Looking Back

What was it like to be in on the ground floor of an educational experiment, long before there was any assurance of success?

I told them I did not want departments, I didn't think grades made any sense, I didn't think tenure as such made any sense... I thought students ought to get job experience for credit, that they ought to have plenty of opportunity for individual study, and that faculty ought to work together.

All of that in terms just that vague, I didn’t have the slightest idea how it would be put together into an operating college.

—Charles McCann

In anticipation of Founding Festival this March, the ReView sought out some of the people who could answer that question. Accepting invitations for dinner and a round-table discussion about the early days of Evergreen were 14 longtime faculty, staff and administrators, many of whom began working at the college before it opened in the fall of 1971. Turn the page with us and look back.

Evergreen's First President and current Faculty Member Charles McCann peeks over photographic proof that the campus plaza was once, indeed, mud and dreams. Photo by Steve Davis.

MUD DAY MEMORIES
Christina Meserve '75 is a member of the first graduating class that included students who spent all four years of their undergraduate study at Evergreen. She practices law in Olympia and is a member of the Board of Governors of the Evergreen Foundation.

“Everything they’ve said about the ‘mud days’ is true. There were just planks laid down all over the place. One time I stepped off one and sunk into the mud right up to my knee. The construction crew just laughed their heads off.

“There was a great sense of building. Every day something was being done. I lived in the dorms before the courtyard was paved over. It was just a big pool of water. Hey, we thought it was great—we had ‘choice’ waterfront property.

“The big highlight in the dorms that first fall was when Charlie McCann came over to our place for dinner. I was eighteen years old and it seemed the most revolutionary thing in the world for the president of a college to come over for dinner. So many people wanted to come that we got a big piece of plywood from somewhere and covered it with a bedspread for a tablecloth. We had hamburger stroganoff and Charlie brought wine and flowers. It was special.”
The only things we talked about at lunch at my former college were department politics and who was going to get tenure.

At Evergreen we talk about books and teaching—all the time.

—Charles Teske

Looking Back, continued from page 1

The time was one evening this past December. The place was the Urban Onion restaurant in downtown Olympia. Moderated by Mark Clemens, Evergreen's director of Information Services and Publications, the discussion soon evolved into an easy-going exchange of memories, ideas and observations. Of necessity, the transcription below represents less than half of the three hours that followed and only a fraction of Evergreen's 29-year history. See page 7 for participants' full names and mini-biographies. The conversation began with Evergreen's first president, Charles McCann, now a member of the faculty. As the first course was served, Clemens asked McCann how he first came in contact with the new college in southwest Washington.

McCann: They asked if I'd be interested in applying for president and I thought, I sure would. I mean, just getting the opportunity to get in on starting a new college. But it seemed a problem at the time because there were all kinds of things I didn't want to see happen. I thought, if I tell them all the things I don't want to see happen, they're not going to want to have anything to do with me. But then I thought, well, they're not going to want to have anything to do with me anyhow.

I was dean of faculty at Central Washington State College at the time and I figured that, with a new college in a place like Olympia, so many people would be applying that I'd have the chance of a snowball in hell. So I thought, well, I'll just tell them what I think.

We met at the Seattle airport for the interview in early '68. I told them what I thought about present practices, particularly at state-run colleges and universities. American higher education as a whole, and essentially what my hopes were.

Much of it was in negative terms. I told them I did not want departments, I didn't think grades made any sense, I didn't think tenure as such made any sense, I didn't think money or anything. I thought students ought to get credit for job experience, that they ought to have plenty of opportunity for individual study, and that faculty ought to work together.

All of that in terms just that vague. I didn't have the slightest idea how it would be put together into an operating college.

McCann: What happened then?

McCann: After that, I went back to Ellensburg and took off my suit jacket and sat down and had a martini and tried to forget about it. About a day later I got a call from one of the trustees, Roger Camp, who asked me if I'd like the job. I said, "I sure would." Stupid—didn't even ask him about money or anything.

So then it begins in Olympia in an office in the Capitol Building. Dean Clemens, the executive director, was there, Ken Winkley had been hired as controller and Dick Nichols to do public relations. It was 1968 and there was a big to-do in Governor Evans' office, lots of flash bulbs popping and all.

After that, I was ready to go back to Ellensburg and the trustees said, "Oh, Charlie, there's one more thing. We've been planning this campus and the drawings are all set to go. We told the architects that you, the president, have the final say in this and maybe you'd better go up to Seattle to do that."

This was about 2:30 on a Friday afternoon. I went up to the offices of architects—the Durham, Anderson, Freed people worked well together. The result of their work is the size of CAB 108 drawings were spread out on all the walls. The whole thing.

McCann: When was that?

McCann: That was in the fall of 1968, when the bill creating the college was passed. It was late at night and the place was packed. How can I describe that moment, when it hit you that Olympia was never going to be the same, that Olympia was on its way to being an educational and cultural center? It was absolutely amazing.

"Evergreen's existence hung on so many threads. The Commission on Higher Education looked at all the trends in education—the GIs coming back, the rising enrollment—and said that, clearly, the state needed another four-year college. But by the time the college was about to open, the tide was ebbing. A lot of people were talking a second look, I think. It seems like Evergreen's opening had been delayed for one more legislative session, it wouldn't be here."

Photos left and right: February, 1971: Faculty Members Larry Dicketstead and Fred Young, Library Dean Jim Holly, and Faculty Member Jack Webb.

