Provost and Vice President Brent Carbajal, Vice President Rich Van Den Hul, and Vice President, Melynda Huskey will recognize the following people at lunch for their outstanding achievements and service to the University.

- Sislena Ledbetter, Executive Director for Health and Wellness
- Karen Rohrbauck Stout, Outstanding Faculty Leadership Award Recipient
- Clarissa Mansfield, Outstanding Classified Staff Award Recipient
- Catherine Shornick, Professional Staff Award for Excellence
- Tim McLaughlin, Professional Staff Award for Excellence
- Glenn T. Tsunokai, Diversity Achievement Award Recipient
- Jessica S. Cohen, Carl H. Simpson Bridging Award Recipient
- June Fraser Thistle, Philip E. Sharpe Jr., Community Engagement Award Recipient
- Multimedia Archives Based Electronic Library (MABEL) Team, Team Award

**Sislena Ledbetter, Executive Director for Health and Wellness**

Sislena Grocer Ledbetter, Ph.D. is a social psychologist, researcher, lecturer, author and life coach. She received a Bachelor's degree in psychology from North Carolina Central University, - Magna Cum Laude. She earned with honors, her Master’s and Doctoral degrees in psychology from Howard University. Her post-graduate studies include educational leadership training at Georgetown University Graduate School of Professional Studies and Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She has received several fellowships and internships including Intern during the Clinton administration.

Dr. Ledbetter has held higher education leadership roles including Director of Counseling and Student Development and Associate Vice President of Student Development where within four years, she wrote and attracted more than 5 million dollars in grant funds for behavioral health. She is currently teaching in the Psychology Programs at the University of the District of Columbia and George Washington University in Washington DC. Dr. Ledbetter has written and attracted millions of dollars in behavioral health grants to build peer-led programs addressing HIV AIDS, substance abuse, suicide prevention, and domestic violence. Her research interests include exploring wellness, power,
and politics for women of color in leadership roles in the workplace, exploring factors that enhance healthy intimate relationships in the Black community. She is the host of the DC Cable Television program "A Healthy Mind," where she interviews guest on topics related to mental health.

Karen Rohrbauck Stout, Distinguished Professor of Leadership Studies and Director of the Karen W. Morse Institute for Leadership

Karen Rohrbauck Stout received her BA from the University of Puget Sound, her M.A. from The University of Montana, and her Ph.D. from the University of Utah. She joined the Communication Studies department at Western in 2000. Through a variety of service, volunteer, and committee positions on campus and off, she has developed a lengthy list of leadership experiences. Most notably, she served as the President of the Northwest Communication Association in 2008 (which is a small regional conference devoted to fostering undergraduate research), two consecutive terms as the President of the Faculty Senate (after many years of service as a Senator and Secretary to the Executive Council), and 6 years on the Executive Board for the United Faculty of Western Washington. In 2014 she became the director of the Karen W. Morse Institute for Leadership and the Bowman Distinguished Professor of Leadership. In this role, she advises students in the Leadership Studies minor, teaches GUR classes on leadership, supervises a small group of adjunct Leadership Studies faculty, and provides leadership related programming for the campus and community. Her most important leadership role at Western is to foster students' personal development so that they can become the leaders they want in order to effect the social change most important to them. Stout has received a career achievement award for her service to the Northwest Communication Association and teaching awards from the International Communication Association and the National Society of Leadership and Success among other honors.

Clarissa Mansfield – Communications Manager, Western Libraries

Clarissa Mansfield began working at Western Libraries in 2006, and she became the Libraries’ Communications Manager in 2013. In this role, she leads, coordinates, and manages the communication and marketing needs of all units of Western Libraries. Her work has elevated the Libraries’ communications and publicity efforts to unprecedented levels. Her relationships with her colleagues and the opportunities she has to collaborate with so many dedicated students, staff, and faculty at Western are among her favorite aspects of the work she does.

Clarissa is an advocate for students and cares deeply about their experience at Western. She serves on the Libraries’ Social Justice Advisory Team, a group dedicated to advancing social justice in the library for all stakeholders. She has also been a leader among her classified colleagues, pursuing equity in the Libraries, as well as emphasizing the critical role of classified employees university-wide. Clarissa is courageous in pursuit of improving the workplace, and is unafraid to speak up and challenge workplace inequity.

