Completely Unofficial New Faculty Tip Sheet

By William Thompson librarian and former new faculty wat100@wiu.edu

WIU Union Agreement

http://www.wiu.edu/provost/agreement

Faculty Policy Manual

http://www.wiu.edu/provost/facpol

Evaluation Schedule

http://tinyurl.com/4jsrz

Academic Master Plan

http://tinyurl.com/3rbad

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Follow the Money: WIU Budget

Ask for it at the Reference Desk (eventually everyone does)

To Do In April

Run for Faculty Senate (we did—and we won)

To Do Every Week

Attend Foreign Film Festival at Cinema I and II

I Need Caffeine and I need it NOW (but it's Sunday)

If it's coffee you want, you'll need to go to one of the diners like **Cookies** or the **Sunrise**. **Sullivan-Taylors** and the **Old Dairy** are closed.

Bane of Existence

The pinhole leak plague: Pinhole leaks have appeared in the plumbing of many homes (including mine). No one knows the exact cause for the leaks. The theories range from cheap copper alloys, to our water's supposed hyper purity, to an interaction between said copper and hyper pure water. The upshot is, you get all new pipes. Cost? Ain't cheap.

Counterintuitive Square Parking Tip

It's often easier to park on the inner square rather than the outer square—less traffic; easier to back out.

Local (in) Delicacy

Horseshoe Sandwich—great if you have a cholesterol deficit.

(Tell Me Why) I Don't Like Mondays

Even if you don't like Mondays, you might get a laugh or two out of the Monday night Macomb City Council meetings. Meeting agendas at: http://tinyurl.com/53e5d Also on local cable.

More Fun Than You Might Think

The Saturday night races at the local car track. Head out West Adams—about 4 miles. Come early; stay late. Play the 50/50.

To read the Sunday New York Times in bed

First, get on the reserved list at **Cady's**—located on Lafayette, just north of the square. Next, get in bed.

Lord of the Onion Rings

Club 41, located on Route 41 in St. Augustine, II, is famous for its onion rings. It also has a decent juke-box. "Lost Highway" atmosphere. Drive time: 25 minutes.

If You Want to Get Off the Island, but Can't

Perhaps you can't go to Aruba, but you can drive to Galesburg and eat at the Landmark, which has good food at reasonable prices and a nice patio. If you want to go a little upscale, there is Chez Willy's, a French Restaurant. Both are on Seminary Street. Or you can drive over to Canton and eat at The Palm—just off their square; or to Fort Madison for lunch at the Ivy. Or to Monmouth and eat at La Pequentia.

It's Sunday night and I want to go out...

It's not the "tea dance" at the Bourbon Pub in New Orleans, but what is? Still, you can find fashionable people eating dinner at the Hyvee. Cheap; open; edible; well lit; bring your copy of *In Style*; relax; gossip intensely; and watch the sun set or, if you stay long enough, rise.

To Do: Avoid Hitting Deer

Deer are cute—but like other pretty things (and some people we know) can be deadly. Should you hit a deer at 65 mph, your life insurance better be paid up. Be aware of deerpreferred habitats—bushy, forested areas near the sides of roads. If a deer is in the middle of the road, slow to a stop (if you can), let the deer cross; wait a moment; a second or third one might follow the first. Sometimes oncoming cars will flash their lights to warn you that deer are ahead. You can get a deer whistle for your car at Farm King. Some swear by these. Others consult their horoscopes. The "S" curves outside of Industry are known hang outs. So is the Highway 9 / 67 intersection. Like old boyfriends, deer can, and do, show up anywhere at any time—though you are more likely to come across them at night when you least expect itagain like old boyfriends.

Official List of Local Smoke Free Eateries

http://tinyurl.com/642lv

Community Bike Rides

Two rides a week. Both meet in the K-Mart parking lot. One is on Thursdays at 5:30 PM, 18 mile loop with pizza afterwards at Aurelios. The other ride meets Saturdays at 8:00 AM, 12 miles to Industry; breakfast at a local café, then 12 miles back. Contact John Stierman at jp-stierman@wiu.edu

Conversation Topic to Start Locals Raving

Should Wal-Mart have a liquor license? Should anyone ever at any time for any reason have a liquor license?

Local Curiosities

The Shuffleboard at the Last Chance Saloon / 106.3 FM, a low power FM station, eccentric, entertaining, intelligent, at times maddening, rarely predictable / Vishnu Springs, a former resort and one time commune far gone in picturesque decay / The compelling need to put ranch dressing on everything—now even we are starting to do this / Most curious of all: The Macomb City Council.