"Evergreen" circa 1969.

"Terwiller's" circa 1969.

The February, 1971, meeting of planning faculty and administrators that was an important step in the development of coordinated studies. L. to r.: Faculty Members Will Uncold, Byron Youths, Sid White, Bill Aldridge and Provost Dave Barry.

"Three's Company" circa 1969.

February 1971; Academic Dean Charles Teske (l) and Faculty Member Fred Young.

MUD DAY MEMORIES

Gladys Burns has been an enthusiastic activist in community affairs since she moved to Olympia with her husband in 1937. She served on the Southwest Washington State College Committee, a group of citizens who advocated founding a new state college in Olympia. A University of Washington graduate, Burns is a member of the American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters and a sponsor of Parents Anonymous.

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This was about 2:30 on a Friday afternoon. I went up to the offices of architects—the Durham, Anderson, Freed Company—and in a room about the size of CAB 108 drawings were spread out on all the walls. The whole thing.

McCann: You were alone?

McCann: Yes. The drawings looked like Foothills Junior College. There were little buildings all over the place amongst the trees.

The first question I asked was how were people going to get there. "Oh, we haven't figured that out yet," they said. How were people going to get around on campus? "Well," they said, "we'll put the roads in after we decide where the buildings ought to go."

As I stood near was 1,000 acres of asphalt," I said. "I'm really not a land-use planner, but somehow I have serious questions about this. Before I say yes, I'd like you to pick the three very best land-use planners in the United States, bring them out here, show them the land, and what you propose. If they say okay, I'll say okay." They lined up some absolutely top people who came out about a month later and flew over the campus in a helicopter. They set down on the meadow by Driftwood Road and walked around where the Library is now. I told them we wanted a campus where people could walk and where, when they were in one place, they could see another place and feel as though they were somewhere instead of always feeling that they were in between somewhere and somewhere. The land-use people and the Durham, Anderson, Freed people worked well together. The result of their work is essentially the campus we have now.
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—Charles McCann

McCann: I figured the next most important person in getting a college started would be the librarian. That was Jim Holly. Then I interviewed all kinds of people for the two vice presidents in a god-awful succession of motel rooms all over the country. Finally, I decided on Dave Barry and Joe Shoben, two very interesting and dynamic people for the early years of Evergreen.

Then, Dave and I hired the three deans. Charlie Teske was not only going to worry about the humanities, but how to fit in individual studies; Don Humphrey was going to work on the sciences; and Merv Cadwallader was somehow going to work out how the faculty would work together. I forget the day the three of them came on, but it was great to have them in the same room for the first time.

And that's the end of my story.

That's all I ever did.

Group: Laughter and applause.

McCann: So, at the end of your story, you still felt you were at the beginning of something exciting?

McCann: (Just sighs loudly.)

Clemens: Charlie Teske, what stands out in your mind from the early days?

Teske: I was at a funeral for an Evergreen supporter recently and it struck me that, for our 20th anniversary, one group that we have to pay attention to in particular are those townspople who not only were on the committee for the Southwest Washington State College, but those folks who were our friends after that. There are a bunch of folks who stuck with the college, including the people at St. Martin's who could have, in the very early days, crushed us as competition because of their political power in town, but did not do so.

McCann: Speaking of that, the founding trustees—well be nowhere unless they had stuck with us. I remember before the trustees and I hired Barry and Shoben, I went to every one of them and said, “Do you remember why you hired me?” and they said yes. I said, “Well, we’re going to do it. I’m going to hire these two guys and they’re going to get directions to do it.” The trustees all said, “Do it!” Then we got the deans and I went around to them again. I said, “Do you still feel this way?” “We’re on the road,” they said, “go ahead!”

Later I told them, “This faculty are about to come and spend a year planning. We’re going to do it, trustees.” “Do it!” they said and we started to do it.

And did they catch flack. Oh—oh—I decided I was just going to blow them out and tell them exactly what I thought. So I did.

—Rudy Martin
I realized if I didn’t make this move, I’d have to shut up for the rest of my life.

—Charles Teske

Looking Back, continued from page 8

Clemens: Charlie Teske, what else do you recall about your first experience at Evergreen?

Teske: I thought I was being asked out to Evergreen as a consultant. I came out, met the group, and the next morning I began to realize what we were talking about was a deanship.

I’d been fighting for years to connect theory with practice. You know, humanistic theory and practicing the arts. I’d also been fighting with equal seriousness to get jazz and ethnic music taught. In 12 years I hadn’t budged the school I was at an inch and now here was Charlie McCann asking me, “If you came here, what would you do about music?”

Something else happened that day. Charlie and Dave Barry had planned to take me to the Olympia Oyster House for lunch, but there was a potluck at the same time in the trailer. Malcolm Stimson was doing a play and I could see Barry and McCann were in a corner. Should they give me a nice lunch and miss the potluck, or was the potluck more important?

The potluck was more important. I went along and heard Malcolm’s first playlet, which was my first experience of the tone and spirit of the people working here. I never told you this, Charlie, but if you and Barry had skipped the potluck and taken me downtown to lunch, I don’t think I would have been interested in this place.

When the offer came to be a dean, I had the feeling my bluff was being met. I’d been making noises about what should be different and I realized if I didn’t make this move, I’d have to shut up for the rest of my life.

