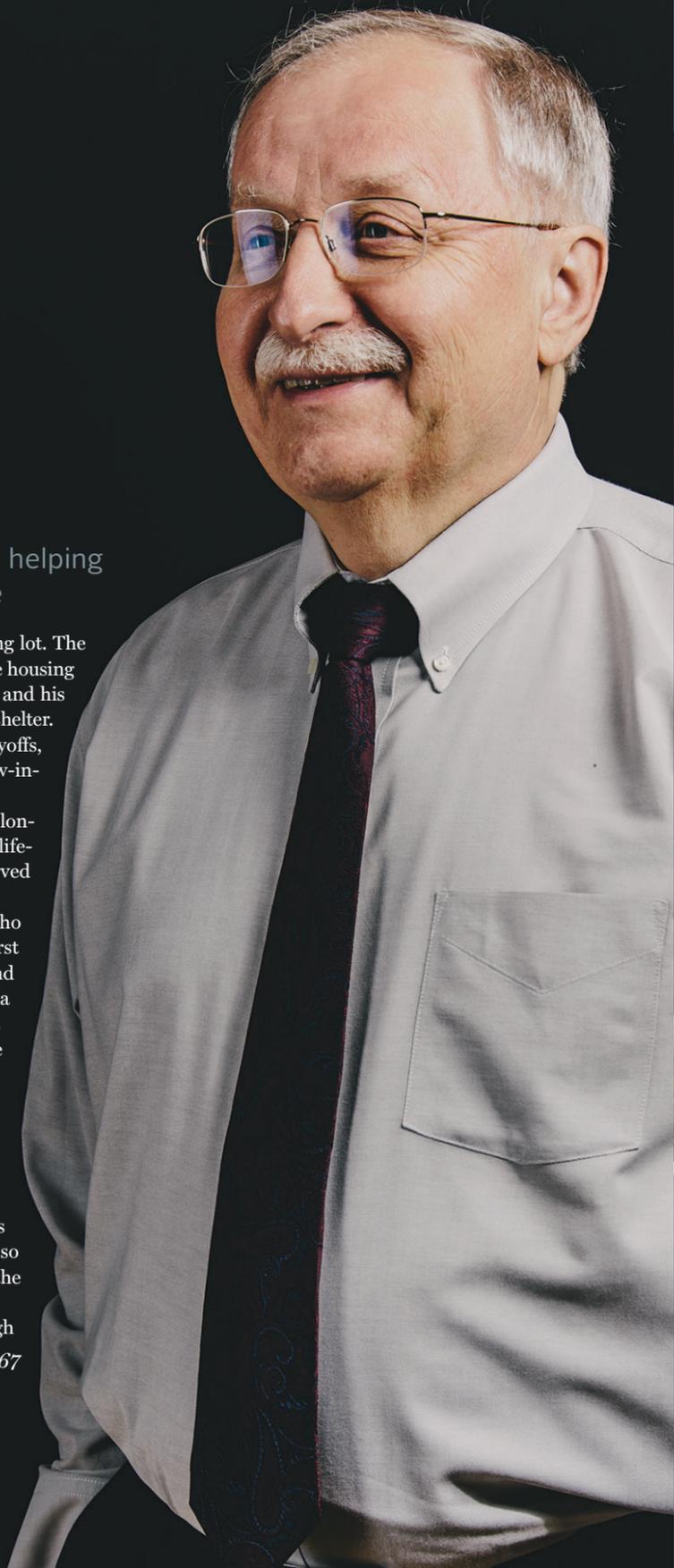
He grew up in blue-collar Bremerton with two working parents who taught him about needs and opportunity and hard work. "My dad first started working at age 12 in the coal mines in Roslyn," he says. And though his mother had to leave school at 14 to work, she always put a premium on education and insisted that her children all go to college.

As a teenager, Chopp did have long hair and maybe, he admits, one pair of bell-bottoms. But the hallmark of the early '70s that he has kept to this day is his activism. "I was a rabble-rouser," he says. "It was pretty much who I was from early on. My dad used to joke that he didn't know where I got my politics from. But I got it at home right there at the dinner table."

Chopp made his way to the UW in the footsteps of his older brother and two sisters. "There was never any question," he says. "My parents had a clear expectation that that was where I was going." They were so proud of his UW degree that they gave him a life membership to the alumni association as a graduation present.

As a student, Chopp found an outlet for his rabble-rousing through

*Continued on p. 67*



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# BRINGING JUSTICE TO EDUCATION



**Known as the father of multicultural education, Professor James A. Banks taught at the College of Education for 50 years. Now he and his wife, Professor Cherry A. McGee Banks, are building on their legacy of educational justice at the UW.**

WORDS **JAMIE SWENSON AND DUSTIN WUNDERLICH**  
PORTRAIT **QUINN RUSSELL BROWN**



With more resources, the Banks Center for Educational Justice can deepen its work at the UW—and its impact in our communities. You can help create a more equitable education for all. [giving.uw.edu/educational-justice](https://giving.uw.edu/educational-justice)

When James A. Banks arrived at the University of Washington in 1969, he was the first Black professor in the College of Education.

“Everybody of color during that era was the first,” says Banks, who grew up in a segregated farming community in the Arkansas Delta.

As a child, he watched the education system fail many of his peers, even after schools were integrated. He also had questions about representation in his textbooks: Why were enslaved Black people portrayed as happy and loyal? And why did only three other African Americans—Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver and Marian Anderson—appear in the narrative? These questions would follow Banks to graduate school and beyond.

In a 2014 interview by Arizona State University professor Audrey Amrein-Beardsley, Banks recalls that he was a determined, hardworking young student who dreamed of helping children succeed in school, “particularly those who were poor and those who were Black.” Academic from the outset, he says he even earned the nickname “Lil’ fessor” in his community.

#### **A lifetime of work**

More than half a century and a distinguished career later, Banks holds a different moniker: the father of multicultural education.

In his doctoral dissertation for Michigan State University, hearkening back to his childhood, Banks examined how African Americans were depicted in—or largely omitted from—textbooks. Then he began broadening his research to include other groups struggling against injustice.

“My notion of equality and bringing about justice keeps expanding,” Banks told Amrein-

Beardsley. “The notion of trying to work for more justice in the world is a wide one, and it’s a lifetime of work.”

In his own lifetime of work, Banks has authored 100-plus articles and has written or edited more than two dozen books—several with his wife, Professor Cherry A. McGee Banks, who retired in 2018 from the UW Bothell School of Educational Studies.

In 1992, James Banks founded the UW Center for Multicultural Education, which focuses on improving practice related to equity issues, intergroup relations and the achievement of all students. After 27 years of thought leadership by the center, the field of multicultural education has become an essential part of curricula in pre-K-12 classrooms and schools of education worldwide.

#### **Looking to the future**

Banks’ retirement from the Kerry and Linda Killinger Endowed Chair in Diversity Studies in January marked the closing of his extraordinary academic career. But with an eye to the future of the field he helped establish, he and McGee Banks made a gift to establish a professorship.