You're Gay

That makes two of us. Okay, it's not *that* bad. There's actually *three* of us. But, seriously. There is a University Committee

on Sexual Orientation that addresses gay / lesbian issues on campus. Bill Thompson (that's me) wat100@wiu.edu is chair of that committee—and we are always looking for new members.

Okay-so you're not gay.

Then you may be interested in knowing that Moose Lodge in Burlington holds dances on Saturday nights.

Macomb Events

http://www.macomb.com

Hip, Hot, Now

Farm King—every sort of thing you need, never knew you needed, that you absolutely don't need but somehow suddenly must have can be found here. The Transnational Food Store (on West Jackson)—when you need spring rolls, this is the place. "The Hostess Shop" (East Jackson). If you are a fool for Suzy Qs, Twinkies, Cup Cakes, and Bunny Bread (childhood bliss) this is a kind of heaven. Aldi, a German discount grocery chain, has a branch in Macomb, which has a local cult-like following (Adam Chacksfield is the supreme pontiff). You walk in looking for milk, you come out with milk and a laptop computer. No kidding. It's that sort of store.

The Grocery Industrial Complex

Every grocery store (except the fab Transnational Foods) is located on East Jackson.

Driving to Peoria with Hunt Dunlap

All roads lead to Rome, they say. Maybe so, but around here they often go to Peoria. Just like Rome, there are many ways to get there. Hunt Dunlap, library web guru, and voyager of the back roads offers a couple.

Peoria: The Easy (if leisurely) Way

It's about 1.5 hours to Peoria via 67N, 34 East, and I-74 East. Take 67 North, follow signs for Galesburg, get on 34 East, then east of Galesburg you get on 74-East. You are about 2/3 way there. After about 20 minutes, take the I-474W loop and exit onto War Memorial Drive (turn right, west) for access to new outdoor mall, Grand Prairie Shoppes

Borders, Bergners, Linens & Things, etc. Turn east on War Memorial to Olive Garden, Sam's, Kohl's, and a couple of miles further down to Barnes & Noble, Target, Lowe's and the "indoor mall." Advantage to this route is a comfortable 4-lane drive, it's hard to get lost, and it delivers you directly to upper northwest side of Peoria. What happens after you arrive is between you and your credit card.

Peoria: The Fast and (Most) Curious Way

From WIU campus go east on University Drive. Continue on University across Lafayette Street intersection (at Godfather's Pizza) and past the Macomb Country Club. University Drive becomes University Road (this stretch is also a local "speed trap" -- drive slowly), and continues parallel to Jackson Street and behind Wal-Mart. At the stop sign, continue straight (east) on the blacktop road (County Road 1300 N – which actually heads east) across the train tracks. After a few miles you will reach a stop sign. Turn left, and then immediately turn right, continuing on County Road 1300 North. Proceed a few more miles until stop sign. Turn left onto IL Hwy 41 (towards Bushnell). Proceed perhaps 2 miles and then turn right onto IL Hwy 95 towards Marietta. Proceed through New Philadelphia, Marietta, across the Spoon River and onward until Hwy 95 ends at a "Y" intersection. Take the left arm of the "Y" and then turn left at the stop sign onto IL Hwy 97.

Proceed into the town of Cuba. At the first stop sign, turn right. At the second stop sign, turn left. At the third stop sign, turn right onto the "Cuba-Canton Blacktop" (Hickory St - County Road #5).

Proceed 8-10 miles until you come to a stop sign (you've reached Canton).

Turn right onto S. Main Street. Proceed about two blocks (you'll see a cemetery on right hand side) -- turn left onto E. Linn Street (IL Hwy 9). Proceed over the train tracks and through the next intersection.

Continuing on Hwy 9, travel about 8 miles and pick up US 24 East at Banner (Hwy 9 flows directly into US 24). Proceed on US24 through several small villages (e.g., Kingston Mines) for about 18 miles and you will eventually come to the town of Bartonville. Go through 3-5 stoplights (the last one features

a McDonald's to the right) and you will see signs to access I-474.

Options:

- 1. Take I-474 East to the Peoria Airport or continue upward to the northwest side of town (shopping along War Memorial Drive).
- Take I-474 West towards Bloomington which is the fastest route to Bloomington/Normal from Macomb, and also the best entrance to Chicago (via I-55) if you want to enter from the south (e.g., Midway Airport). (Generally speaking, the quickest way to Chicago from Macomb is via

US67N, US 34N, I-74W (to Quad Cities loop, take I-80 west), then the

I-88 East tollway).