Clemens: Richard, what were you looking for when you came to Evergreen in 1970?

Jones: I was teaching one course, one course, at Harvard. I used to go to movies in the afternoon because I didn’t have anything else to do. So I went to the dean and said, “Ah-Del, I want to do more teaching!” He put his hand on my arm and said, “At Harvard, you don’t have to teach.”

I want to point out that I am really impressed with the luck—yes, the commitment and all that—but the luck that Evergreen had. Here we had five rich, Republican trustees who didn’t know exactly what was going to take place, but when the chips were down, they defended us because we were their college.

All kinds of luck went into the place. When I first got here, Cadwallader knew I had tenure at Harvard. He invited me over the first night and he asked, “What do you think about tenure?” I said, “Why don’t we just get rid of it?” And that was it.

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—Richard Jones

Clemens: You didn’t come till later, Mary, so how did you first hear about Evergreen?

Nelson: I came from Eastern Washington State College where I had started the first Indian Education Program in the state. In February of ’72, we had an Indian basketball team up at Green River Community College north of Olympia, and we met this fellow with a real loud shirt and lots of hair.

He talked non-stop for an hour and convinced me that I should try Evergreen. It was the fellow sitting two seats down from me tonight. (The group applauds a laughing Rudy Martin.)

“After several years of college at the University of Minnesota, I had no intention of coming back to school. I happened to be passing through here and looked up Will Umfeld, who I knew from the Outward Bound program. He looked at me and said, ‘Well, Pougiotes, what are you doing with your life?’ A half-hour later I walked out with an application.

“There’s no way to live through a year like that again. There’s no way to recreate the combination of so many unknowns. It’s similar to birth. There’s no way you can recapitulate it, but so much of what you see in a child is determined at birth. Evergreen had attracted so many people with convictions about how a college should be. People knew it was a model that was good. People were risk-takers and builders. It was a very profound year.”

Rudy Martin: When I first heard about Evergreen, I was a graduate student in Pullman at WSU. I had taught high school, community college and at San Francisco State, and I had some ideas about what a college education should be. I read an article about this new college and I couldn’t believe it.

But I went for an application and they wanted me to write an essay about my educational philosophy. I put it away for weeks, then decided on a rainy, cold Sunday afternoon to write the essay. I decided I was just going to blow them out and tell them exactly what I thought. So I did.

In about three days I got a phone call from Merv Cadwallader who asked if I could come over for an interview. I saw Merv, Charlie Teske and Don Humphrey. We sat around in the trailer and talked about how I would organize studies if I had my choice of faculty people. What would happen if I had spaces where I could move students and faculty members and take folks off-campus and all this stuff. We just blue skyed, it seemed to me, for hours. At the end of the interview, Merv said, “We can’t do it formally until McCann and Barry come back, but you’re going to get a contract.”

So we went home to Pullman. I drove for a while and decided I’d never get a chance again to start from the ground like we did here. Besides, these guys meant what they were talking about! I figured, what the hell, let’s give it a shot.
Mary Lux sponsored the first bill to establish a new four-year college when she was a state representative from the 22nd District in 1965. The bill was not passed, but it paved the way for successful legislation in 1967. An Olympia resident since 1958, Lux is currently a member of the Olympia City Council and a psychiatric nurse consultant with the Department of Social and Health Services.

"I've been excited about Evergreen from the beginning—from the very first shovelful of dirt Governor Evans dug up that day way out on Cooper Point. I've always felt that a community needs to have something beyond high school. A college can bring joy, hope, knowledge and skills. The early controversies about Evergreen's image never affected me. Through the years, it's given me a good feeling to know there are others thinking and studying at the college who will look and see and act in the community."

The students got caught up in the commitment and passion about the institution that the rest of us had.

—Larry Stenborg

Clemens: What was it like, the planning year?

Martin: It was a blur. It was so much work and so much contact—that was the thing that just blew my mind. So much contact with so many people, all the time, throughout the year. We worked like hell and we partied like hell.

The first time we partied at Richard Jones' house, we were all sitting around on the floor drinking wine and telling stories and Jones asked Gall, "Where are you from?" and Gall said, "Electric City, Washington." Eidridge fell down laughing. Then someone turned to Eidridge and asked, "Well, where are you from?" and he said "Storm Lake, Iowa." We were all on the floor then.

We were a bunch of folks with a mission and I've never been part of anything I felt was better.

Clemens: Nancy, you were here at Evergreen during the planning year, but as a staff member rather than faculty.

Taylor: I was hired in September of 1970 as an admissions counselor to go around the state to every high school and community college. I traveled every day, telling potential students what Evergreen was going to be like, and one member of the planning faculty went with me on each visit.

Although the planning faculty had meetings together, they still had their individual dreams so, depending on who I went with, there was a different story every day. We'd go to Kelso and Beryl Crowe would tell one story and the next day we'd go to Tacoma and Bill Aldridge would tell a story that had nothing to do with the other.

It's no wonder we got students that first year who had a great variety of dreams and goals. In many cases, they were responding to the individual dreams of the planning faculty, and that was fine.

Clemens: Which brings up a question: are the dreams still coming true?

Dobbs: The most typical question I get asked by community people who are interested in coming to school here is, "Well, is it really changed a lot, hasn't it?" The implication is that Evergreen has changed for the worse, that somehow the magic has been lost. I've had a chance to think about that a lot, and my answer is, no, it really hasn't changed. Some structural things have changed, but the level of creativity and Evergreen's spontaneity are still there. Maybe there's a little more bureaucratic red tape, but it hasn't affected the essence of my teaching. If it did, I wouldn't stay.