“We wanted to ensure that multicultural education would remain an important priority at the UW in future generations,” Banks says.

The inaugural James A. and Cherry A. Banks Professor of Multicultural Education, Django Paris, says that holding this position is “beyond a dream.”

Like Banks, Paris didn’t see his identities represented in his childhood studies, and he also wanted to help create change. “There weren’t a lot of opportunities for my Blackness, in particular my Jamaican-ness,” he says. “The stories of migration, of linguistic diversity—there wasn’t really a place for that in public schooling.”

Over the past five decades, Banks’ work has helped spread a more equitable and just pedagogy and curriculum around the world. Paris aspires to build on this foundation as the Center for Multicultural Education becomes the Banks Center for Educational Justice.

The center’s shift in focus is necessary, says Paris, because school systems have historically reproduced inequality and injustice more often than they have fought against them.

Much of the Banks Center’s research will be devoted to finding local schools and organizations that are making progress toward educational justice and learning as much as possible from them, says Paris: “We want to better understand what it means to work toward an education that honors and values who communities have been,

are and can be. Educational justice is not something you simply arrive at. It’s always unfolding.”

As he looks to the future, Banks shares similar sentiments. Considering Martin Luther King Jr.’s famous pronouncement that the arc of the moral universe bends toward justice, Banks cautions that this does not mean justice happens on its own. It will happen only, he says, “if we work to make it happen.” ■



Professors Django Paris (left) and James A. Banks

# A ROAD TO RECOVERY

WORDS HANNAH GILMAN  
PHOTOS MARK STONE

Struck by the number of nonviolent offenders imprisoned on drug charges, the Tulalip Tribes partnered with UW School of Law alumni to offer second chances through treatment.



Robert "Whaa-Ka-Dup" Monger stokes the fire in preparation for an Inipi (sweat lodge) ceremony.



*This story was produced in collaboration with the Tulalip Tribes. The UW is grateful for their assistance and support.*

When Everest\* was 12 years old, an accident left her with an excruciating compound fracture. It was made bearable only by Percocet, a fairly standard but dangerously addictive prescription.

Everest, a citizen of the Tulalip Tribes, became dependent before she realized it. Fifteen years later, she has more than 20 drug charges on her record and jail time hanging over her head.

Her story is a common one. But Tulalip Tribal Court prosecutor Brian Kilgore, '11, doesn't believe that jail time and a record are how these stories should end—and neither does the community he serves.

Enter the Tulalip Healing to Wellness Court. Presided over by Tulalip Tribal Court chief judge Ron Whitener, '94, a citizen of the Squaxin Island Tribe, the Wellness Court provides nonviolent drug offenders with an alternative to incarceration: real help.

## Taking a therapeutic approach

"The traditional criminal justice system says, 'We're going to punish you, and you're going to behave differently,'" says Kilgore. But studies show that up to 80 percent of drug

abusers commit a new crime once they're released from prison, and 95 percent start using again.

At the UW, Kilgore honed his skills at the philanthropy-supported Tribal Court Public Defense Clinic. Since 2002, the clinic has offered School of Law students hands-on experience in public defense under faculty supervision, while Tulalip Tribes citizens receive legal counsel.

According to the state's Department of Health, drug- and alcohol-related deaths in Washington amount to 32.4 per 100,000 people annually. In Tulalip, that number skyrockets to 278.7 per 100,000 people.

In search of a more supportive and productive path for nonviolent offenders imprisoned on drug charges, Kilgore and Tulalip community members worked with a team of professionals to kick-start the Healing to Wellness Court. In 2017, they welcomed its first participants.

## Setting a holistic path

Stories of addiction cross Kilgore's desk every week. If an offender meets the requirements for participating in the Wellness Court, they go up for review by the team: judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, coordinator, case manager, chemical dependency counselor, law enforcement officer and tribal

community member, who supports cultural reintegration—an element that distinguishes the Tulalip Wellness Court from other state drug court programs.

Participants typically start with 28 days of intensive inpatient treatment, then focus on finding sober housing. Later, they work on community service projects and take part in education and job training.

They must also appear in Wellness Court every week to check in with their team. If it was a good week, Judge Whitener may reward them with incentives such as later curfews. After a hard week, there will likely be sanctions. Either way, the team is there to help the participant succeed.

"The goal is to not have people come back through the criminal justice system," says Kilgore. If done right, the program ends with a case dismissal. If the participant doesn't finish, they're found guilty and wind up right back where they started.

## Connecting with tribal culture

This process is far from easy. Many participants don't have a support system—in fact, their social network may be part of the reason they struggle with addiction.

To that end, they have the option of living at the Tulalip Healing Lodge, a transitional home for people pursuing

a sober lifestyle. Under the guidance of community member Robert "Whaa-Ka-Dup" Monger, participants reconnect with their native roots by singing and praying in Inipi (sweat lodge) ceremonies, making traditional drums or weaving baskets.

"Some of them have never had somebody like me in their life; somebody who walks and talks and lives and breathes the spiritual way of life," says Monger, who's nearly 20 years sober himself. "I'm very fortunate and blessed to be able to do this kind of work."

## The future of the Wellness Court

The first participant graduated in 2018, and the Wellness Court community has great expectations for them.

"Numbers around the country show that this model is far more effective than conventional prosecution," says Kilgore. "People who graduate commit new crimes at much lower rates. It's better for them, it's better for their families and it's better for the court system."

Participants like Everest face hurdles during treatment, but the Wellness Court offers a special link to tribal culture that has inspired many of them to reconnect. As the program grows, Kilgore also hopes to serve people whose cases aren't qualified as high-

risk or high-need. "Almost every case we file is a result of addiction," he says, "and my dream is that the Healing to Wellness Court will expand to cover every one of them."

Monger wants to widen the program even further—to reach young adults before they start using. "These are human beings," he says. "We need to continue doing things differently to try to help them overcome these addictions." ■



By supporting experiential education at programs like the Tribal Court Public Defense Clinic, you can help School of Law students gain hands-on skills and cultural perspective as they serve our communities.

[giving.uw.edu/tribal-healing-court](http://giving.uw.edu/tribal-healing-court)

*Top: Ron Whitener, '94, chief judge at the Tulalip Tribal Court, is a citizen of the Squaxin Island Tribe.*

*Bottom: Brian Kilgore, '11, serves as a prosecutor at the Tulalip Tribal Court.*

\*Name has been changed.

# MAKING PLAY POSSIBLE

WORDS CHELSEA YATES

## Through the HuskyADAPT club, engineering students and community members are learning how to modify toys for children of all abilities.

When Molly Mollica moved to Seattle for graduate school, she was surprised that there wasn't a single toy library in Washington state that was registered with the USA Toy Library Association. In Ohio, where she'd moved from, there were more than 70.

Toy libraries are an inexpensive way to provide children with a variety of toys that stimulate their development. But, explains Mollica, a Ph.D. student in bioengineering, "not all toys are accessible to all kids, depending on their abilities."

