WES Donates $10,000 to CC’s Tutt Library Special Collections

At its October 1, 2015 Board of Managers meeting, WES presented Tutt Library Special Collections (SC) Curator Jessy Randall with a check for $10,000. This gift was presented for the purpose of enhancing the college curriculum by acquiring significant books and documents that focus on women’s history and women’s contributions to society.

WES has a long history of supporting SC, which Jessy explained as the featured speaker at our October 29 fall luncheon in Gaylord Hall. She encouraged attendees to see and touch samples from SC, including a 4000-year-old cuneiform and a leaf from a Gutenberg Bible.

We encourage everyone to visit the Special Collections blog to see the marvelous acquisitions that have been made with our WES gift: http://sites.coloradocollege.edu/ccspecialcollections/

We were also lucky to be able to celebrate the birthday of WES life member Lucy McLeod with her daughters, Laurel and Lynn, at the fall luncheon! ✨
The WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (WES) is an autonomous community organization founded on April 20, 1889, to foster support of Colorado College. Its purposes are to bring community and college together, to give assistance to students of the college, and to undertake programs and projects to benefit the college, particularly women of the college. Gifts to WES are tax-deductible. Newsfocus is published twice a year as a service to members and friends of WES.

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Sharon Rice, Caroline Vulgamore, Cathy Wilson-O’Donnell, and Shirley Woolley.

Tell your friends about us and like us on Facebook! Keep in contact with us at WES@coloradocollege.edu or (719) 389-7699.

Message from the Co-Presidents
Meg Chojnacki and Ann Burek

What a busy and exciting time it is for WES. In September, the Van Briggle Festival was an unbelievable success. Thanks to Sarah Healy and her various committees for their time, energy, and expertise. Also, WES hosted a lovely Scholar Tea where the new Scholars were introduced to the other Scholars and to the General Membership. Kudos to the Program and Scholarship Committees.

In October at the Colorado College Scholarship Luncheon, the Keynote Speaker was WES scholar Amairani Alamillo. She was an incredible representative for both the college and for WES. The October Board Meeting was exciting because we were able to present a $10,000 check to Jessy Randall, the Curator for the Tutt Library Special Collections. The money was used for significant items about, related to, or written by women. Jessy then spoke on the history of the printed word at the Fall Luncheon; she brought interesting examples and charming stories from each era.

In November, all of the chairs and committees were working diligently to prepare for the rest of 2015 and the beginning of 2016. December saw WES participation at the Colorado College Craft Fair and the much-awaited Cookiefest for the scholars and members. On January 23, 2016 the Board held a Retreat for education, discussion, and fellowship at the Penrose House.

On a personal note, I (Meg) would like to thank the Board Members, especially Ann Burek and Nancy Baxter, for their concern and help during my husband’s illness. He is improving each day, and I hope to be back full-time very soon!
The September 12, 2015 Van Briggle Festival, true to our founders’ mission, invited community partners to join us in love of history, the arts, historic preservation, and scholarship. In another record-breaking year, 416 Festival attendees delighted not only in the Van Briggle Pottery building tour, but enjoyed adjacent garden tours by the COS Horticulture Art Society, pot-throwing by the Fine Art Center’s Bemis School of Art potters, and displays by the Historic Preservation Alliance and the COS Pioneers Museum.

In addition to the lovely Van Briggle cards, patrons were able to obtain the Spring 2002 Van Briggle reprint issue of *Kiva Magazine*, commemorative tins of Patsy’s “Peanut Briggle,” Van Briggle tile cookies, and a special Van Briggle blend of Roasted! Coffee.

All proceeds helped support our scholarship fund. Please mark your calendars for the next Van Briggle Festival: Saturday, September 10, 2016.
WES Welcomes Our Newest Board Members

Three talented women joined the WES Board of Managers in 2015 – 2016.