Rudy Martin: We have a good deal less off-campus community involvement than we did early on. The first program I did, "Contemporary American Minorities," was busy on campus one day when we heard the Corps of Engineers had dumped a bunch of concrete in the Nisqually River and the river was cutting away the bank at Frank's Landing. Folks just dropped everything and took off. We worked for a week sandbagging the river. There used to be a lot more of that kind of activity. I think that's a loss.

It was the friendliest, most completely homogeneous place as far as faculty getting along with staff and everybody working for the cause.

—Les Eidridge

Looking Back: Two current Evergreen students appear to be heading into a time warp when these photographs from 1969 (l.) and 1987 (r.) are placed side-by-side. More about the 1969 photo in "Early Photos" above.

continued on page 6
Looking Back at the Urban Onion

Mark Clemens  Mary Nelson  Charles McCann  Rudy Martin  Nancy Taylor  Gail Martin  Larry Stenberg  Les Eldridge

Looking Back, continued from page 1

Clemens: What else has changed since Evergreen began?

Stenberg: I sense there are fewer shifts in academic program plans once a program begins. There seems to be tighter planning and more focused activity in programs, which may limit spontaneity, but I'm wondering to what extent this has actually occurred.

Jones: Some of us who have been doing it for so long, it gets to be very routine. It wasn't routine at first—it was brand new.

Taylor: Remember the first year, Richard, when we got all the students together in March and said, "What do you want to read Spring Quarter?" and 129 students decided what we would read. That does not go on now.

Marr: Something else needs to be mentioned. What makes a good program is faculty who teach not simply the results of their disciplines, sort of a residue of answers, but who teach students to ask questions. Then you get an academic community that is committed to inquiry rather than simply coming up with frozen conclusions. I can spot the difference between that way of teaching and the other way in five minutes.

Nelson: I think the college has changed for the better, for the most part, but when Lynn Patterson was made the first woman dean at Evergreen in 1974, I remember this memo coming around that began, "Now that we have charm and beauty in the Deans," and I thought, "What the hell is this?" But I think Lynn's appointment was a breaking point in how all you gentlemen (Nelson looks around the room) looked at women and the deanship. Certainly, Lynn and Barbara Smith and the other women deans have proved themselves to be capable.

Taylor: Another difference is the makeup of the student body now. It may be that we're getting foister in certain ways about teaching, but part of it is that the student body is not nearly so pugnacious or ornery as it tended to be initially.

Trout: Here's a pugnacious and ornery student. I'm almost 20, so that makes me almost the same age as the college. I've found you can do anything you want at Evergreen, if you're gutsy enough. While Evergreen has changed my life, it's because I've been assertive. And Evergreen has changed my life to a point where it will affect who I am for the next 60 years. Just thought I should tell you...

Taylor: That is real scary.

I was walking through the Communications lab the other day and I looked at a wall that was once a pencil mark you could erase from a piece of paper. Now there's this two-foot thick thing that would cost so many thousands of dollars to tear down.

Diana Meyer '72 moved to Olympia from Texas in 1957. During Evergreen's first year she was a member of the "Environmental Design" Program. She has returned to Evergreen and is currently enrolled in the Teaching Education Program.

Clemens: Speaking of institutional edifices, we present coordinated studies, internships and individual contracts in the catalog as an integrated package. Were they thought of that way in the beginning?

Taylor: Mark, we knew that early on, after a meeting in February of 1970. On that day we planned the college. We met at 8:30 in the morning. Charlie started with a statement about what there was going to be and not going to be. Then Merv Cadwallader introduced the idea of what came to be called "coordinated studies."

The point is, we knew we were going to do things like that. We knew we were going to have something like cooperative education and something like individual contracts. We knew we were going to have coordinated studies, or something like them, and that was going to be the newest and most difficult thing.

We interviewed for that when we were hiring faculty. If they didn't know what we were talking about, forget it; if they did, then we began. That was why Rudy got asked that question: "What are you going to do and with what kind of team?"

Jones: I wasn't at that meeting, but I know that Merv thought of his coordinated studies concept as something for only a small fraction of the students. After Merv presented his idea, though, Don Humphrey said, "Well, if it's good enough for 100 students, it's good for the whole school," That was the crucial moment.

Stenberg: It's ironic that one of our strongest commitments has been to coordinated studies. When I proposed "Environmental Design" as a coordinated studies program for the first year and other people proposed other coordinated studies, Merv said, "Wait a minute, I never intended for my idea to be used in this way."

Jones: I think all of the planning faculty knew the kind of thing we wanted, but didn't exactly know how to do it. But when we heard Merv present coordinated studies, we said, "This is it!" It was at that moment that we really went whole hog.

Clemens: Some people wondered about that and the other new ideas Evergreen had for a while, though, didn't they? Even though the college was successful from the start and increasingly so as time went on, there were doubts about its effectiveness. Was Evergreen ever in any real danger of closure?
Becky: “Being 18 and never having experienced another college, it took me a while to realize Evergreen was different. When the first brochure said ‘We’re like to think of ourselves as a school without walls,’ I didn’t know that wasn’t normal. Or when signs were posted that fust December that said ‘26 tons of books are here,’ Let’s get them on the shelves!’, I didn’t know that wasn’t a normal way for colleges to get things done.