Children with disabilities are often unable to play with toys in the ways they were designed to be used—which can prevent them from reaping the developmental benefits of play, like learning cause and effect, improving motor skills and increasing independence. Some manufacturers offer modified toys, but these are frequently much more expensive.

While an undergraduate in Ohio, Mollica had learned how to apply basic engineering and circuitry skills to adapt toys for local toy libraries at a fraction of the cost. She got to thinking: How could she do that at the UW?

### Building a network

Mollica met fellow UW graduate student Brianna Goodwin, '18, who also had a background in toy adaptation. As an undergraduate in Oregon, Goodwin had been involved with GoBabyGo!, a program that modifies battery-operated ride-on cars for young children to meet their unique mobility needs.

Goodwin and Mollica connected with Kat Steele, associate professor of mechanical engineering, whose research brings together universal design, accessibility and inclusive community building.

"With assistive technology and accessible design, there's a lot of room for fresh ideas and innovation, so it's a great space for student energy," Steele says.

Steele, Goodwin and Mollica contacted other UW experts, including Anat Caspi, who directs the Taskar Center for Accessible Technology in the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering; Human Centered Design & Engineering lecturer Dianne Hendricks; Heather Feldner, assistant professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine; and Shawn Israel, a physical therapist and instructor in rehabilitation medicine.

Before long, a campus network began to form around accessible play technology.

### HuskyADAPT is born

"Modifying an electronic toy is a surprisingly simple process with a lot of positive impact and educational benefits," Mollica says. By soldering a headphone jack in parallel with the original activation switch, she explains, she can make it possible to activate the toy by pushing a large button—or whatever option works for a particular child.

Mollica began collaborating with Hendricks and Caspi to organize toy adaptation workshops on campus. As more students got involved, Goodwin worked with Steele and other faculty to develop a student organization they named HuskyADAPT (Accessible Design and Play Technology). Thanks to a gift from Carolee Mathers, '65, and Tom Mathers, '70, the organization had a strong first year and expanded its footprint. Now in its second year, it has trained hundreds of students and community members to adapt toys for children of different abilities.

"The interdisciplinarity of HuskyADAPT is exciting," says Goodwin. "Students from across campus—those studying engineering, future educators, physical and occupational therapists—participate in the club."

In addition to making toys more accessible for local children and their families, HuskyADAPT teaches students valuable career skills. "If we can train engineering students

in accessible and inclusive design today, we can help create a more diverse and prepared engineering workforce for tomorrow," says Steele.

### A gift to power the future of accessible design

In partnership with the Taskar Center and local nonprofit Provail, HuskyADAPT recently won a grant from Ford Motor Company's Blue Oval Network. It will help them create something Mollica has long hoped for: a lending library of adapted toys for children with diverse abilities.

"So many of the things I'm passionate about—engineering, education, accessibility, empowering others and making an impact—have come together through HuskyADAPT," Mollica says. "Thanks to Ford and our volunteers, supporters and collaborators, we're opening an adapted-toy library for the Seattle community that can be a model for future toy libraries across the state." ■



### Enable play for all

By supporting HuskyADAPT, you'll help make it possible for UW students to create accessible toys for children of all abilities.

[giving.uw.edu/huskyadapt](https://giving.uw.edu/huskyadapt)

Learn more about HuskyADAPT, including how to request an adapted toy.

[depts.washington.edu/adaptuw](https://depts.washington.edu/adaptuw)

## TEAMING UP FOR THE UW



Across the country, NCAA basketball teams are jostling for spots in one of the most thrilling sporting events in the world: March Madness. This month, 68 men's teams and 64 women's teams will officially earn their passports to their NCAA Tournaments—but many more will not.

And though these young players may be disappointed for a while, they'll still come out winners in the long run. I know this from experience.

From 1980 to 1984, I played on both the JV and varsity basketball teams at the UW. As a four-year walk-on, I managed the grind of juggling my studies with the rigor of daily practices, along with strength and conditioning training. I was on the scout team, which tried to emulate what our opponents would be doing on game day.

It wasn't a glamorous job, but it was one my teammates appreciated. It also taught me a valuable lesson: There are piano players and there are piano movers, and teams need both to be successful. Great teams have players who understand their roles and accept them. I was a piano mover and loved every minute of it.

My senior year was particularly memorable. As co-champions of the old Pac-10 Conference, we made the NCAA Tournament and the Sweet 16, defeating Nevada and Duke in the process. In our game against Nevada, I scored the only point of my college career.

Those lessons I learned more than three decades ago still inspire me today. I think they're especially applicable to the incredible work I see happening across the UW during our historic fundraising campaign. The UW's alumni, faculty, staff, parents, donors, advocates and friends—we're all one big team. We rise to the challenge in tandem, and while some may see more of the limelight than others, what matters is what we can achieve together.

Whether you are a piano player or a piano mover, you matter to the UW. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

**Pete Shimer**  
Chair, UW Foundation Board



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL PUBLIC LECTURE  
**An Evening With Theaster Gates**

May 2, 7:30 p.m.  
Kane Hall, 130

**THE ARTIST AND VISUAL ARTS PROFESSOR** from Chicago creates work that focuses on space theory and land development, sculpture and performance. Drawing on his interest and training in urban planning and preservation, Gates redeems spaces that have been left abandoned. This lecture is co-sponsored with the School of Art + Art History + Design.

**Lectures**

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL PUBLIC LECTURES  
(Free with registration)

*Memory and Place, a Panel*  
**April 3, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kane Hall, 130

Are our history and memories still relevant? Artists Morehshin Allahyari, Trinh Mai and Sara Zewde use different mediums to create visual works around these questions. Please join us for a panel discussion moderated by Priya Frank of the Seattle Art Museum, as these three artists talk about how places we care about change and how that affects our memories.

*Kim TallBear: Why is Sex a "Thing"?*  
*Making Good Relations for a Decolonial World*  
**April 24, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kane Hall, 120

Kim TallBear, associate professor in Native Studies at the University of Alberta, is interested in the Western constructions of "nature" and "sexuality," and how they might be understood differently from indigenous points of view.

*An Evening With Sir David Adjaye*  
**May 9, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kane Hall, 130

Sir David Adjaye is the Ghanaian British architect who designed the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. in fall 2016. His broadly ranging influences, ingenious use of materials and sculptural ability have established him as an architect with an artist's sensibility and vision.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT LECTURE

*2nd Annual Lee Scheingold Lecture*  
*in Poetry and Poetics*  
**March 7, 7 p.m.**  
Kane Hall, 220

Featuring Leanne Betasamosake Simpson and Alexis Pauline Gumbs in conversation.

**Music**

*Studio Jazz Ensemble & UW Modern Band*  
**March 11, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kathryn Alvord Gerlich Theater

The School of Music's Studio Jazz Ensemble performs big band arrangements and repertory selections. The Modern Band performs innovative arrangements.

*UW Wind Ensemble*  
**March 12, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kathryn Alvord Gerlich Theater

The Wind Ensemble presents a program prepared for their 2019 spring tour of China.