Crystal Bryant
Crystal Bryant is a CC grad from the Class of 1998. Originally from New Mexico, Crystal has lived in NM, CO, and TX. After graduating from CC, she obtained a master’s degree in Healthcare Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio. Crystal spent 13 years in various roles in the healthcare administration and association management fields, but she has recently changed paths and become a realtor in the Denver area. She is married with no children (but one cat) and enjoys traveling with her husband. Crystal has been involved in philanthropy throughout her career and is looking forward to helping make a difference in the lives of WES scholars through service, philanthropy, and mentorship.

Judith (Judy) DeGroot
Judy is originally from the Green Bay, WI area and thus is a diehard Packer fan. She moved to Colorado Springs in 1992 and loves Colorado. She received her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from the University of WI – Eau Claire and Masters in Nursing along with a certificate in Health Care Financial Planning and Control from the University of WI – Madison. Judy’s primary clinical emphasis and experience has been in the area of adult oncology, and she considers it a privilege to have worked in this clinical area. Judy has held a wide variety of clinical, educational, and managerial nursing positions including Director of Nursing positions, Clinical Nurse Specialist – Oncology, Stem Cell transplant Coordinator, pharmaceutical oncology nurse educator, Lead Oncology Nurse Navigator, to name a few. Judy is currently retired from nursing. She volunteers for TESSA, Partners in Housing, Habitat for Humanity, and is Program Chairperson for Pikes Peak Oncology Nursing Society. She enjoys hiking, reading, spending time with family and friends (two of her four sisters live in Colorado Springs), sports (she is a CC hockey fan), and retirement!

Eileen Martin
Eileen Martin is a new neighbor of Colorado College, having moved to Colorado Springs in May 2015 after retiring from the U.S. government. Eileen served for 33 years in the national security arena as an executive in the Central Intelligence Agency, with detail assignments at the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security. Eileen has lived and worked in many countries around the world and is passionate about study abroad programs and mastery of foreign languages. She grew up in Rockville, Maryland and has a B.S. in political science from the University of Maryland. She attended American University’s International Affairs graduate program between foreign deployments.

Another Exciting WES/PILLAR Trip
Corondo’s Footsteps, Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico

Mark your calendars now, and plan on joining us on another memorable five-day WES/PILLAR trip. Entitled: Corondo’s Footsteps, Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico, the dates are April 26 – April 30. The trip begins and ends in Tucson, Arizona. Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements to and from Tucson and will need to bring a passport. This trip will be crossing the border! Some of the experiences planned are:

Visit Historic Bisbee: tour the Queen Mine; learn the history of the town while enjoying lunch at an old famous home.

Travel to the Paquime’ UNESCO World Heritage site of the Casa Grandes Ruins: (Colorado Springs’ sister city in Mexico) with a retired American anthropologist; visit the famous Mata Ortiz Pottery.

Back in Arizona: tour the Kartchner Caverns, spend time in Tombstone, visit Spanish Missions, and visit the Sonora Desert Museum.

Details: Travel by comfortable bus; includes all hotel nights (with nights before and after trip); all breakfasts, four lunches, one dinner; and admissions/fees. Single accommodations available with supplemental cost.

Arrive in Tucson by April 25 and depart May 1. Must have a valid passport.

All for the low price of $1325

Contact Sharon Rice at 719-290-6426 for additional information.
During New Student Orientation, WES mentors welcomed new scholars to campus. (Left) Scholar Karla Figueroa and her mentor Emily Dean. (Middle) WES Board Member Nancy Baxter and scholar Katie Timzen. (Right) Elaine Derbenwick, Valerie Maravilla, Jessi Blake, and Helen Knight.

WES scholars and mentors gathered at the annual CC Scholarship Luncheon.

Annual Scholars Tea. (Top-left) Karen Henderson serves Diane Benninghoff. (Top-right) WES Scholars with Jim Swanson, CC Director of Financial Aid. (Bottom) WES Scholars pause in front of CC's Stewart House, site of this year's Scholars Tea.

