Beginning of a New Era

Jane Jervis told a room full of local and campus reporters she visited Evergreen two months ago with open eyes and an open mind.

"It seems we liked what we saw of each other," she said while opening her first public appearance as the next president of The Evergreen State College.

Jervis will begin her tenure August 1 as the college's sixth president, fourth permanent president and the first female president of a Washington four-year public college.

Five days earlier, the announcement of her appointment by Carol Vipperman, Board chair, was greeted with cheers from packed room of faculty, staff and students during the Board's April 8 regular meeting. Several trustees had tears in their eyes as the long, arduous search process finally came to a close.

Vipperman said negotiations with the new president had been finalized at 12:30 p.m., an hour before the announcement.

Jervis and her husband, Norman Chonacky, a physicist, visited campus April 13-14 and met nonstop with people across campus and from the community. Jervis even had a chance to meet with the governor. Stories about her appointment and her visit have run in regional media.

By Wednesday, Jervis was back in Brunswick, Maine where she is dean of Bowdoin College. There she has been responsible since 1988 for a personnel budget of more than $2.7 million and a total operating budget of $12 million in overseeing academic advising, academic standards review, approval of new courses and academic programs, the college calendar, sexual harassment procedures, lectures and concerts, and other college-wide programs.

She served as acting president of Bowdoin during the summer of 1990 and previously was dean of students and associate professor of history at Hamilton College from 1982-87. She holds a doctorate in the history of science from Yale University, 1978; master of arts and master of philosophy degrees from Yale University, 1974 and 1973; and a bachelor's degree in physical sciences from Radcliffe College, 1959.

Jervis has been a freelance scientific editor and writer, an education adviser and administrator and a technical writer. Prior to moving to Hamilton College, New York, she was in the Seminar Program at Yale College from 1978-82. She was a lecturer in history at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute from 1977-78. Her professional affiliations include serving on the Maine Historical Association and chairing the Maine Selection Committee for The Rhodes Scholarship Trust. She is affiliated with the History of Science Society; the Midwest Junto of the History of Science Society; the National Association of Women Deans; Administrators and Counselors; the Association of American Colleges and, the American Council on Education.

"I have the experience of being an outsider. Women still are, in administrative positions of power," Jervis said at the news conference at the Olympia campus. "That view makes you more sensitive to power relationships and those who do not have power."

— The Olympian, April 14

"Higher education as a whole is facing very difficult times, and the challenge for the next few years is to find a way for Evergreen to flourish as the very distinctive place that it is," said Jervis.

— Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 9

Carol Vipperman, trustee chairwoman, said she and other trustees were impressed with Jervis' academic and administrative skills, including her ability to work well with other people in what they described as a fair and honest manner.

— Tacoma Morning News Tribune, April 9

Balancing act: The new president at the Evergreen State College has a reputation for listening to students—and defending school policy.

— The Olympian, April 9

National Volunteer Week

It's time to celebrate the gift of more than 50 volunteers who gave 3,400 hours of work to Evergreen over the past year. National Volunteer Week, April 26 through March 3, provides an opportunity to recognize and thank people like Ruth Berg, who reads books on tape for students with reading disabilities; Jon Kovarik, a career-changing chiropractor who's making great contributions to the Career Development and Alumni Affairs office; Amos Nascimento, who coordinates the Inter-campus Events Calendar each month, and all the volunteers who air programs on KAOS, teach Leisure Education programs, and give hours of valuable support to offices and academic programs across campus. Evergreen faculty and staff are invited to the annual Volunteer Services Luncheon to honor the college's volunteers, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m., Monday, April 27 in CAB 110. Call ext. 6428 to RSVP.
**Evergreeners in the News**

Jervis in National Media—Aside from making headlines in the Northwest and Maine, Evergreen’s newly appointed president, Jane Jervis, is described in the March/April issue of Ms. magazine in an article written by her daughter, Holly Jane Pruitt. “A Feminist Family Album” is the title of the article where Pruitt describes five women in her family and herself, including a synopsis of Jervis’s life.