*Chamber Singers and University Chorale: Odranoel*  
**March 13, 7:30 p.m.**  
Kathryn Alvord Gerlich Theater

A tribute to the 500th anniversary of the passing of Leonardo da Vinci with ODRANOEL, the concert will feature Italian madrigals both new and of the time of this Renaissance genius. Also on the program: Members of the Chamber Singers perform choruses from Handel's oratorio Samson.



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**PUBLIC LECTURES**

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## ALUMNI

**Chester Douglas Elsner**  
North Bend, age 74, Sept. 17.

**Gerald George Teller**  
Burien, age 83, Dec. 20.

## 1940s

**Gertrude J. Bell**  
'40 | Seattle, age 92, Sept. 28.

**Harriet Hughes**  
'41, '42 | Shoreline, age 99, Oct. 18.

**Helen S. Minton**  
'41 | Concord, Mass., age 98, Sept. 21.

**Otway O'Meara Pardee**  
'41 | Syracuse, N.Y., age 98, Dec. 4.

**Gerald R. Garrison**  
'42, '52 | Vashon, age 96, Oct. 16.

**Jack T. Hisayasu**  
'42, '08 | Lynnwood, age 95, Nov. 14.

**Jean (Montgomery) Berg**  
'43 | Seattle, age 96, Nov. 6.

**Gordon Harvill Gray**  
'44 | Mercer Island, age 97, Sept. 14.

**Evelyn Agnes (Voigt) Partridge**  
'44 | Vancouver, Wash., age 98, Nov. 24.

**Jacques Francis Robertson**  
'44 | Edmonds, age 97, Sept. 26.

**Roger "Jim" D. Bruce**  
'45 | Lynnwood, age 96, Nov. 2.

**Solomon Halfon**  
'46 | Seattle, age 96, Sept. 16.

**Gordon Lee Mathis**  
'46 | Mercer Island, age 97, Dec. 14.

**Jean S. McClelland**  
'47, '70 | Seattle, age 93, Dec. 11.

**William Jay Gore**  
'48 | Seattle, age 94, Sept. 10.

**Joseph "Jay" Buckner Sullivan**  
'48, '52 | Cincinnati, age 94, Dec. 5.

**Warren W. Bestwick**  
'49 | Redmond, age 96, Oct. 18.

**Jean Lincoln Frankland**  
'49 | Seattle, age 91, Dec. 10.

**Gerald Eugene Horrobin**  
'49 | Seattle, age 90, Nov. 2.

**Robert A. Johnson**  
'49 | Duwall, age 91, March 22, 2018.

## 1950s

**Morgan Albert Barokas**  
'50 | Mercer Island, age 91, Dec. 2.

**Jack Norman Bigford**  
'50, '52 | Kent, age 95, Oct. 12.

**Thomas Waldo Skalley**  
'50, '51, '54 | Everett, age 92, Nov. 4.

**James R. Cook**  
'51, '54 | Bremerton, age 89, Nov. 1.

**Ronald Lyne Gibson**  
'51 | Rancho Mirage, Calif., age 90, Sept. 9.

**Donald Bryan Jacobs**  
'51 | Vashon, age 89, Nov. 24.

**Takashi Matsui**  
'51, '08 | Seattle, age 101, Dec. 22.

**Burnett Henry Sams III**  
'51 | Port Republic, N.J., age 87, May 25.

**Anne Marie Humes Sankey**  
'51 | Bothell, age 88, Dec. 15.

**Harold "Hal" Thompson**  
'51 | Seattle, age 92, Dec. 16.

**John "Jack" W. Hensey**  
'52 | Bellevue, age 90, Oct. 4.

**Philip K. LeVander**  
'52 | Bothell, age 90, Dec. 6.

**June Elizabeth Milette**  
'52 | Seattle, age 88, Oct. 22.

**Earl Vladimir Prebezac**  
'52 | Edmonds, age 93, Feb. 9, 2018.

**Lilly Thal Warnick**  
'52 | Tacoma, age 84, Oct. 21.

**Ardis Beard**  
'53 | Seattle, age 86, Nov. 24.

**Joe E. Crosson**  
'53, '58 | Ketchum, Idaho, age 87, Sept. 15.

**Donald Emmett Fitts Sr.**  
'53 | Kent, age 87, Oct. 19.

**Darrell Malan Lee**  
'53 | Medina, age 86, Nov. 6.

**Joan Ellona Jacobsen Mann**  
'53, '79, '87 | Seattle, age 87, Dec. 5.

**Ann-Mari Simonsen**  
'53 | Mercer Island, age 87, Nov. 8.

**Helen V. Andrews**  
'54 | Bothell, age 87, Nov. 27.

**Stuart Douglas Barker Jr.**  
'54, '55 | Seattle, age 87, Oct. 20.

**James William Massick**  
'54 | Issaquah, age 86, Oct. 19.

**Philip L. Palmer**  
'54 | Bellevue, age 90, Sept. 18.

**Albert Arthur James**  
'55 | Bothell, age 86, Oct. 3.

**Walter Edwin Puddy Jr.**  
'55 | Mercer Island, age 92, Nov. 10.

**Dorothy Ann Ackerman**  
'56 | Bothell, age 84, Nov. 10.

**Larry S. Dick**  
'56 | Oro Valley, Ariz., age 84, Dec. 7.

**Walton J. McGarrigle**  
'56 | Huntington Beach, Calif., age 85, Dec. 3.

**Ralph F. Shriner**  
'56 | Honolulu, age 89, Oct. 26.

**Donna Marie Tonella**  
'56 | Kent, age 83, Nov. 19.

**Masaru Hamamoto**  
'57, '61 | Renton, age 93, Nov. 9.

**Forrest Michael Peringer**  
'57 | Seattle, age 83, Dec. 9.

**Celeste Johanna Rose**  
'57 | West Linn, Ore., age 84, Oct. 28.

**Carolyn Joan Wood**  
'57 | Bellevue, age 83, Nov. 27.

**Ted Strathy Frost**  
'58 | Bainbridge Island, age 86, Nov. 6.

**Harold Sandler**  
'58 | Seattle, age 88, Sept. 27.

**Victor Sumio Hirakawa**  
'59 | Seattle, age 82, Oct. 7.

**Ora "Karl" Krienke Jr.**  
'59, '70, '73 | Seattle, age 87, Dec. 7.

## 1960s

**Eugene L. Beaulieu**  
'61 | Seattle, age 79, Oct. 30.

**Donald L. Adams**  
'62 | Renton, age 78, Nov. 19.

**David Hasson**  
'62 | Seattle, age 81, Nov. 2.

**Laurence H. Shaw**  
'62 | Seattle, age 84, Sept. 23.

**William A. Baker**  
'63 | Tacoma, age 79, Oct. 25.

**Kenneth Martin Christy**  
'63 | Tukwila, age 77, Oct. 31.

**Gladys Alice Craig**  
'63 | Seattle, age 97, Dec. 9.

**Anthony J. Kopay**  
'63 | Mount Vernon, age 78, Nov. 16.

**Charles E. Tobin**  
'63 | Des Moines, age 78, Nov. 13.

**Glenn J. Eckard**  
'65 | Oak Harbor, age 82, Oct. 25.

**Nicholas Arnold Johnson**  
'65, '70 | Auburn, age 78, Oct. 26.

**Iris McCann Page**  
'65, '77 | Mukilteo, age 95, Dec. 25.

**Rosemary Bonamy MacGregor**  
'67 | Costa Rica, age 72, Feb. 15, 2018.

**David Loran Shipway**  
'67 | Kirkland, age 75, Nov. 4.

**Linda Yvonne Hagen**  
'68 | Sammamish, age 72, Sept. 2.

**Guela Gayton Johnson**  
'68 | Seattle, age 91, Oct. 8.

**Helen Margaret Sullivan**  
'68, '71 | Victoria, B.C., age 73, Oct. 29.

**Eugene F. Sutliff**  
'68 | Arlington, age 80, Dec. 12.

**Lawrence Caruso**  
'69 | North Bend, age 72, Oct. 15.

## 1970s

**Robin G. Cassidy**  
'70 | Bellevue, age 71, Dec. 3.

**Lou Ann Hussman Mercado**  
'70 | Seattle, age 85, Nov. 21.