Cookiefest, the annual WES holiday cookie party, was held at the Bemis Great Hall on Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Mentors and scholars enjoyed the opportunity to gather and celebrate (with cookies!) before Winter Break.
WES Scholar Emma Wilson

Last year I was lucky enough to travel to Santiago, Chile to study Spanish and contemporary Chilean politics with the help of WES funds that covered the majority of my travel expenses. As a freshman, studying abroad seemed out of reach as I was still adjusting to college life and the independence that came with it. However, the support of WES and my WES mentor led me to pursue such an amazing experience that has pushed me to pursue a Spanish major and make even more travel plans for my college career.

Coming from a small mountain town, I found Santiago to be a complete culture shock. I had never used a complicated bus system or ridden the metro, and I had to learn to navigate the city completely in Spanish. However, I was extremely fortunate to be welcomed into the home of a loving host family who supported me over the two months as I grew in my Spanish-speaking abilities and general comfort in Santiago. My familia chilena consisted of Rosa, an English-to-Japanese translator in the middle of finishing her doctorate; José, a successful lawyer; Sofia or Sofita, my adorable one-year-old host sister; and Masari, an excitable French bull-dog.

I spent the two blocks exploring Santiago, frequenting various cafes as I worked on homework, and wandered the streets as I gathered my bearings. My classes were supplemented by excursions around the city that allowed for better understanding of our surroundings and the history of the country. I also spent time getting to know the surrounding cities, including Valparaiso, Viña del Mar, and Pomaire, with my class and host family. The most noteworthy was Valparaiso, known worldwide for its incredible street art where nearly every surface is covered by a painting, from walls to doors to rooftops to garbage trucks. For our block break, we traveled to Easter Island, where we explored and observed the local culture and famous moai statues scattered across the small landmass, an absolutely breathtaking experience.

The end of the two months featured a trip to the Atacama Desert, the driest desert in the world, where I traveled with a friend and her mom. We went on various tours featuring the area’s attractions, including the salt flats of the Valle de la Luna, the geysers of Tatio, the salt-concentrated Laguna Cejar, and a stargazing tour of the desert’s cloudless sky.

Because of the support of WES, I was granted an incomparable opportunity to travel early on in my college career that has benefited me in countless ways since returning to the United States. The experience I gained has aided me greatly in my studies and aspirations for the future. I already look forward to making my way back to South America to continue exploring other cultures and languages and to gain a better understanding of the world itself.

My Summer with Marianne Stoller, by Kendra Wuerth

Over the summer of 2015 I had the privilege of working on a project called, “The Marianne Stoller Archives Research Project.” Marianne Stoller was a distinguished anthropologist of the Southwest, and she dedicated her life to her work, leaving behind an impressive legacy. With this project, it has been my goal to make Marianne’s work withstand the test of time, digitizing her legacy so that it can be used by future generations of researchers.
Toward the end of the second semester of my freshman year at Colorado College, I worked closely with Anthropology Department Professor Mario Montaño. Putting forth effort to secure my grant to work on this project over the summer, I know that to him I am beyond appreciative for such an opportunity.

The primary topic of my research this summer was Marianne Stoller. Marianne was an anthropologist at CC for a number of years who specialized in Southwest cultures, particularly on the folk arts of the Southwest. Over the course of her career, Marianne developed a vast collection of materials including letters, legal documents related to indigenous litigation cases, photos, illustrations, slides, and much more. As I went through the process of learning about Marianne’s career and the topics that most intrigued her, I realized that this research project fills a void in the study of women anthropologists in the Southwest. While research on women anthropologists is a narrow field, research on women anthropologists of the Southwest is even more obscure. For this reason, I began to supplement my work on Marianne’s materials with research of my own, summarizing the work of several women anthropologists in the Southwest and then focusing on the key issues addressed by these women.