3. Simply stay on US 24 traveling underneath the I-474 interchange overpass. US 24 eventually becomes Adams Street and will carry you alongside the riverfront into downtown Peoria.

Restaurant Maven, Sthembile West, Speaks Out Davenport

I like the Japanese restaurant, Shogun, on Kimberly road, diagonally opposite the mall. Moderate prices, friendly atmosphere.

Burlington, Iowa

Eat at "The Drake," which is fairly new—about a year old now—U.S. fare, diverse menu.

Champaign / Urbana

The Illini Union gives a state rate, 60 a night, plus free parking. Green Street has a slew of restaurants. There's also a great bookstore, Jane Adams Books, downtown.

When Fleeing Why Fly from Peoria?

Because the parking at the Peoria airport is free. The cost of the round trip to Chicago on Amtrak, plus the hassle of schlepping your luggage onto the train-to-the plane is often less cost effective than a 90 minute ride to Peoria and the cost of the commuter flight. Check it out.

Absolute Center of Gravity of Macomb Social Life Dairy Queen on West Jackson. It closes Nov. 1. Reopens in March, the true harbinger of spring.

Crucial Movie Tip

At the Cinema I and II the previews start 15 (or more) minutes **before** the advertised film start time.

Surprisingly Useful Car Accessory

A compass, especially for driving around the back roads

Best Local Elvis Impersonator

Bryce Dexter hands down, hips swiveling.

Closest Saltwater Beach

Gulfport, Mississippi, 701 miles as the crow files. Driving Directions (13hrs): http://tinyurl.com/4jlxs

Macomb *Does So* Have A Dog Park

For the facts: Marcy Alllen, canine expert, mm-allen@wiu.edu

If You're Extra Crunchy

John Stierman librarian, vegan, and transcontinental bike rider suggests: **Greatest Grains on Earth** 600 Harrison Street • Davenport, Iowa 52803 • (563) 323-7521 www.greatestgrains.com / **Sugar and Spice**, 112 W Depot St Colchester, IL 62326 (309) 776-4532 /**Middle Earth**, In the square, Macomb.

There are no Indian Restaurants

Not in Macomb, but if you call Palermos in Colchester, they might make Indian food for you. Palermos is an Italian restaurant. But it is owned by Indians and they do have an Indian menu. The trick is, you have to call in advance—and before 5:PM. Also, they don't or, rather, won't cook Indian food if it is an exceptionally hot day, although you can *always* get a pizza. And they make great sandwiches. **776-3234**

Public Library Tip

If you make a hobby of losing things, but you'd rather not lose your library card, the Macomb public library will keep your library card on file.

Volunteer Opportunities for the Fabulously Inclined
The Audio Information Service, aka "Reading for the Blind"
AIS operates out of the local NPR station (located on campus). Carol Dennhardt is always looking for volunteers.

<u>CA-Dennhardt@wiu.edu</u>. Loaves and Fishes provides food for those who locally don't have it. Call 836-3663 for

information. **McDonough District Hospital** has many ways to volunteer. Contact Ruth Willis rawillis@mdh.org **Macomb Volunteer Now** can connect you with many other ways to volunteer volunteernow@macomb.com

Local Social Services of All Sorts

http://tinyurl.com/3wgh4

Great place to see Fire Flies Macomb High School Practice Fields

Organizations and Resources for Women

Macomb Feminist Network (men welcome to join)
http://www.macombfeminists.org/ Western Organization
for Women (men also welcome) contact Molly K. Homer at
mk-homer@wiu.edu University Women (women only)
Contact Carol Dennhardt CA-Dennhardt@wiu.edu WIU
Women's Center http://www.student.services.wiu.edu/wc/

Organizations and Resources for Men

The Parkside (a sports bar), located across from Chandler Park

Counterintuitive Restaurant Tip

The cafeteria at the hospital is surprisingly good and, unlike most medical expenses, very cheap. Dinner is served at 5:PM

Most Talked About Local Race That is Not a Car Race The race for State's Attorney.

And Mountain (sorta) Biking

There are trails around Spring Lake. Head north on 67. Follow signs. If you get to Roseville, you're lost. Turn around.

Skateboarding Is Not a Crime

Unless you skate in the Square—where it is in fact a crime. To avoid getting hauled up in front of the new State's Attorney, try the skateboard park at Dudley and Pierce, where you will be informed that skateboarding is "inherently dangerous."