**Marylyn Horne Nolting**  
'70 | Des Moines, age 88, Oct. 20.

**Kenton Monroe Thurman**  
'70 | Rancho Mirage, Calif., age 73, Nov. 16.

**Jean Setsuko Yokota**  
'70 | Seattle, age 72, Sept. 25.

**Ann Rudd Brucken**  
'71 | Seattle, age 78, Oct. 20.

**Edward Clifford**  
'71 | Allyn, age 80, Nov. 20.

**Gregory Scott Thompson**  
'72 | Normandy Park, age 75, Nov. 15.

**Skipper Carter Tollefson**  
'72 | Edmonds, age 80, Dec. 17.

**James Krieg**  
'73 | Indian Wells, Calif., age 69, Nov. 10.

**Margaret Teresa McDevitt**  
'73 | Seattle, age 88, Dec. 8.

**Rodney Etsuo Motonaga**  
'73 | SeaTac, age 67, Nov. 30, 2017.

**Hiram Kiha Naipo III**  
'73 | Everett, age 67, Nov. 10.

**Margaret Stephenson-Dahl**  
'73, '79 | Mountlake Terrace, age 82, Nov. 12.

**Allen Anthony Mankowski**  
'74 | Palm Desert, Calif., age 70, Nov. 2.

**Beverley Dean Millison**  
'74 | Seattle, age 87, Oct. 12.

**Carol Ann Momoda**  
'74, '77 | Seattle, age 66, Dec. 4.

**Kevin Joseph Robinson**  
'74 | Seattle, age 67, Nov. 13.

**Richard W. Beauchamp**  
'75 | Polson, Mont., age 71, Dec. 10.

**Frederick J. Campbell**  
'75 | Snohomish, age 74, Nov. 8.

**Catherine L. Jensen**  
'75 | Seattle, age 92, Nov. 6.

**Margarita M. Suarez**  
'75 | Seahurst, age 76, Oct. 17.

**Ronald Allen Bryant**  
'76 | Brier, age 70, Dec. 23.

## Richard C. Berner

1920-2018

**R**ichard C. Berner spent his professional life collecting, organizing and writing the history of Seattle. He founded the University of Washington Special Collections and headed Manuscripts and Archives from 1958 to 1984. During the 1990s, Berner, '47, wrote and published a three-volume history of 20th century Seattle. Born in Seattle in 1920, he graduated from Garfield High School. During World War II, he served in the Army's 10th Mountain Division. After college at the UW, where he studied economics, he obtained graduate degrees in history and library science at UC Berkeley. He loved to hike and ski with his wife, Thelma Kennedy, who was a professor at the UW School of Medicine and associate dean of the UW Graduate School. Kennedy, who died in 2009, and Berner were married for 46 years. "Every wall in their house was covered with books," local historian Junius Rochester told the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild. Berner died Nov. 3 at 97.



COURTESY PAUL DORFMT

## Verlaine Keith-Miller

1948-2018

**A**s a founding member of the Black Student Union in the late 1960s, Verlaine Keith-Miller helped lead the student movement demanding that the UW recruit and retain more students and teachers of color. The students' activism led to the establishment of the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity. Though Keith-Miller, '73, '80, was afraid about possible violence and arrest, she felt compelled to join her friends and classmates on May 20, 1968, when they staged a sit-in at the administration building with a list of demands. "It was really about making a change for the world for the better," she said in an interview last year. "And there was a great unity among students. We were all in the struggle together." After completing her bachelor's degree in Black Studies in 1973 and a law degree in 1980, Keith-Miller went on to a life in law and public service. She was an assistant attorney general for the State of Washington for several years and later served as an industrial appeals judge for the Washington State Board of Appeals until she retired in 2015. She died Oct. 18 at the age of 70.



OFFICE OF MINORITY AFFAIRS & DIVERSITY

To report an obituary, email us at [columns@uw.edu](mailto:columns@uw.edu) or write to us at Columns magazine, Campus Box 359559, Seattle WA 98195-9559

**Anthony James Matteo**  
'76 | Seattle, age 66, Oct. 10.

**Stephen C. Nelson**  
'76 | Seattle, age 69, Sept. 12.

**Marjorie A. Dougherty**  
'77 | Seattle, age 63, Sept. 11.

**Corey A. Mendoza**  
'77 | Seattle, age 91, Nov. 11.

**Merle Brent Parsons**  
'77 | Kenmore, age 64, Nov. 9.

**Montgomery "Monty" Correll**  
'78 | Spokane, age 63, Oct. 8.

**Linda Carol Cornish Johnson**  
'78 | Seattle, age 70, Oct. 10.

**Thomas Walton Paine**  
'78 | Seattle, age 70, Oct. 7.

**Tove Lund**  
'79 | Mercer Island, age 77, Oct. 14.

**Bruce Myers**  
'79 | Clyde Hill, age 62, Sept. 18.

**Craig Alan West**  
'79 | Olympia, age 68, Nov. 2.

## 1980s

**Sarah (Sally) Clise Black**  
'80, '83 | Bainbridge Island, age 84, Oct. 27.

**Michael Donald Bouillon**  
'80 | Bainbridge Island, age 60, Sept. 20.

**Philipp G. Fries**  
'80 | Port Angeles, age 66, Sept. 5.

**Elaine Julianne Darling**  
'81, '90 | Kirkland, age 73, Sept. 15.

**David Carey**  
'82 | Surprise, Ariz., age 59, Sept. 29.

**Betty (Lynch) Meaders**  
'82 | Seattle, age 80, Sept. 21.

**Eric Robert Shields**  
'82 | Kirkland, age 65, Nov. 23.

**David A. Havlovic**  
'85 | New Berlin, Wisc., age 58, July 13, 2017.

**Lisa Schloredt Sawtell**  
'86 | Seattle, age 54, Dec. 24.

**Jennifer Dow Walls**  
'86 | Seattle, age 54, Oct. 13.

**Leatrice Stern**  
'88, '90 | Bellevue, age 86, January 2018.

## 1990s

**Beverly J. Edmund**  
'90 | Lynnwood, age 76, Nov. 14.

**Kevin Wade Trent**  
'91 | Seattle, age 57, Nov. 3.

**Eleanor J. Rung Connolly**  
'92 | Seattle, age 92, Sept. 26.

**John Richard Jecker**  
'92 | San Anselmo, Calif., age 58, May 6, 2017.

**Christina Lynn Westerdal**  
'95 | Bellevue, age 45, Sept. 16.

## 2010s

**Dexter Elpidio Slade Blue**  
'18 | Seattle, age 24, Oct. 17.

## Faculty & Friends

**Beverly Joan Anderson** enjoyed a long career in administration at the UW, working for Continuing Education, the College of Built Environments and the College of the Environment. She died Dec. 14 at the age of 73.