The ultimate goal of this research is to aide both the Anthropology Department and the Southwest Studies Department to enhance their curricula regarding the inclusion of women in the intellectual development of Southwest studies and anthropology. I hope one day soon there will be an online archive in which Marianne’s legacy will be available to all researchers. This archive will be available on the Colorado College web-site, either through the anthropology department or the library.

I guess you could say that this research project fell into my lap at a time when I was trying to figure out my future, my life, and whether or not I should major in anthropology. I felt like this opportunity was somehow fate pointing me in the right direction. At the beginning of the year, when I found out that I was to be a WES scholarship recipient, I had also been chosen by Marianne Stoller herself to be the Marianne Stoller Scholar of my year. This was an honor that Professor Montaño had been unaware of during his selection process. Looking back, I think that I was not so much choosing anthropology as my major, but rather anthropology was choosing me!

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**In Memoriam:**

Professor Emerita Marianne Stoller

WES member and Colorado College Professor Emerita of Anthropology Marianne Stoller passed away on December 13, 2015. She served as chair of CC’s Anthropology Department twice throughout her career, as well as directing the college’s Southwest Studies summer institutes.

A keen interest in the interactions of different cultures inspired Marianne’s life and career. She led summer digs in the late 1980s and early ’90s that uncovered a 17th-century Spanish Colonial ranch in La Cienega, New Mexico — one of only six known pre-revolt Spanish colonial sites in New Mexico.

Marianne graduated from Adams State College with a degree in art, and received a master’s degree in art from Denver University. After being awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study Maori art in New Zealand, she studied in the Fiji Islands and Tahiti. It was while in Tahiti that she became interested in ethnographic history: the study of people in historic times, which she defined as the time after European contact and conquest. Marianne received her Ph.D. in ethnohistory from the University of Pennsylvania in 1979 and returned to Colorado, gradually drifting back to her “first love” — the Southwest. An article in the spring 1998 issue of *La Tertulia* quotes Marianne as saying the highlight of her career at CC was “aiding and abetting” Joe Gordon in establishing the Southwest Studies program.

After retiring in 1998, Stoller served on WES’s Board of Managers. She led tours of the Southwest and other regions, including the California missions and the Canadian Rockies, connecting a wide range of people with the college and raising more than $50,000 for WES scholarships. Members of WES and PILLAR still enjoy these trips today. WES continues to honor the work and impact of Marianne through naming a Stoller Scholar annually in each class of WES scholarship recipients.

A spring celebration of her life is planned with students, alumni, and colleagues.
YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Would you like to become more involved with WES? Whether you are a part of Colorado College or from the Colorado Springs community at large, we invite you to join the WES Board and become involved with our activities, which benefit outstanding students. We meet the first Thursday of the month, except in January, July, and August. You may choose from a variety of committees: Finance, Fundraising, Membership, Nominating, Program, Publicity or Scholarship. Board members are also mentors of the WES scholars. Another way to participate is by serving as a Member-at-Large on one of our committees. You CAN make a difference in a student’s life. If you would like to join our efforts or have questions, please leave a message for us at (719) 389-7699 or at WES@ColoradoCollege.edu.

THE WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF COLORADO COLLEGE

MEMBERSHIP FORM

WES Membership is open to all. Please select one of the following membership categories and make your check payable to WES. All contributions to WES are for scholarships, programs, and projects that benefit students of Colorado College and are tax deductible.

- ☐ Membership $25  ☐ Baccalaureate $50 – $99  ☐ Cum Laude $100 – $249
- ☐ Magna Cum Laude $250 – $499  ☐ Summa Cum Laude $500 – $999
- ☐ Honorary $1,000 and above

☐ New Member  ☐ Renewal  ☐ Gift to WES Scholarship Fund

Name ___________________________________________ Amount Enclosed $ ____________

Address _______________________________________

City __________________________ State _____ Zip ___________

Phone __________________________ E-Mail ______________________

☐ I’d like for someone to call me about volunteering for WES

Send completed form with payment to:

THE WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF COLORADO COLLEGE
14 East Cache la Poudre Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Big News of Anna Kisken

Last September, as former WES mentor B. Fox was slowly making her way east on Lee Highway in Arlington, Virginia, the car’s Bluetooth indicated a call from Fairbanks, Alaska – Anna Kisken ’15 was calling. An excited familiar voice filled B’s car, and the call went something like this "Oh B, I have some news, you won our wager. Jordan proposed.”