“Spirits” on KAOS—"Spirits of the Present: The Legacy from Native America,” radio’s first documentary series to celebrate the diverse cultures of Native America, is now playing on KAOS Radio. Hosted by “Dances with Wolves” actress Tanoo Cardinal with original music by singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie, the 30-minute programs will air weekly for 13 consecutive weeks every Monday at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday at 3:30 p.m., and Saturday at 10:30 a.m. (You can catch the last airing of the first week’s program tomorrow, Saturday, April 18.) The program is co-produced by the Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium and Radio Smithsonian.

Bike for Bucks—The local Energy Outreach Center is sponsoring its fifth annual Bicycle Commute Contest, pitting office commuters against each other during May to see who can rack up the most miles. An Evergreen team would need at least three members to enter. Prizes include a $50 shopping spree at the Olympia Food Co-op, a $25 certificate to Jo Mama’s restaurant and a $20 certificate for Dancing Goats Espresso. Call 943-4595 for details.

Koppelman moves to doc—Nancy Koppelman, adjunct faculty member and former administrative secretary to the vice president for student affairs, is heading to Atlanta, Georgia in August to begin working toward a doctorate degree. Husband Steve Blakeslee, an adjunct faculty member, is starting a job search there. Koppelman is excited to dive into a three- to four-year program at Emory University’s Graduate Institute for the Liberal Arts, where she’ll continue her interdisciplinary studies in American social history focusing on alcohol reform movements. Cheers, Nancy and Steve!

**New Faces**

Judy Nunez is Evergreen’s newest graphic designer, although she’s no stranger to the Graphics office. Nunez was an intern in Graphics in 1989 and has held the position—vacated while Marianne Kawaguchi takes a year’s leave of absence—on a temporary basis since December of 1991. Nunez worked with developmentally disabled adults for 10 years before enrolling in the Centralia College commercial art program. She worked as a graphic designer at Centralia for two years and enjoys collecting Mexican folk art.

Pamela Bennett-Cumming has joined the College Recreation Center’s staff to help with Leisure Education, Outdoor Pursuits and Aquatics, as well as office operations. Bennett-Cumming graduated from Evergreen in 1988 and, as a student, worked in the Provost’s Office. After graduating she worked in Cooperative Education, Academics and the MPA program on a variety of projects, then spent three years working at South Puget Sound Community College with co-op and student employment. She teaches leisure education courses in pottery through OPAS and loves sailing.

Greener off Broadway Doesn’t Forget—Lynda Barry ’79, one of Evergreen’s most famous grads, is featured on the cover of the April issue of the Seattle Weekly. She describes, in-depth, her experience at Evergreen and “brilliant” faculty members Marilyn Frasca and Mark Levinsky. She’s featured because her New York off-Broadway hit, “The Good Times are Killing Me,” plays at the Seattle Repertory Theatre April 22 through May 17. It’s a bitersweet, funny story of being a kid in the ‘60s as seen through the eyes of Edna, a white girl living in a mixed-race Seattle neighborhood, who befriends Bonna, a black girl who lives next door. A movie by the same name is in the works! Call The Rep box office, 443-2222, for ticket information.

Evergreen Partners in Science—Four Evergreen faculty members teamed with local high school teachers have been recognized as Partners in Science, each receiving a two-year $13,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and the Research Corporation. The goal of the program is to involve high school teachers in research projects at the forefronts of science. Teachers under the stimulation and inspiration of research will often bring new enthusiasm to the classroom, according to the Research Corporation. The awards also bridge the gap that often exists between research scientists and high school science teachers. Evergreen Faculty Member Clyde Barlow will involve Louis Nadelson of Capital High School in his research on optical measurements of dissolved oxygen in tissue. Faculty Member Jeff Kelly will involve William Sloan of Tahone High School in his work with metabolic monitoring of livers awaiting transplant. Burt Gutman will work with Dennis Karch of Capital High School in his work with the growth of phage T4 under ecologically relevant conditions, and Betty Kutter will work with Catherine Hardy of Timberline High School in her work studying the role of phage T4 genes in the virus’s takeover of its host.

Betty Schmitz, a nationally recognized expert in cultural transformation, has just joined the staff of the Washington Center for Undergraduate Education as a senior associate. She will be assisting with the cultural pluralism project funded by the Ford Foundation and will work with the Evergreen planning team and faculty participating in the project. She came to Evergreen from The University of Maryland where she was special assistant to the president and a senior associate with the Association of American Colleges.