NEW CHANCELLOR TAKES THE HELM

Bjong Wolf Yeigh Becomes the Third Chancellor of UW Bothell

Campus Update: New Construction
Page 3

Education Program Leads Change at Home and Abroad
Page 9

Alumni Faces and Places
Page 10
Greetings Alumni and Friends,

As you receive this publication, I will have logged just over a month as the new UW Bothell Chancellor. I am delighted to join the UW Bothell family. During my first month I have experienced flawless Pacific Northwest weather, met scores of faculty, staff, students and alumni and attended my first UW Husky football game in the beautiful new stadium.

I want to thank the many people who have welcomed my wife Sandy and me to UW Bothell. It has been a long summer that has involved two cross-country treks and a great deal of packing. It is good to be home.

Moving forward, I plan to do a great deal of listening. Over the next several months and beyond, I’ll be learning from you, and we’ll be having conversations about how best to advance our campus community. It will be a time of “reflection and discovery.” Under Chancellor Chan’s leadership, UW Bothell has more than doubled in size, and the quality measures are equally impressive. Reflecting on the great successes you have created together, I’d like to learn what challenges remain and identify opportunities we can harvest in the time ahead.

In the interim, I invite you to learn a little more about me in this issue of Insight. This issue also features our tremendous Education Program, which is highly regarded for its preparation of K-8 teachers and professional development programs. In this issue, you will also meet Professor Tom Bellamy, who has just received a $1.25 million grant to develop a statewide program to prepare special education administrators. Finally, we will introduce you to UW Bothell Education alumna Elizabeth Atterberry, who is currently working in South Africa as a teacher in the Peace Corps after completing the K-8 certification program.

Please share with me your experience, advice, and anything else that’s on your mind. Send an email to me at chancellor@uwb.edu, friend me on Facebook, connect with me on LinkedIn. I look forward to a new chapter and a new academic year.

Best wishes,

Wolf Yeigh

Chancellor
The top beam of the Science and Academic Building was placed over the summer with great fanfare on campus. Hundreds from throughout the UW Bothell community participated in a long-standing construction tradition of signing the uppermost beam before it is set in place.

Watch the beam signing at www.uwb.edu/video

NEW FACILITIES MOVING FORWARD

The $19.7-million Student Activities Center is in the final design phase. The 36,000 square-foot facility will provide space for club offices and meetings, along with a fitness center. Slated for completion in 2015, the building will be located adjacent to the Sports and Recreation complex.

After receiving a space redesign and facelift, Husky Hall will open this fall. The building will serve as a “front door” for new and prospective students by centralizing all admissions services under one roof. The building will also house faculty offices, UWave Radio and student publications. Husky Hall is located across from Husky Village on NE 185th street.

UW BOTHELL TO HOST SALLY RIDE SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Hundreds of middle school students are expected to attend UW Bothell’s first Sally Ride Science Festival, slated to take place in the fall of 2014. The festival, which has been held since 2006, is to encourage middle school girls towards careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). The UW Bothell festival is the first Sally Ride Science Festival to be held in the Pacific Northwest.

CONVOCATION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, was an exciting day as UW Bothell welcomed more than 560 first year students at its eighth annual fall Convocation ceremony. In total, more than 1350 new students joined UW Bothell for the fall quarter. The keynote speaker was Ron Tilden, winner of the 2013 Distinguished Teaching Award.
FOR UW BOTHELL INCOMING CHANCELLOR WOLF YEIGH [pronounced YAY], this is the perfect time to pick up the reigns. “I want to join a team that is on the upward trajectory, on the growth path, and that is exactly what has happened here,” he says. Yeigh, who goes by the first name Wolf, says that progress at UW Bothell can be seen not only in the explosive growth in enrollment and programs, but also in terms of the quality of teaching, research and education being offered at the university. “The quality has reached that inflection point,” he says. “I want to be part of the next level of growth and excellence that will take shape here at UW Bothell.”

BY STACEY SCHULTZ
Yeigh’s background as outgoing president of State University of New York Institute of Technology (SUNYIT), where he served since 2008, has prepared him well for the job at hand. At SUNYIT he oversaw the largest expansion of the campus to date, guiding the building of more than $100 million in capital projects including a student center, field house and a residential complex. He also secured $15.5 million in capital grants for cyber security and nanotechnology programs and led the effort to gain two rounds of funding for regional economic development projects totaling $119.9 million.

“Dr. Yeigh has been a force of innovation and change throughout his career, particularly in positions of academic leadership,” says University of Washington President Michael K. Young. “He has left a trail of success everywhere he has been, and we are very excited to have him join the University of Washington and lead our dynamic campus at Bothell as it continues to grow and develop.”