Yes, B did make a wager with Anna that handsome, educated, and thoughtful Jordan Sawyer would propose before January 1, 2016. During graduation weekend, B and Anna, along with Anna’s family, were enjoying festivities in Bemis Hall when Jordan and Anna sat down at the piano and played a little duet together. One could feel their chemistry.

Anna is currently working in Fairbanks as an Activity Specialist at a local non-profit. Jordan, also from the Fairbanks area, grew up in the famous little town called the North Pole and is employed as a teacher. The wedding will be July 23, 2016 on the Kisken family acreage. B will be there for the celebration.

The newlyweds are planning to make their first home in Missoula, Montana, as Anna has applied to the University of Montana to study for a master’s degree in School Psychology. Jordan is a graduate of this university. What a wonderful place to begin their life together!

Three years ago B wrote an article for the Newsfocus titled The Joys of Being a WES Mentor. As you can see, the joys didn’t end when her scholar graduated. They live on and multiply as she has added Anna’s family and fiancé to her list of special friends.

Dr. Namrita Singh

Former WES scholar, Dr. Namrita Singh (Class of 2005) was the guest speaker at a brown bag luncheon for current WES scholars on October 22, 2015 at the Wornen Center. After graduating from CC, Namrita continued her education at Johns Hopkins University, where she earned a Ph.D. in Public Health. She is currently moving to Kiev, Ukraine with a U.S. team who will be training Ukrainian mental health workers to work with refugees. Namrita is especially interested in the mental health issues refugees face as they adjust to living in a new place.

The scholars who attended the luncheon enjoyed learning about Namrita’s experiences as a grad student and also about her travels and work in the medical field. Thanks Namrita!

Kenzie Mulligan-Buckmiller

Kenzie Mulligan-Buckmiller, WES scholar, Class of 2015, is working as Health Education Specialist at CC’s Wellness Resource Center on the second floor of Worner Center. With a degree in Molecular Biology and minors in Chemistry and Feminist and Gender Studies, she devotes her energies to prevention, awareness, and education. Her role includes everything from promoting flu shots to giving informative talks on topics such as “hook-up culture.” As a student, Kenzie was involved in the Student Organization for Sexual Safety (SOSS) all four years and is passionate about sexual health and violence prevention.
Women’s Educational Society Membership List

The following list reflects the membership paid from January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015. All contributions above the $25 membership dues are used for scholarships, programs, and projects of WES to benefit students of Colorado College. Please notify us of any additions or corrections at (719) 389-7699.

**Contributing Life Members**

Marjory Abbott
Alice Aronovitz
Barbara Ashley
Diane Benninghoff
Diane Gordon
Nancy Hochman
Charlene Johnston
Helene Knapp
Lillian Mallory
Laurel McLeod
Mary Martha Salata
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John Thelin
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Rose Lorig
Victoria Marquesen
Mary Mashburn
Cornelia Maytag
Diane McGaha
Helen McKellar
Lucy McLeod
Charlotte Mendoza
Charlotte Murphy
Naoko Murphy
Helen Neufeld
Judy and Richard Noyes
JoAnn Orsborn
Hy Gia Park
Judith Peterson
Florence & Melvin Pick
Celia Rasor
Marion Reid
Janet Reynolds
Judith Reynolds
Pamela Riley
Suzanne Rodgers
Cynthia Rose
Mary Ross
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Elizabeth Schulp
Persis Smith
Katherine Soden
Ruth Stone
Elizabeth Straeb
Jean Swartendruber
Ruth Teason
Ann Thomas
Lori Ward
Barbara Webb
Matilda Weber
Mary Wiggins
Joanne Yeager
Ethel Young