**Robert Clark Bain** served as an adjunct faculty member in internal medicine at the UW School of Medicine and volunteered as a medical expert for Social Security claims. He died Nov. 3 at the age of 93.

**Lawrence Martin Brammer** served as the chair of the UW's Educational Psychology Department for six years and as president of the American Psychological Association (Division 17 / Counseling Psychology). He also led the Washington Office of Public Instruction's efforts to develop measures and credentialing criteria for competency-based programs in counselor education. Brammer died Nov. 4 at the age of 96.

**Ellis Dale Evans** served the UW for 33 years as a professor and chair of educational psychology. A former captain in the Air Force, he was passionate about music and played trom-

bone in various bands, including the E Sharp Ensembles and the Nice and Easy Band. Evans died Nov. 12, 2017 at the age of 83.

**James Fernandez** taught math in the UW's Upward Bound program, an initiative of the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity. He also volunteered at Seattle's Cleveland and Franklin high schools to work with teachers as well as students who wanted to attend college. After rapping a calculus lesson, he was referred to as "Dr. Cool Dude." He died Dec. 12 at the age of 69.

**Marvin Joseph Flaherty** worked as a farm laborer and apprentice carpenter, served in the Army and later joined the UW, where he was associate professor and chairman of the Department of Construction Management in the College of Built Environments. He also developed and built subsidized housing units around the country. Flaherty died Nov. 13 at the age of 91.

**Ronald W. Floyd** retired from the U.S. Navy and worked at the UW as a senior buyer. He died Oct. 1 at the age of 80.

**Mary Alyce Frisue**, '77, worked for nearly 10 years in the 1970s and 1980s as an undergraduate adviser and program assistant in the Slavic Department. She also ran the Russian House, a student residence in a large house on the north side of N.E. 45th Street. She later moved to New York, where she was executive director of the International Association of Crime Writers, North America. She died Nov. 27 at the age of 81.

**Nancy Gantz**, '78, held a number of administrative positions at the UW, including in Environmental Health and Services. She retired from the University in 1990 and later went on to serve as coordinator of the Emergency Feeding Program in the University District. She died Dec. 20 at the age of 91.

**Branko Grünbaum** was born in what is now Croatia, emigrated to Israel and came to the UW in 1966 to join the faculty in the mathematics department. His classic monograph, "Convex Polytopes," received the prestigious Leroy P. Steele Prize for Mathematical Exposition from the American Mathematical Society because "much of the development that led to the present, thriving state of polytope theory owes its existence to this book." Grünbaum, who taught at the UW for 35 years, died Sept. 14 at the age of 88.

**Dana Hadfield**, '75, was a former faculty member in the School of Pharmacy who began the first pharmacist-managed anti-coagulation service and initiated the first outpatient Refill Authorization Center. She died Dec. 2 at the age of 66.

**Diana L. Herrmann** spent 28 years as coordinator of student financial aid counseling services. She died Oct. 25 at the age of 54.

**Randolph Henning Hokanson** was a pianist, teacher, composer, and raconteur. He spent 35 years

at the UW instructing musicians but retired to return to composing and performing. Hokanson died Oct. 18 at the age of 103.

**Robert C. Jones** taught at the School of Art for 35 years and was one of the Northwest's most prominent abstract painters. A superb colorist known for his compositions based on the curves of the human form and simple geometries of the landscape, Jones died Dec. 23 at the age of 88.

**Roderick E. Jones**, '99, was well loved by the Husky sports community for two reasons—he was a key member of the 1984 football team that trounced Oklahoma in the 1985 Orange Bowl and he was a longtime academic coordinator in the Athletic Department. He died Dec. 8 at the age of 54.

**Timothy Williams Keller** served on the psychiatry faculty at the School of Medicine. He also helped establish community mental health centers as an alternative to large state psychiatric hospitals when he

was on the staff of the National Institute of Mental Health. Keller died Sept. 1 at the age of 78.

**Joseph Chan Kent** spent 42 years as a professor of engineering at the UW. Known for his stern lecturing style and tough but fair exams, he also consulted for a civil engineering firm in Seattle, working on such projects as the Mercer Island floating bridge, Seattle Aquarium and the Ballard Locks. He died Dec. 28 at the age of 96.

**Roger C. Lindeman** was a clinical professor of otolaryngology in the School of Medicine who became renowned for developing a tracheal diversion technique which became known as the Lindeman procedure. A pioneer in the Pacific Northwest in the otologic surgical approach for the excision of acoustic tumors, he also served as president and CEO of Virginia Mason Medical Center. Lindeman died Oct. 30 at the age of 83.

**Kathleen G. McKanna**, '72, '74, served as an associate pro-

fessor of dental hygiene at the UW School of Dentistry from 1974 to 1979. She worked as a dental hygienist for 30 years in the office of Dr. Jack Biggs in Bellevue and Dr. Jerald Bates in Woodinville. A longtime Tyee member and season ticket holder, she died Jan. 12, 2018 at the age of 70.

**Wallace E. Opdycke**, '59, was one of the biggest names in the Washington wine industry. A well-known investor and entrepreneur, he joined a small group that acquired American Wine Growers, which was renamed Ste. Michelle Vintners and later Chateau Ste. Michelle. He served as founding president and his vision for the company led to the creation of the winery in Woodinville. In honor of his career, Opdycke was presented the UW Foster School of Business Distinguished Leadership Award in 2003. He died Oct. 13 at the age of 81.

**Donald Reay** was a giant in the field of pathology, both as a faculty member at the UW School of Medicine and as the Deputy Medical Examiner for King County. He established a forensic pathology fellowship training program for pathologists affiliated with the University and taught hundreds of medical examiners and homicide detectives about forensic science. Reay died Nov. 10 at the age of 81.

**Jonathan Skow**, '85, was a famous Los Angeles fashion designer behind the renowned Mr. Turk line. The husband and business partner of designer Trina Turk, '83, he collaborated with Walt Disney Studios and other major brands to develop apparel. He also was a well-known fashion photographer. He died Oct. 12 at the age of 55.

**Ellen Mary Winters** worked at UW Medical Center, where she managed the Medical Transcription Department. She died Oct. 15 at the age of 92.