But then we had an all-campus meeting in Lecture Hall One and there were a lot of people expressing concern and worry for the way the college was going. That’s when I started to think how fragile Evergreen was and appreciated the risk transfer students were taking to come here.”

Clemence: “We’re about to break up and I want to thank you all for coming. Let me ask one more question, though. This March there will be a celebration. What are we celebrating?”

Teske: “When I was interviewing for the deanship, Dave Barry asked me for a statement of my philosophy. I think I wrote it in four sentences. The fourth one was—yeah, everyone is having big dreams about changing education, but every one in a while if it’s done right, it’s possible for the dream to become real and survive.”

It’s been surviving pretty well for 20 years now.

—Charles Teske

Eldridge: Rumors of our demise were greatly exaggerated. The highest vote the House ever cast for any reduction in Evergreen’s budget was 54 votes out of 98. Usually it was around 16. Some legislators took us on because we were a cheap shot, a few votes back home. But the legislators who cared about us saw Evergreen was an experiment that was succeeding.

Johnson: One of the most serious times was when our enrollment was down. But we had a lot of people pitching in. Faculty and staff made a real commitment to help solve the enrollment problem. It was a real team effort.

Names Mentioned During the Evening

In order of appearance.

Super Camp, see footnote #2; Dean Clabaugh, who died in 1980, became the college’s first permanent president when he was named executive director in October, 1967. Ken Womack is now Executive Director of the Foundation and Administrative Services. Dick Nichols has been a legislative assistant to the president and administrative assistant to the president.

Footnotes

1. Formerly known as the Lunchbox and then the Hort & Gene, the Urban Oasis is now on the north side of campus. Jim Mead, a 1973 alumnus, and his wife, Debb, who is currently enrolled in Evergreen’s Teacher Education Program.

2. “They” were the five members of Evergreen’s Board of Trustees: Vancouver banker Roger Boug, Skunk creek contractor Tom Clark, Thurston banker Al Saunders, Pullman businessman Julian Hitchens, and Seattle community activist Janet Tuohy. Tuohy was supported by represen’tative Mary Ellen MciCOff, a state representative from Seattle who was ruled ineligible to serve on the board because her status as a legislator was deemed a conflict of interest.

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5. The planning faculty, also known as the founding faculty, met during the 1967-68 planning year. In addition to Ruby Mady, Lour. Halvorson, Sue Lowe, and Bob Mead, the planning faculty were Evergreen’s first professors. They later held the positions listed at the college.

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An anonymous group contract in "Time Travel Along The Evergreen Continuum" concluded Fall Quarter by building a time machine. The contract allowed the Beakers to use the machine (constructed with logs and fueled by methane) to transport seven Greeners to March 1, 2007, the 40th anniversary of the college's founding. Here are some of the things they saw.

Alice Patience '80
Administrative Secretary to Vice President Sue Washburn

"There are the tallest trees I've ever seen in my life. They dwarf the buildings. They completely encircle a tiny Red Square. There are a couple more buildings. The clocktower's still there and, yes, the time is still wrong. Aircraft are coming in and landing behind the trees. There're lots of people. They're wearing layers and layers of clothing. They still don't quite fit into the way society is right now.

"Evergreen is much wiser and older. The kinds of issues everyone is dealing with involve the rest of the world and the universe. Classes are not really classes, but centers where things happen. There aren't any typical courses. There isn't something that's strictly art or strictly science—it's intermeshed and all very important to the world. Students aren't just going to the woods on field trips, but to the stars."

Dave Campbell, Senior Coordinator of the Services and Activities Fee Review Board

"The college is a lot more stabilized in terms of knowing itself. The enrollment is at 4,000 and holding. The student body represents a mixed and widespread age group and there are more people of color. "Their perspectives are directed toward environmental planning, recycling and recreational activities. There's a real struggle to save the environment. Worldwide, that struggle is in its most crucial stage."

"A wellness program is going strong and cultural/ethnic diversity is in its prime. Although there's a strong need for specialization, a broad-based liberal arts education is recognized as essential and Evergreen's approach to education is even more highly sought. "My older self is here to celebrate the college's 40th Anniversary of the Founding Festival, and Evergreen is known as the Harvard of the West Coast."

Joseph Olander, President

"The 'how' of our teaching style is very similar to what we have in 1987. The 'what' has increased and diversified. There are many more subjects being explored. New ones include Puppet Sound and Northwest studies, advanced marine biology, artificial intelligence, ethics of meta-public policy and new approaches to nutrition, health and cross-cultural learning."

"I see more of an ethnic mix. There are a lot more students of color and more diverse age groups. The enrollment is right around 5,000 students. Students will have their own representative governing mechanism. "It's different technology in a very advanced. It's possible to connect classes through telecommunications. Students often meet in person in their dorm rooms. There are more graduate programs and they're organized linked to our undergraduate offerings. We might be a university.

"Evergreen has a tremendous new wave of people in Pierce County. Nationwide, the college is looked upon as a shining light for liberal arts reform."

"Finally, an Evergreen alum is a candidate for governor of Washington. There's lots more traffic. We have an underground newspaper. Evergreen is radical not because of what it is but because of what it teaches—a wholistic and spiritual approach.