**Contributing Silver Special Member**

Dorothy Bradley

**Silver Special Members**

Barbara Arnest
Joyce Coeling
Elaine Freed
Marion Sondermann

**Honorary $1,000 and above**

Catherine Palazzari

**Summa Cum Laude $500 – $999**

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Linda Neyer

**Magna Cum Laude $250 – $499**

Jane Johnson
Kelley Riggs
Jill Tiefenthaler
BJ Williams

**Cum Laude $100 – $249**

Elizabeth Aikin
Caitlin Apigian
Susan Ayshley
Nancy Baxter
William Becker
Essie Bell
Amy Blackwell
Carol Ann Boetger
Judy Burdick
Ann Burek
Judith Casey
Katherine Conner
Emily Dean Kim
Momiarni Ching Dufaunt
Sharon Grady
Donna Hildebrand
Judy Jones
Julie Jones-Eddy
Jean Keeley
Cherry Kinney
Rachelle Latimer
Nancy Lewis

**Baccalaureate $50 – $99**

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Gwendolyn Barron
Beth Ann Bassein
Michelle Beckmann
Linda Boyles
Catherine Breen
Crystal Bryant
Margaret Chojnicki
Barbara Dieter
Sue Dilloway
Patricia Doyle
Judith Finley
Joanna Fischer
Lesley Flaks
Sarah Healy
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Spot Holmes
Mary Jo Kimbrough
Mary Kisken
Rosalyn Knepell
Lorna Kollmeyer
Kathryn Lapp
Catherine Lewis
Gail O. Malone
Merry McAllister
Marianna McJimsey
Maralee McVean
Mary Jane Mithos
Barbara Mitchell
Patricia Moe
WES Website Revamped

We encourage you to visit the WES website at: https://www.coloradocollege.edu/other/wes/index.html.

Sincere thanks are due to Brenda Gillen, webwriter in the CC Office of Communication for updating the WES website, keeping it up to date and user friendly. Brenda and colleague, John Wallace are seen here presenting the refreshed site to the WES Board of Managers at their November meeting in the Lautrec Room of Penrose House.

Scholar Members
Honorary 1 yr Member
Justine Camancho
Anna (Da) Lee
Anna Kiskin
Mackenzie Mulligan-Buckmiller
Florita Villagrana

IN MEMORIAM
We regret to inform our members of the deaths of:
Myrtle Price
Frances Slinkman
Eleanor Griffith
Lee Clement
Marianne Stoller

The WES Scholarship Fund benefited from our trips in 2015 in conjunction with PILLAR. We greatly appreciate the contributions made in 2015 by following people.
Joan Beardsley, $100
Diane Benninghof, $100
James Bishop, $100
Ann Burek, $100
Gary & Sally Conover, $200
Carol Erickson, $100
Betty Fannin, $100
Joan Fredericks, $100
Beverly Goodall, $100
Marianne Katte, $100
Jim & Marty Keene, $200
Joan Kincade, $100
Roz & Peter Kneppel, $200
Barbara May, $100
Lucy McLeod, $100
Lynn McLeod, $100
Monique Michaud, $100
Anita & Kirk Paraday, $200
Joan Perkins, $100
Barbara Potter, $100
Jane Powell, $100
Sandy Raudabaugh, $100
Ralph Roscoe, $100
Dorothy Turner, $100
Richard Waitman, $100
Cathy Wilson-O’Donnell, $100

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O’Donnell as well as the staff at Pillar for their great teamwork in planning and organizing the 2015 WES/Pillar trips.
Penrose House Tour

After the November WES Board meeting, the WES Board of Managers was treated to a tour of the historic Penrose House by Reservations Coordinator, Meghan Shaver.