## Caleb T. Otto

1943-2018

**A**s a representative from Palau at a World Health Organization conference on tobacco control, physician Caleb T. Otto joined politicians and business leaders from larger, wealthier nations. "Who are these men that they should have so much power over the lives of our people?" Otto recalled, according to a history of the conference. Otto said he "spoke for 'people over profit'" when others argued against measures to reduce tobacco use. In 2013, Otto, '70, '75, was named Palau's ambassador to the United Nations. In addition to tackling tobacco, he used his medical training and public-health expertise to address the stigma surrounding mental health, promote the value of breastfeeding babies, and increase awareness about the impact of climate change and ocean degradation on Palau and other small Pacific island nations. As an undergraduate at the University of Washington, Otto joined the yell team. He maintained an interest in sports and physical fitness throughout his life. Otto died Oct. 28 at the age of 75.



COURTESY OTTO FAMILY



In addition to his film noir addiction, the handcuffed Olson (right) is considered the expert on someone else who creates moody, affecting cinema: David Lynch.

Continued from p. 31

his sensitivity to female roles. That's exactly what attracted Olson.

He was also drawn to the dark emotions of the moody, cynical American crime and detective films of the 1940s and '50s known as film noir. In 1977, Olson booked his first film noir series. "There something about that—people plotting at night and carrying through dark wishes—the eroticism, sudden death. ... People loved it. I love it."

Since then the film noir series has become an annual staple of Olson's programming at SAM. Now in its 42nd year, it is the longest continuously running noir series, drawing a group of fanatical fans.

"That's something I've gone to since my twenties," says film and theater director Janice Findley, who teaches film history at Seattle Film Institute. "It's a passionate group that comes, and most years it's sold out within weeks. We live in this dark rainy place and you say, 'OK, bring on the dark, bring on the winter, we are into film noir!'"

Film buffs like Findley admire Olson for searching out movies that can't easily be found anywhere else. That's because over the years, he has developed relationships with private collectors, film artists and studios that give him special access to rare material.

His acquaintance with the great British director Michael Powell (1905-1990)—acclaimed for classics like "The Red Shoes," "A Matter of Life and Death" and "Black Narcissus"—is a case in point. Olson organized a series of Powell's movies at SAM and was instrumental in bringing Powell to Seattle in 1989. He was dazzled to spend time with Powell and his wife, the renowned film editor Thelma Schoonmaker, while they were in town. Schoonmaker has edited Martin Scorsese's films for the past 50 years, winning three Oscars for Best Film Editing ("Raging Bull," "The Aviator" and "The Departed"). Powell died the following year, but Olson and Schoonmaker have remained friends.

In 1990, Olson read an article in The New York Times about a TV show called "Twin Peaks" that would soon revolutionize television. He looked over at his partner, Linda Bowers, and said: "I'm intrigued." After the first episode, "We were just floored," Olson says.

Two years later, he heard Lynch was back in Washington, making the movie "Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me." Olson had kept up with Lynch's career, from the cult hit "Eraserhead" on through "Elephant Man," "Dune" and "Blue Velvet." Olson identified with Lynch, from his Northwest roots to his complex nature: "He was an Eagle Scout with this Sunny Jim, Norman Rockwell demeanor who understood the darkest strain inside human beings."

On a whim, Olson got in his car and drove up I-90 to the Snoqualmie movie set, skirted security, found a gap in the fence, and slipped in among the crew, unnoticed. Moments later, Lynch stepped through the same gap in the fence. Olson, amazed by it all, stayed until midnight and later wrote an account of the day's filming, which he published in Film Comment. When he learned that Lynch liked his article, Olson decided to write a biography.

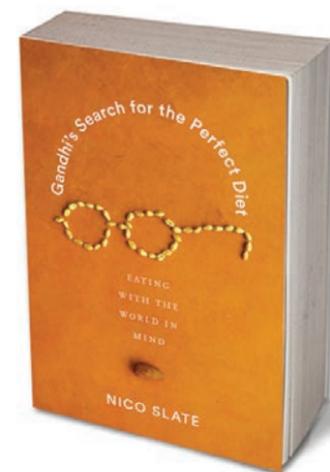
He published "David Lynch: Beautiful Dark" in 2008. During his research for the book, Olson and Bowers visited Lynch at his California compound. The pair had shared a fascination with "Twin Peaks" from the start. So when Bowers, a former executive director of Seattle Arts and Lectures, died of cancer in 2017, Olson continued working on the book about the TV series in her honor, feeling her spirit is part of it.

Olson's role at SAM has expanded over the years. As film curator, he also coordinates film presentations to complement the museum's current exhibitions, in addition to his quarterly film series. During the 25th year of the film noir series, Olson and then-contemporary art curator Trevor Fairbrother co-curated an exhibition "Night and the City: Homage to Film Noir." It was so popular, Olson says, the exhibit was extended two extra months.

After decades of showing movies at SAM, Olson still searches out and books the films, writes the programs, and takes people's tickets, greeting everyone as they enter the theater. And he still feels that old exhilaration when he sits down at the back of the auditorium to watch. "I'll be in a room of people having a new experience," he says. "That really pumps me up. And while I'm in the dream of the movie, I have the thought: I'm the agent that made this possible."

—Sheila Farr is the former art critic for The Seattle Times and a frequent contributor to Columns

*The End*



## Gandhi's Search for the Perfect Diet: Eating with the World in Mind

NICO SLATE  
MARCH 2019

Mahatma Gandhi redefined nutrition as a holistic approach to building a more just world. What he chose to eat was intimately tied to his beliefs. His values of nonviolence, religious tolerance, and rural sustainability developed in coordination with his dietary experiments. His repudiation of sugar, chocolate and salt expressed his opposition to economies based on slavery, indentured labor and imperialism.

Author Nico Slate, a history professor at Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the transnational history of social movements in the United States, with an emphasis on South Asia. In this book, Slate writes about important periods in Gandhi's life as they relate to his developing food ethic. Gandhi's fasting, vegetarianism, limiting of salt and sweets and avoiding processed food foreshadowed many of the debates of contemporary food studies as well as the necessity of building healthier and more equitable food systems.