Yeigh says he has long wanted to live in the Northwest. His family has a poignant connection to Seattle – it was the port of entry for his mother who immigrated to the United States from Korea in 1973 after Yeigh’s father passed away. Three years later when he was twelve years old, he joined her in Arlington, VA where she had settled. “We didn’t have great means for me to go to college in Korea,” he says, explaining his mother’s motivation for moving to this country. But it was up to Yeigh to make the most of the opportunity. He had to begin by learning the language. “I didn’t speak English, so I watched a lot of cartoons,” he says. “Back then I probably could recite all the lines.”

Fast forward and Yeigh is holding a bachelor of arts in engineering science from Dartmouth College and a master of science in mechanical engineering from Stanford University. Although he knew he wanted to continue with his graduate studies, he hit the pause button in 1987 and joined the U.S. Navy. “Coming to the United States was one of those great opportunities I’ve been given that I’m very thankful for,” he says. “And serving in the military, giving back, was one of those things I said I had to do.” He served four years active and four years reserve.

After his military service, including a tour in the first Gulf War, he returned to Princeton University to complete his masters and doctorate in civil engineering and operations research. “I really enjoy the discipline that I chose,” he says. “I have a degree in engineering because that is where the topics I studied happen to be.” He is more of a physicist and mathematician than a builder of bridges, he says, and he continues to publish research in his field.

By the mid-1990’s Yeigh was a junior faculty member at Oklahoma State University and content in his career. He saw an ad in the back of the Chronicle of Higher Education for a job as assistant provost for science and technology at Yale University and decided to throw his hat into the ring. To his surprise, he was offered the job. At that point his career turned towards higher education administration, a path he’s been on ever since with positions held not only at Yale, but also at St. Louis University and Norwich University in Vermont.

As president of SUNYIT, Yeigh provided leadership for all operations as well as external development for multiple campus locations including an 800-acre science and technology campus (SUNYIT) in Utica, NY; a 150-acre campus (MSC) at Morrisville, NY; 1,000 acres of farm and woodlands; an extension site in Norwich, NY; and an urban center in Syracuse, NY. He also oversaw a combined enrollment of 6,500 students in graduate, undergraduate, and associate degree programs. “At SUNY we’ve had tremendous build out over the last five years,” he says. “I feel like I’m leaving at the top of my game.”
Likewise, UW Bothell leaders feel they are gaining a chief executive who can meet the needs of students and industry partners. “Wolf has all the skills that are required to be the next leader of UW Bothell,” says Rick Shea, chair of the UW Bothell Advisory Board. Shea also served on the search committee that recommended Yeigh. “He understands the importance of creating innovative learning environments and relevant degree programs that ensure our students are prepared to enter the workforce when they leave UW Bothell.”

Yeigh says that there are many aspects of the school that appealed to him when he contemplated coming on board as chancellor. The school’s emphasis on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) is an obvious common point of interest and Yeigh says that he will work hard to support the growth of that part of the university.

But he was equally drawn to the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, which encourages a cross-disciplinary approach to learning. “Bothell is getting out of this silo mentality and making it more cross-disciplinary or interdisciplinary,” he says. “And that’s what many other universities have talked about, but they have never implemented or have been very slow in getting implemented.”

“Also, many schools talk about diversity, but never really exercise what they talk,” he says. “UW Bothell is one of those campuses that is actually living the promise.”

Yeigh says he also appreciates the level of community involvement and outreach in the School of Business and the Nursing and Health Studies Program at UW Bothell. “Bothell is really meeting the demand that people and the community have asked for and that’s exciting,” he says. “It’s not your typical ‘ivory tower’ higher education institution.”

Moving forward, Yeigh says he wants to help create a collective vision for the future. “I don’t think it’s my personal vision that really matters as much as the collective, shared vision of the campus and the community that I will help articulate,” he says. “I think that’s the most important piece of the work that I will have to do over the next five years.”

To get started he wants to spend his first few months in conversation with stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, board members and community partners. He likens the process to creating a mosaic. “Everyone has a piece of that glass that is going to create a larger picture,” he says. “When everyone puts the pieces together and then you take a step back, you’re going to see a great image of what UW Bothell is going to become.”