Clarissa is a graduate of Western, receiving her B.A. in 2001 in both Liberal Studies (now known as “Global Humanities and Religions”), and in English. She also received her M.Ed. in Environmental Education from Western’s Huxley College of the Environment in 2014, with her master’s project concentration on exploring the role of academic libraries in environmental education.
Catherine Shornick, Operations Manager, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Catherine started in the College of Arts and Sciences the day ground was broken for the Communications Building in 2002, and later assisted as CAS split into the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the College of Sciences and Technology (now Science and Engineering). Catherine became the CHSS Assistant to the Dean and Operations Manager in 2010 after working closely with her predecessor Esther Harris. During her time in the college Catherine worked with five different deans (four in the last six years); as well, she completed her degree in Creative Writing and Communication Studies as an Outstanding Graduate and Presidential Scholar. Catherine has served on numerous staff searches and university committees exploring, piloting or implementing new systems. Coming from the largest college, she often encountered situations and complications in advance of other colleges. She effectively helped navigate the college through implementation of the first and subsequent versions of the faculty bargaining agreement, budgetary ups and downs, new fiscal and travel systems, changes in college and university leadership, and shifts in pressures and trends in higher education. Throughout, Catherine has advocated for staff, always vigilant against increased workloads as new policies and procedures were implemented. As a classified staff member, she served on the union bargaining team, and as professional staff she served on the PSO Executive Committee for several years, continuing her efforts toward broad inclusion and equal footing for all Western staff members. Catherine looks forward to retiring in October and knowing the university remains in the outstanding hands of all of its amazing staff.

Tim McLaughlin, Developer Operations Engineer, Enterprise Infrastructure Services

Tim is an Automation Engineer for Enterprise Infrastructure Services, where he has worked since 2001. Over that time, his responsibilities have ranged from installing and updating hardware and operating systems, to helping WWU enter the world of server virtualization, to working with containerized and cloud applications. Tim’s recent work includes implementing an application stack for monitoring important metrics from a wide variety of systems, applications, and processes. As the use of technology in education continues to get more and more pervasive, the need for better metrics also grows. This project, using standard tools like Grafana and Prometheus, allows trends and issues to be more visible. Better visibility allows the team to address those issues and to prevent future occurrences. Tim enjoys tackling new challenges and figuring out how to utilize tools and code to enable his small team to do big things. He feels privileged to work with a very intelligent group people and with leadership that allows the team to explore options for solving problems. Tim earned his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science at Western in 1996. When he’s not at work, he enjoys reading, community theatre, and playing table games with his wife and their two sons.

Glenn T. Tsunokai, Professor, Sociology

Glenn Tsunokai joined Western's Sociology Department in 2003 as a specialist in race and ethnic relations and stratification and inequality. Since his arrival, approximately 7,218 undergraduates have taken his introduction level GUR race and ethnicity course. In this class, students are provided with the knowledge and skills to become culturally competent citizens in an increasingly diverse society. Students enrolled in his stratification course can develop meaningful relations with people from
various cultural and socio-economic backgrounds via service learning activities. Glenn encourages his students to develop a deeper understanding of social issues through research. Over the past 16 years, he has sponsored 148 senior theses and independent studies that have focused on such issues as cultural appropriation, prejudice and discrimination, and media (mis)representation. Glenn has also invited many students to work with him on his own research projects that deal with interracial relationships. He has co-published five articles with eight undergraduate students. While at Western, Glenn has created and co-facilitated diversity and equity workshops, has served on various university committees that focus on diversity related issues, and he continues to serve as an (in)formal mentor/advisor to students from underrepresented backgrounds. Glenn received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Riverside.