"There are two student newspapers. There are more diverse audiences and more conventional journalism, while an underground newspaper has emerged. "There are more classes and seminars are happening across the country. Evergreen is radical not because of what it is but because of what it teaches—a wholistic and spiritual approach."

"The soul of Evergreen consists of folks being calm and comfortable with themselves. Diversity is accepted. It's not a big deal. Yet it's valued. Diversity is demonstrated in what appears in the menus, and in lots of different languages being spoken. "Seminars are very integrated. People are very different, but all a part of the whole. There's a lot of energy, a lot of disagreeing. But it's not a struggle so much as a searching, a sacred place where each person's world view is valued. I hear someone in seminar expressing herself in song and another using a different language. "There's more campus housing and more on-campus businesses catering to students. There's less need for students to go into downtown and shop for their needs. We're more insulated. "There are two student newspapers. There are more classes and seminars are happening across the country. Evergreen is radical not because of what it is but because of what it teaches—a wholistic and spiritual approach."

Margarita Mendoza de Sugiyama
Special Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action

"I see lots of color around Red Square, like flags. There are a lot more people. There are drummers and dancers. The dancers and several of the drummers are black. There're still Caucasian kids with long hair and no shoes. Up on the knoll, there's a multi-ethnic seminar group. "The city of Olympia has expanded and surrounded the campus. The external community sees us a valued feature of their lives. Our history of innovation has been tested and refined. "The administration is invisible. People do much of their work at home on personal computers. The need to keep in touch has caused a re-emergence of the Evergreen potluck."

Russ Fox, Faculty Member

"The trees are bigger. There are more people—4,000 students—and more people of color. "Although the structure of the curriculum is a little different—studies are organized in macro-packages—the learning energy of the place is much like it is now. There's a seriousness and a restlessness to find new directions. "Most of the original faculty have retired. A lot of alums have come back as faculty. They've brought a lot of new excitement, ideas and energy. "DTF's have been replaced by something more like guilds. There are a lot of organized groups of staff, students and faculty. There's just one voice for each group, but we also don't have 5,000 individual voices making policy either.

"Evergreen is much more of a hub for exchanges of information. The Washington Center for the Improve- ment of the Quality of Undergraduate Education has expanded. The kinds of things that the Washington Institute for Public Policy does have also increased. All the things we do are more solidly integrated. "The Mariners are in Sacramento and the first Evergreen graduate has made it into the big leagues. She's started a new wave of players becoming top gun at their sport. She and her three evergreen counterparts have arrived at Evergreen in a telecommunications program called Sport in the Public Interest."

"There are twice as many buildings, 15,000 students and less trees around Red Square. Seminars are happening in one-room circular buildings out in the woods. "It's an exciting time. Evergreen has witnessed the test of time, and come back to a point in its cycle where we're discovering a lot of values that have been shunted aside. There's much less computer sciences and business studies and more studies in humanities, philosophy and religion. "The student body is made up of more diverse minority groups, less families, less kids and more single people. There're also more political and environmental activists. Radios from all over the country are going to school here."

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Steve Hunter '79
Director of Research and Planning

"There's lots more traffic. We have an enrollment of 5,000 students. There's a real increase in people of color—over 60% of the entering class of 2007 is made up of people of color. There are more older students (we have a strong Adult Learning Program). There are new dorms and the Communications Building is covered with ivy. "The college is full of the same kinds of turmoil we know now. People still question traditional values and hear back to Evergreen's 'good old days.' People read the Strategic Plan of 1986 with a chuckle.

"The role of computers and increased technology has spread across the curriculum. Students are even more deeply involved in environmental studies and there's a strong move toward an international curriculum. The Great Books' program is still here, as is close faculty-student contact. The fundamental objective remains unchallenged—an emphasis on learning how to learn. Evergreen is an urban campus. The city of Olympia has expanded and surrounded the campus. The external community sees us a valued feature of their lives. Our history of innovation has been tested and refined. "The administration is invisible. People do much of their work at home on personal computers. The need to keep in touch has caused a re-emergence of the Evergreen potluck."

Polly Trout, Junior

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Governor Proposes Funds for Evergreen

Governor Booth Gardner’s budget recommendations for the 1987-89 biennium include additional funds for Evergreen. Much of this funding, however, will depend upon increased state revenues.

One recommendation for Evergreen’s Operating Budget calls for increasing enrollment by 100 students in each year of the biennium, which would put Evergreen’s student body at 2,200 FTE for 1986-88. The college would also be able to hire five new faculty members each year. The Governor’s Capital Budget is highlighted by the inclusion of construction of a campus multi-purpose/recreational center and the remodeling of the Lab Annex to create appropriate work space for the fine arts.

Other budget items of interest to Evergreen include additional money for minority recruiting and increased funds for instructional equipment and maintenance. Also included in the budget recommendation is $450,000 for the Washington Center for the Improvement of Quality of Undergraduate Education; $300,000 to establish a regional center for the National Faculty of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences; and $300,000 for a Labor Research Center.

National Faculty Picks Evergreen

Evergreen has been chosen as the site of the first regional center of the National Faculty of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences. This Atlanta-based organization works to improve the quality of teaching with the assistance of scholars from colleges and universities around the country. Evergreen Faculty Member S. Rudolph Martin Jr. and Karen Munro of Olympia will coordinate the regional center.