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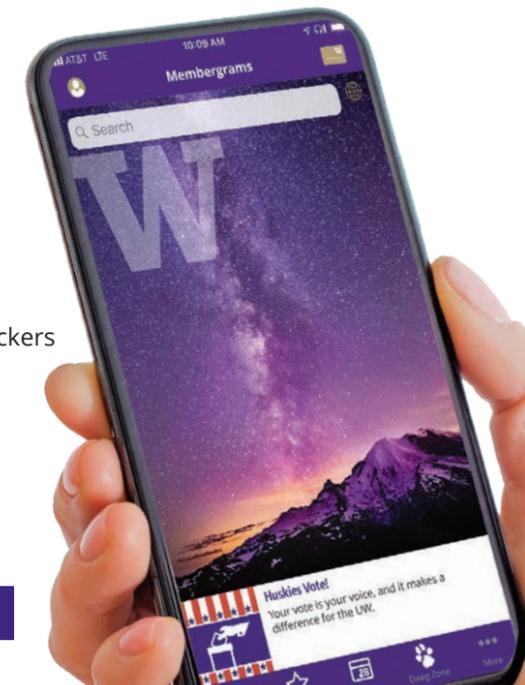
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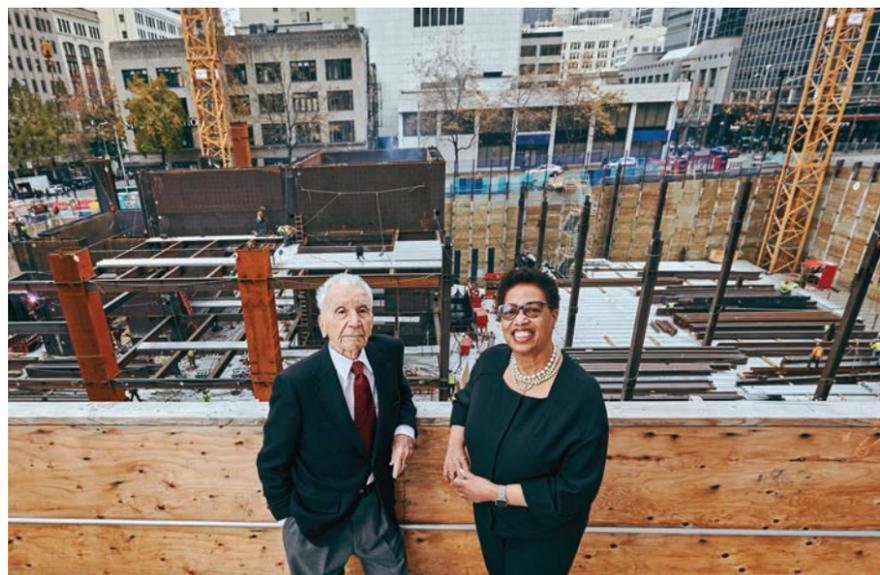
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## Past, Present, Future

*This hole in the ground* will soon be the second-largest skyscraper in Seattle. Situated on UW property next door to the Rainier Tower in downtown Seattle, the 58-story tower will feature retail, 200 residences and more than 772,000 square feet of office space to be leased by Amazon to accommodate 3,500 employees. In this photo, 100-year-old Robert Philip, former chair of the UW Board of Regents, stands next to current Regents chair Dr. Constance Rice, '70, '74. Philip, who still looks as sharp as he did when he graduated in 1940, was instrumental in getting the Rainier Tower built in the 1970s. He's still involved in UW's real estate dealings, especially this one. The UW owns the tract that is home to the Rainier Tower.

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Be Connected UWAA Events

# SPRING HUSKY EVENTS



## Walla Walla Wine Weekend APRIL 26-27

Get ready to paint the town purple! Gather with fellow Huskies for food, fun and friendship while we explore wineries and tasting rooms that have a UW connection.

The weekend kicks off Friday evening with a wine reception in the historic Gesa Power House Theater. On Saturday, enjoy a casual wine tour featuring wineries and tasting rooms that are owned, founded or managed by Husky alumni.

Tastings are included at each designated stop. Explore at your own pace and make new friends along the way! A private shuttle will transport guests between two of the town's notable wine districts. Wine purchases from designated tasting rooms will be delivered to a central location for pickup later that day. [UWalum.com/wallawalla](http://UWalum.com/wallawalla)

## Dawg Days In the Desert MARCH 18-20

Meet up with old friends and new at this UW tradition in Palm Desert, Calif.

## Huskies@Work MAY 1-31 | NATIONWIDE

Connect with students during the month of May for a unique job-shadowing experience. Meet with a student in person or virtually, wherever you are.

## REUNIONS

### Class of '69 50-Year Reunion Weekend MAY 31-JUNE 1

Reunion weekend begins with a special evening of memories at the Class Banquet. Meet and greet class of 1969 grads, as well as other alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago at the Golden Graduates Brunch. A campus tour, panel discussion and class toast round out this celebratory weekend.

### Class of '94 25-Year Reunion JUNE 1

When you were in college, Amazon didn't exist, Microsoft was just a software company and Starbucks hadn't gone worldwide. Your time at the UW shaped what you — and Seattle — became. Come back to campus and relive the '90s.

### Golden Graduates Brunch JUNE 1

Huskies who graduated 50 years ago or more are cordially invited to celebrate enduring connections.

### Class of '59 60-Year Reunion OCTOBER 6

Save the date for a class celebration over brunch at the beautiful Center for Urban Horticulture.

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Continued from p. 46

service-learning courses. He helped start the Cascade Shelter Project, which provides affordable housing in the neighborhood now known as South Lake Union. He also volunteered on the Kent Planning Commission. At the same time, he thrived in a UW residential program where students with shared interests lived in the same dorm, took classes together and had the same faculty advisers. Those experiences gave Chopp tastes of sociology; art, thanks to ceramics professor Robert Sperry, '55; and urban planning at the feet of legendary College of Built Environments professor Norman Johnston, '42. These pursuits provided the solid foundation for representing the 43rd District, which includes the University District, Fremont, Wallingford and Madison Park.

After college, Chopp worked at community and senior centers. He served 15 years as director of the Fremont Public Association, now Solid Ground, a nonprofit that works to end poverty and oppression. That desire to serve his community led to running for office and 24 years in the state Legislature. As speaker, Chopp leads the majority party and strives to build strong relationships on both sides of the aisle, organizing support for legislation around issues like health care, education, housing and social services.

Bring up the federal government and Chopp shakes his head. "We're completely different," he says. "Here in Washington, we actually work together and we get things done." Good ideas come from all directions, he says, "and when they're good ideas, I'm highly motivated to pass them."

He struggles to name a favorite accomplishment, but has several he thinks about all the time: money for in-home care for adults, a housing trust fund, the new Paid Family and Medical Leave Act, and free health care for children in low-income households. And for college students, he points to the state's Dream Act—which helps undocumented students—and the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship, which matches state funds with money from private companies to help low- and middle-income Washington state resident students.

This year, Chopp says, the time is right to step away from the job of speaker. "I want to leave on a high note," he says. "We [the Democrats] picked up a bunch of seats in the last election, I'm in relatively good health and I want to keep working and potentially running again."

And he's looking forward to handing over the gavel at the end of this legislative session. "It's time for somebody else to do the job," he says. "I'm going to keep working on the same issues, just in a different role." ■

# REAL DAWGS WEAR PURPLE



MARI HORITA, JD '94  
FORMER PRESIDENT AND  
CEO, ARTSFUND

Mari Horita was born a Husky. Both her parents are UW alums and from the time she took her first steps on campus, she has been connected to the University. She came for law school and returned to serve on advisory boards and as a UWAA Trustee. Mari took up the violin at age six and later learned the power of the arts to heal, inspire and build community. As president and CEO of ArtsFund, she used arts to bring people together and create positive change. Now shifting careers, Mari is still building community — this time for Seattle's new NHL team. We anticipate another outstanding performance.

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