Jessica S. Cohen, Associate Professor, Mathematics

Jessica Cohen joined Western’s Mathematics Department in 2010 as a specialist in mathematics education. She teaches courses for preservice teachers and traditional mathematics courses. Her scholarship focuses on professional development of preservice and inservice teachers and higher education faculty, with an emphasis on incorporating the same research-based effective teaching practices across all grade levels. Jessica strives to connect teacher education, the STEM disciplines, and the regional K-12 community in her work. During her time at Western, Jessica has had the opportunity to partner with faculty in her own department, the College of Science and Engineering, Woodring College of Education, and with curriculum directors and math coaches in regional public schools on a number of projects. These include the Middle School Math Partnership, professional development for middle school math teachers in Whatcom and Skagit counties; Change at the CORE, professional development for CSE faculty; an AFT Innovation project joining preservice teachers and their mentor teachers for common professional development experiences; and Advancing Equity and Excellence in Science, professional development for CSE faculty with a focus on fostering equitable classrooms. Jessica is grateful for the many opportunities to connect across campus and with the community, and for the growth this inspires in her own practice, both as a teacher and as a facilitator. Jessica received her PhD in Mathematics from Oregon State University. She and her husband, a middle school teacher, are parents to two boys, ages six and three.

June Fraser Thistle, Office Manager, Residence Life

June Fraser Thistle has worked at Western since emigrating from Canada in 2003 and is currently the Office Manager for Residence Life. She has been an active volunteer as an advocate for survivors at Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) in Bellingham since 2011 and in 2014, she helped sew sock monkeys, here at WWU, for children under the care of Child Protective Services. From that initial project, she founded a non-profit, The Bellingham Sock Monkey Project where volunteers from 8 states and 3 Canadian provinces contribute to make these comforting creatures for children at Skookum Kids, a local non-profit that provides shelter for children entering the foster care system because of abuse or neglect. Her nominator for this award wrote, “June has told many stories of stressed and alienated children who open up to her gentle and thoughtful interaction. Co-volunteers marvel at her ability to quickly find and nurture interests and talents in children and help them see a bright future for themselves. More than one child has promised that they’ll never forget her.” Additionally, she established – and actively fundraises for – the Western Gap Scholarship to assist WWU students in financial crisis, awarded to a gamut of students ranging from homeless or foster youth to moderate-income students, all of whom have critical financial need that, left unmet, would force them to drop out. She invites all WWU employees to join her in helping struggling students earn their degree.
**MABEL Team**

The MABEL Team is comprised of representatives from Western Libraries, WebTech, Western Marketing & Communication, and Video Services and is responsible for the creation of the University’s new centralized, open source, online repository for digital assets. MABEL, which stands for Multimedia Archives Based Electronic Library, is a database of collections that enable the discovery, sharing, and preservation of Western’s digital assets, including photos, videos, oral histories, and much more from a central location. MABEL is the direct result of the work conducted by the members of the MABEL Team, comprising a cross-campus partnership involving content creators, stewards and stakeholders. This new central platform -- the first of its kind at the university -- is a transformative step forward in Western’s efforts to disseminate and preserve digital content.

In alignment with Western’s strategic goals, numerous collections housed in MABEL illuminate the history of the university and the Pacific Northwest, and thereby advance a deeper understanding of and engagement with place and regional history. Housed in an open source software system (i.e., software that is freely available to all people for use and innovation), MABEL bypasses the inequities perpetuated by expensive, licensed software systems and related content, which restrict access to those who can afford to pay. Instead, MABEL is an affordable tool for the university, and its content is freely discoverable to users worldwide.

**Individual Team Members:**

David Bass, Western Libraries; Tamara Belts, Western Libraries; Max Bronsema, WebTech; Derek Bryson, University Communications & Marketing; Chris Casquilho, College of Fine & Performing Arts; Jon Dillon, Western Libraries; Elizabeth Joffrion, Western Libraries; Tony Kurtz, Western Libraries; Clarissa Mansfield, Western Libraries; Rebecca Marrall, Western Libraries; Stephanie Mason, WebTech; Tim McLaughlin, Enterprise Infrastructure Services; Justene Merriman, College of Fine & Performing Arts; Casey Mullin, Western Libraries; Nigel Packer, WebTech; Kris Rex, Western Libraries; Ruth Steele, Western Libraries; Jesse Sturgis, Outreach and Continuing Education