The National Faculty was organized in 1968 by a number of organizations, including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council on Education, and the American Council of Phi Beta Kappa. Its goal is to provide opportunities for elementary and secondary teachers to work on expanding educational techniques. Projects are planned by local committees of parents, teachers and school administrators and designed to increase teachers’ understanding of their subjects and make them more effective in the classroom. If, for example, a North-west school district develops a project to improve the way writing is taught, a National Faculty member will spend as much time as two years working with the district’s teaching force.

Since its founding the National Faculty has conducted more than 600 such projects nationwide. A humanities-based program has started in Fairbanks, Alaska, and a program for Seattle teachers is set to begin soon. Tentative plans are underway for Evergreen’s regional center to host a summer institute for teachers focusing on subjects such as English, math, science and foreign language.

The regional center at Evergreen will develop projects in school districts throughout the Northwest and recruit faculty members to serve as resources from the region’s colleges and universities. Funding for the program is provided by private sources and governmental agencies. Governor Booth Gardner has pledged to support the center as part of his push for educational excellence in Washington state.

Founding Festival Schedule of Events

All alumni, students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to the Founding Festival. Times and places are subject to change. A final, updated program will be available in February. For more information, call (206) 866-6000, ext. 6192 or ext. 6128.

Wednesday, March 4

8-10 a.m. Formal Opening
8-10 a.m. Academic Program Presentations
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Academic Program Presentations
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Panel of early faculty members on ‘Evergreen: Past Present and Future’
7/8-9 p.m. Keynote Speech by a major academic speaker (tba)
8-10 p.m. Student production of hit musical, “Barnum”

Thursday, March 5

9 a.m.-noon Academic Program Presentations
9 a.m.-noon Alumni Panel on “The Evergreen Experience”
2-5 p.m. Academic Program Presentations
8-11 p.m. Film Festival of alumni work (from student years).

Friday, March 6

9 a.m.-noon Academic Program Presentations
noon-2 p.m. Panel of early faculty members on “Evergreen: Past Present and Future”
2-5 p.m. Academic Program Presentations
5:30-6:30 p.m. Alumni Reception
6:30-9:30 p.m. Banquet with past and current presidents and a salute to the college’s era of accomplishment.
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Grand Finale, Big Band, Gala Dance

Saturday, March 7

Noon-3:30 p.m. Alumni Day and luncheon with President Olander, including seminars on the future of Evergreen and recognition of early graduates
4-5:30 p.m. Musical review of Goddlock History by Malcolm Stilson
5:30-6:30 p.m. Alumni Reception
6:30-9:30 p.m. Banquet with past and current presidents and a salute to the college’s era of accomplishment.
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Founding Festival Banquet and Dance

By reservation; $25 per person
Saturday, March 7
Banquet, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Library 4200
Dances, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Library Lobby, Second and Third Floors

Number in party
x $25 = Total $ __________
Name
Street
City, state, zip
Phone (h) (w)

Return this form no later than February 20 to President’s Office, Library 3100, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505. Please enclose check or money order with your reservation. Pick your tickets up at the main entrance of the Library Lobby on the night of the banquet and dance, Saturday, March 7. For more information, call (206) 866-6000, ext. 6192.

Take a Stroll Down Geoduck Lane

... and step back in time. Twenty years of Evergreen history and happenings... the issues, the programs, the events, the people — will be packed into Twenty Years of Making a Difference, a special commemorative publication the college is producing for Founding Festival. Valuable for its contents alone, Twenty Years will be a high quality, 56-page publication you’ll want as a natural Geoduck keepsake.

You can get Twenty Years for $6.50 if you order now (price includes $1.50 for postage and handling). Booklets will be mailed in March. Send your order and payment to: Commemorative Booklet, CAB 214, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.

Name
Street
City, state, zip
Number of copies __________
@ $6.50 each = $ __________ total

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Receptions Keep Alums In Touch

Five recent informal receptions across the country have kept alumni in touch with the college and helped reenergize the enthusiasm for the work being done on campus.

"I came away very excited and visited all family and old friends at Evergreen," says Vice President for Development and Administrative Services Sue Washburn, who attended a November 19 reception at the Long Wharf Restaurant in Boston. "Our alums are doing interesting things in very special ways, some that have never been touched. Faculty and staff would be proud of the work they're doing."

In February, receptions have been held in San Francisco, Anchorage, New York and Los Angeles, with more being planned. What's happening on campus; what issues are in the making of Evergreen is what's keeping our alumni informed and up-to-date.

Deb Baker, Washburn, "like how Evergreen has changed; what's happening on campus."

On December 2, alumni from as far away as New York, San Jose and Vancouver, Wash., attended a reception in Seattle.

A New Alums Ballot

Walter Washburn and Gallagher in Los Angeles on February 10.

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A New Alums Ballot
Evergreen Women Challenge Himalayas

It's not as far as you might expect from the serene campus at Evergreen to the wind-swept reaches of the Himalayas. Three Evergreen graduates were part of an all-women's team that attempted to scale China's 25,325-foot Mt. Kongur, and pulled upon their Evergreen experience to help in the process.

Making the climb were Pat Dillingham '80, Nancy Goforth '78 and Suzanne Hopkins '81, one-third of a nine-member team. Last July, the team trekked to rugged Western China to face a mountain which had stymied four of the five previous expeditions mounted against it.

"My experiences at Evergreen really laid the groundwork for my involvement," says Dillingham. "It reinforced the qualities in me that allowed me to take the risk. What I learned at Evergreen, such as working in seminars with groups of individuals, translated into the same spirit and teamwork needed for mounting a climb of this type."