He calls these first few months a period of reflection and discovery, reflecting on the achievements of the past and learning more about this new community he is joining. “I’m going to be embarking on a learning path,” he says. “I’ll do my share of reaching out and I want everyone else to do their share of reaching out to me. I think if the campus is successful we can take a shared pride in its accomplishments.”
For UW Bothell Professor of Education Tom Bellamy, leadership in schools has become a prime focus. And as a former director of special education for the U.S. Department of Education, Bellamy understands more than most the unique role that special education administrators play in the success of students. But in the landscape of professional education opportunities for administrators in Washington state, there has historically been no specialized training in this area. “Each school district in the state either has its own director of special education or is a member of a cooperative across districts that has a director,” he says. “So that means that there are several people in that role across the state, but the number of new vacancies each year really isn’t large enough for any single university to build a faculty and capacity to offer a program.”

So Bellamy joined with colleagues from the University of Washington, Washington State University and the directors of special education in Washington’s nine educational service districts, to develop a statewide program. They call it Enhancing Capacity for Special Education Leadership (ECSEL), and last year it was launched with 10 candidates through a pilot grant from the state’s Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Earlier this year, the group was awarded a $1.25 million federal grant from the Department of Education to expand the program over the next five years. This support will allow them to prepare a total of 46 candidates for the role of special education administrators across the state.

Bellamy, who is also founding director of the Goodlad Institute for Educational Renewal, says that typically people who have a program administrator certification or a principal certification fill the job of special education administrator. “A large number of these positions in the state right now are filled by people who don’t have experience as a teacher or related services provider in special education; they are filled by people whose experience and training focused on other educational topics,” he says. “What ECSEL does is to create a program that offers the same credentials, but builds very specialized skills associated with leading special education.”

The program takes two years to complete. In the first year, candidates focus on leadership for special education at the school level and in the second year the focus turns to leadership at the district level. “The reason for that is that we believe that people who work in school districts in leadership roles really need to have expertise in teaching and learning—the core work that makes a school successful,” says Bellamy.

In the context of this statewide cohort model that blends face-to-face meetings once a month, online work, and extended, district-based internships, candidates in the program concentrate on leadership for instruction with a particular focus on solving learning and behavior problems.

“Our theory of action is that very skilled local administrators can improve the school’s capacity to solve difficult instructional problems and therefore help more students succeed,” he says. “They do this by building the technical skills of special education professionals, by helping principals create schools that are supportive of all students learning, and by building strong relationships between school districts, families and community agencies.”

The program ultimately will measure its success based on the outcomes of students who are receiving special education services. That will take a few years as candidates must complete the program and then receive offers to fill vacancies in the system. Once they have taken over leadership roles, it will take some time to see if student outcomes improve.

But Bellamy says that the first measure of success is the quality of candidates who apply and enroll in the program. He says that all of the current candidates in the program are employed as special education teachers or related services providers and all have demonstrated strong leadership in their current role. “These are very successful existing special education professionals who want to get into administration,” he says.

Bellamy is quick to spread the praise for the new federal grant to all of his colleagues who helped create the ECSEL program. And he is hopeful that the program can be a model for other specialized areas within education in the future. “You could make the same case for a lot of positions at the district level, for example somebody who is a director of the English Language Learning program also needs some specialized skills, but existing preparation programs for school administrators seldom include the needed specialized skills for this role either,” he says. “So in some ways we’re exploring how to create a statewide partnership to deal with some of these very specialized skill needs in educational leadership.”
or Elizabeth Atterberry, who completed the UW Bothell K-8 Certification program in the spring of 2011 with endorsements in elementary education and middle-level science, her grand adventure teaching abroad began shortly after she and her husband Perry, applied for the Peace Corps in September 2011. “We downsized and divested,” she says, selling their home, eliminating their debt and retaining few material possessions. By July 2012, they were ready to accept the Peace Corps’ offer to serve in South Africa for just over two years.

Now she and her husband, who has a Ph.D in linguistics and a master’s degree in library science from UW (Seattle), live and teach in a rural area in the Lowveld of Mpumalanga province. “This area produces a lot of sugar cane as well as nuts, citrus, mangoes, and other fruits,” she says. “We’ve eaten some of the best pineapples and oranges of our lives here!” Their village, Sikhwahlane, is situated in a valley near the southern border of Kruger National Park and the western edge of Mozambique, allowing them access to several eye-popping game drives in the park.

But life is not only fresh fruit and safaris. It is very hot in their area, and she and her husband live in a two rondovels, which are round huts. “We have fairly reliable electricity, but we do not have running water,” she says. “We fetch our water from storage tanks called JoJos, take bucket baths, and use a pit toilet. We have completely run out of water a few times, and access to water is a huge issue here.”

