

Letter from the Dean

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

2004 will be a landmark year in the life of the college due to major planning for the rehabil-

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

The college has launched a number of new initiatives that are outlined in this newsletter. We are planning on unveiling our mission/vision statements, and we are seeking individuals to serve on our College Advisory Board. If you visit the website and look at our



archived annual report, you will probably notice that a lot has changed since you were in the College. But the best thing about “family” is that “there’s no place like home!”

Best wishes to you and your family for 2004

Michele Wheatly
Dean



Everything’s “Wright”...

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

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

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

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

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