The expedition had to turn back at 21,000 feet because of illness, the threats of avalanche and bad weather. Although Mt. Kongur was conquered by a British team in 1981, four previous expeditions had failed, including one Japanese team which disappeared on the mountain that same year. Dillingham has mixed emotions regarding the decision to turn back.

"I feel really lucky about the whole experience and privileged to be part of such a group," she says. "I'm elated that we all came back safely. On the other hand, I'm disappointed that we didn't make it to the top. We had high expectations and our failure to reach the summit has been harder to handle than I'd expected."

A native of Tacoma, Dillingham became involved with a women's mountain-climbing group while she was at Evergreen. After graduating, she worked with Outward Bound, which uses wilderness experiences to teach young people team building and self-confidence.

Upon leaving that job a year ago, Dillingham collaborated with other former Outward Bound employees to start Executive Ventures Group, which offers team building and leadership training to executives and managers.

"Evergreen's experiences helped me make the decision to go into that business as well," she says. "Taking risks was always part of Evergreen."

Dillingham says she may do some climbing in Peru in the near future but has no plans to attempt a climb of the magnitude of the China expedition.

"Exaltation and disappointment are part of the whole ball of wax," she says. "I'm elated with the summit has been harder to handle than I'd expected."

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Vitality Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Alumni Association. If you would like to offer your talents, energy and time for Association events, we want to hear from you. If you're interested, we'll need some information, such as how to get in contact with you, what you're interested in doing and special talents or skills you might have.

A number of alumni have taken advantage of the information network idea presented by students and faculty at last year's faculty/staff retreat. The network has no plans to attempt a climb of the magnitude of the China expedition.

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At a recent meeting of the Alumni Council, the group that challenged Mt. Kongur, including Evergreeners Pat Dillingham and Nancy Goforth, at far left, and Suzanne Hopkins, fifth from left in the front.

Plan Ahead for Greener Gathering

Let us try early to begin planning for the Greener Gathering, set to coincide with Super Saturday this June. If you're planning to journey here from all the, the Alumni Association will be happy to assist you with your travel plans.

Let us know your name and address, where you're traveling from, your length of stay and other pertinent information. If we receive enough interest, we'll try to get reduced rates using the services of Faculty Member Gordon Beck, who is a registered travel agent. Drop us a note to Alumni Relations, c/o Travel Packages, CAB 214, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.

Classical World Tour Scheduled

An opportunity to study art, history, the archaeology and the history of Roman civilization is on tap when the Alumni Association offers a 14-day non-credit travel program in conjunction with an Evergreen summer program, "Classical World XIV." Set for July 25 to August 8, the lecture tour will be conducted by Gordon and Libbie Beck, Evergreen faculty and staff members, respectively. The Becks are experienced world travelers who have conducted similar tours in the past. Return tour begins in Naples, Italy, and stops in Rome and Tivoli. For more information, a detailed itinerary and program description, contact Gordon Beck at Liberal Arts, CAB 110, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.

Fundraising Workshop

A one-day workshop on the fundraising methods and policies of Evergreen will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 14th of the Organic Farmhouse. Evergreen Director of Development John Gallagher will facilitate the session for members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Evergreen Foundation Board of Governors. The workshop is designed to inform and motivate board members about fundraising possibilities. Any alumni interested in attending should contact Gallagher at (206) 352-7700, ext. 6665, or Lytle Trivelll '77 at (206) 754-3255.

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At a recent meeting of the Alumni Council, the group that challenged Mt. Kongur, including Evergreeners Pat Dillingham and Nancy Goforth, at far left, and Suzanne Hopkins, fifth from left in the front. Seattle Reception Reminder

Kay Boyd '76 of Lacey, becomes a first Evergreen graduate to have a seat on the college's Board of Trustees. Boyd was appointed to her position by Governor Booth Gardner in November and attended her first board meeting on December 10.

"I'm very good about being the first anything," Boyd says. "It's an honor and very exciting. It's an unusual opportunity having a chance to work with faculty and student members as well as learn more about the activities and plans of the Alumni Association."

The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 16, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Northwest School, 1411 Summit Avenue (near Summit and 45th streets). Parking will be served. Parking is available at the school, which is also served by several Metro bus lines. All Evergreen graduates are urged to attend.

Alum Becomes Evergreen Trustee

The group that challenged Mt. Kongur, including Evergreeners Pat Dillingham and Nancy Goforth, at far left, and Suzanne Hopkins, fifth from left in the front.
Evergreen is Calling

When your telephone rings on a chilly February evening, be sure to answer it. It could be Evergreen calling during the eighth annual Phone-A-Thon. From February 4 to 25, more than 150 volunteers—students, alumni, faculty, staff, Foundation Board members and friends of Evergreen—will be calling nearly 8,000 alums and parents all over the country.

In addition to asking for your financial support, our callers will want to know about you. The Phone-A-Thon is our way of keeping in touch. We'll let you know what's happening on campus and you'll have a chance to bring us up to date on what you've been doing since last year's Phone-A-Thon.

In the 1986 Phone-A-Thon, pledges topped $27,000. The target for 1987 is $30,000. Money raised will provide scholarships, student research and special projects, and assist with library acquisitions.

We hope you'll look forward to our call in February. We're looking forward to talking with you.