As teachers, she and her husband share a classroom where they both teach eighth graders. She teaches natural science, and he teaches math. Instruction is supposed to be in English, but none of their students are at grade level in the language. “So teaching a subject with complex ideas and specialized language is especially difficult,” she says. “For some of them, taking tests is impossible.”

There are other challenges. “We don’t have enough chairs and tables; we don’t have any science textbooks, and the learners do not physically fit into the grade eight classroom,” she says.

Still, she says many of her students are hard working and eager to learn. “In science, we play a simple game I invented called ‘Flash Card Science Bowl,’ and the learners really enjoy it – they even come to my office and play at lunchtime,” she says. “On Mondays we watch English language movies after school –I brought a drive full of movies to Africa with us -- and my husband has started a chess club that meets on Fridays.”

The two have also implemented a program called Grassroots Soccer, which uses a soccer theme to raise HIV/AIDS awareness through a twelve-session curriculum. “The sessions are all laid out in detail in a bound coaches’ guide, and we were given soccer balls and a thumb drive with sample sessions and additional materials,” she says. “We learned about HIV and AIDs, but the learners also gained valuable life skills, developed a strong sense of community, and had fun.”

In addition to teaching science, Elizabeth works on English with her most motivated students. She writes back and forth with them in their journals in English, and she holds weekly reading sessions using books that friends sent from the states.

After 27 months serving in the Peace Corps, Elizabeth says she and Perry won’t be racing back to get on the “work–earn–acquire–maintain treadmill.” She says their plan “is to live simply and experience more.”
ALUMNI

UW BOTHELL ALUMNI FACES in PLACES

MARINERS GAME

VIEWING PARTY

AROUND THE WORLD

Been anywhere awesome lately and want to see yourself in our faces in places section? Email your high-res photo to alumni@uw.edu.

Mary Howisey, ’02, Armen Ptrossian, ’02 outside of Bora Bora.

Joe Santos, ’97 at opening of Husky Stadium.

Krystle Minerich, ’12 on top of Pikes Peak in Colorado.
Hello UW Bothell Alumni and friends,

I am honored to serve as your UW Bothell Alumni Council Chair. I looked forward to being a UW Bothell alumna throughout my enrollment in the Computing and Software Systems program and I have served on the Council since it was formed in 2005. Since that time, the council has grown and welcomed new graduates as well as seasoned alumni who are passionate about representing the growing number of UW Bothell alumni. This year our council is excited to work with the new chancellor and to continue bringing you the types of events and services that you enjoy.

The UW Bothell Alumni Council’s year began on July 1 and we’ve already had a couple of events:
• Friday, July 12, we gathered 60 fans at a UW Night with the Mariners. We hosted a pre-game party at Pyramid brewery followed by the game. Attendees also received a UW/Mariners tote bag. To top it off, the Mariners scored a win against the Angels!
• Saturday, August 10, we partnered with the Dub Pub in Kirkland for the Inaugural Drive for Dawgs golf tournament at Willows Run in Redmond. There were over 90 attendees and we raised $3,000 for the UW Bothell Alumni Endowment. This endowment funds our UW Bothell Alumni Scholarship and as it grows, we can award more assistance to UW Bothell undergraduate or graduate students.
• After a successful, standing-room only UW vs LSU viewing party last year, we again partnered with the Dub Pub in Kirkland for the UW vs Illinois football game on Saturday, September 14. This year we also partnered with BOLD (UW Bothell Business & Organization Leadership Development) to help them build stronger leadership skills in our UW Bothell Business students. Over 200 people attended including two Husky Hall of Famers: Husky Football legend, Warren Moon and former Husky Basketball center Christian Welp. Several of the Seattle Seagals also joined us in cheering on the Huskies to their 34-24 win. Thank you to all the attendees whose event fees and generous auction bids helped us raise close to $5,000 for BOLD.

We are working hard to represent our wonderful alumni and bring you opportunities to connect with fellow alumni and UW Bothell. We want your input. We welcome you to attend an alumni meeting, and encourage you to join the council. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of every month from 6 to 8 PM in UW1-280 (Rose Room).

I look forward to meeting you at one of our events,
Michelle M. Gamboa
UW Bothell Alumni Council Chair
 Voor de Datum!

www.uwb.edu

Ho Me Co M Ing Tailgate
Saturday, October 26
Husky Stadium Lot E-1 | Time (TBD)

W Day
Friday, October 25
UW Bothell Codex | 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Lend a Paw
Saturday, November 23
Vineyard Park at Bothell Landing | Time: TBD

UW Bothell Alumni/Student
Veteran Reception
Tuesday, November 26
Veterans Archway, UW Bothell | 4:00-6:00 p.m.

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