By Cheryl Miller

For 13 years, Paul Magelli pushed Fairmount College faculty to be forward thinking and comprehensive in their approach toward undergraduate education. As dean, he led the college in its pursuit and application of knowledge, and prepared students and faculty for their roles in the future.

Magelli is the senior director of the Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Although he left Wichita State more than three decades ago, Magelli remains a stalwart ally in the future of Fairmount College and Wichita State University. He strongly supports the innovation and technology emphasis emerging at Wichita State through the Innovation Campus.

In August 2014, WSU President John Bardo outlined a major university strategy based on innovation. Bardo envisions Wichita State as the catalyst for economic expansion in Kansas and the region, through technology and movement of ideas to production in the marketplace. The Innovation Campus will provide avenues to students, faculty and businesses to fulfill this goal.

Wichita State University professors Jibo He and Barbara Chaparro continue to find ways to be creative and innovative – this time inventing a device that could have positive ramifications in the medical field and beyond.

Their latest invention, developed with the help of WSU grad student Long Wang, is called Google Lens.

The device is an accessory lens that attaches to Google Glass, which is a...
The opportunities in this endeavor are open to all disciplines. Although one might think of the hard sciences and engineering as being most likely to lead the way with innovation and technology, Magelli says that is not the case. Given their unique role, Fairmount College faculty and students have many exciting possibilities in the classroom and in the marketplace.

“There are so many ways to look at the whole issue of technology from a liberal arts perspective,” Magelli said. “It shouldn’t just be engineers and computer scientists or people in the life sciences, but also people from social sciences and humanities.”

Cindy Claycomb, director of WSU Ventures and professor of marketing, agrees. WSU Ventures provides services for Wichita State employees and students who create intellectual property with the support of university funds or other assets.

“Humanities and the social sciences are relatively untapped from an innovation perspective even though faculty members in those areas are producing new ideas with considerable promise in the marketplace,” Claycomb said. “This includes the areas of knowledge management, electronic medical records, smart energy grids and the history of technology, to name just a few.”

“It is easy to overlook all the transformational ideas and processes that create the fabric of our own lives and careers,” said Ron Matson, dean. “My fervent hope is that each faculty and staff member in Fairmount College documents the innovation each of us produce and leads WSU into a stronger, albeit different, tomorrow.”

Like Matson, Magelli wants Fairmount College departments to make meaningful contributions.

“There are so many ways the arts and sciences can be involved,” Magelli said. “What is the role of the human being in the future? There’s an interesting video, ‘Humans Need not Apply,’ and the idea is that some of the workplace is being taken over with robotics and mechanization, even to the extent of the talk about driverless cars.”

Magelli said faculty in the humanities can look at how workers and technology have been treated within the workplace.

“You can look at it from the perspective of literature; you can also look at it from the perspective of history—the chronological and historical development and what the implications of that are for nations, for individuals and for enterprises,” he said. “You can also look at it sociologically, from the sociology of occupations and how occupations play out in their dependency on or in the relationship with technology.”

Magelli acknowledges that there is an indigenous role for technology and innovation within the hard sciences such as mathematics, physics, geology and
chemistry. He clearly sees opportunities with nanotechnology, genomics and genetics. Not only are there implications for future space exploration, but also for health, medicine and wellness. However, this should not preclude non-science disciplines from becoming involved, he said.

“The arts and sciences should not feel abandoned, nor should they feel marginalized,” Magelli said. “What they have to do is rethink how they’re going to engage themselves in the discussion of technology and the inventions of the future.”

Magelli believes there are several ways students can prepare. First, he said, they need to develop an appreciation for technology and innovation and think about the implications of both. Second, because time and distance is zero, students need to be willing to take a demand language course such as Chinese or Arabic and establish an appreciation and a comfortableness with multi-lingualness. Third, he said, is the need to have the skill set in the computerization and technological development of ideas and products. Last of all, students need the ability to continue self-exploration for a lifetime.

“Learning how to learn outside of the classroom on a continuing basis is necessary to remain valid, to remain current, and to be able to compete with the 7 1/2 billion people who want their jobs,” Magelli said. “We’re going to have to become more resourceful, creative and intellectual; otherwise, we’re all going to have to go to what I call the ‘L to the fourth proposition: You’re going to have to learn how to live longer with less.’”

Believing that transference of knowledge works both ways in the classroom, Magelli also strongly supports activities that allow students to assist faculty with learning and using technology such as computer modeling, YouTube videos and the Internet in the classroom. Drawing on his own experience at the University of Illinois, he advocates for the development of two-year collaboration programs using student-faculty pairings. The student collaborator, possibly from computer science or engineering, attends classes and absorbs the content, he said. The faculty collaborator gives the student access to the syllabus and the course material.

“They (the student’s) assignment and project is to then think about how they could engage new technology,” said Magelli. “In the second year after they’ve completed all that on an independent study basis, their faculty collaborator works with them to incorporate it in instructional delivery.”

Magelli plans to maintain his connection with Fairmount College and Wichita State University. As he did when Fairmount College dean, he intends to lead by example and adapt to innovation and technology at the University of Illinois. He invites Fairmount College to do the same.

Fairmount College departments will be able to do that with the support of WSU Ventures.

“We want to expand our efforts to encourage technology transfer, industry collaboration and commercialization in the social sciences and humanities,” Claycomb said. “WSU Ventures is looking for faculty members with novel inventions or ideas; faculty who have developed training materials, software or other creations of the mind; faculty who have a willingness to stretch valuable expertise into commercially viable and market-relevant projects and the capacity to collaborate with private sector enterprises and entrepreneurs.”

Magelli teaches economics courses at the University of Illinois and impresses upon his students their need to be competitive in the marketplace.

“I tell my students there’s no such thing as an American job,” he said. “And there isn’t. Now with the ability to shift jobs abroad, technology has reduced time and distance to zero. When you understand that then you know why there’s no such thing as an American job.”

“We have to have people who think about what they are going to do the next 60 years,” Magelli said. “Too much of their education prepares them for the past and not the future. The future requires them to think about the rapidity with which these things will happen.”

“Preparing faculty and students for the future

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At a life stage when most people have retired, or have considerably reduced their activities, Paul Magelli moves mountains. Or climbs them.

Magelli works full-time, frequently teaches in China, and is participating in a Mayo Clinic study for clinical and aging populations related to hypoxia, the response to altitude. For this study, he will climb Mt. Kilamanjaro.

He is 83 years old.

Many longtime Fairmount College faculty and university administrators remember Magelli from his tenure as Fairmount College dean, 1970-1983. Magelli reflects on those times favorably.

“Being dean gave me endless opportunities to grow. I had a tremendous collaboration with faculty,” he said. “We loved each other; we genuinely did. It was a very benevolent faculty. We had great leadership at the university. John Breazeale and Clark Ahlberg were incredible mentors.”

Early on Magelli embraced advances in technology.

“We had one of the first NSF CAUSE grants, for the collaboration of undergraduate science and education,” he said. “We got computers for the faculty to begin to integrate these computers in the classrooms at the very early stages in 1979.”

Magelli is particularly enthusiastic about Bardo’s vision for making WSU an Innovation University.

Recalling Wichita State’s humble beginnings as Fairmount College and then the University of Wichita, Magelli said, “I think the university is going through its fourth iteration with John Bardo.

“Wichita has been a very inventive city. Look at the history of Wichita in terms of Boeing, Beech, Cessna, Learjet, Coleman and all the subsidiary industries that located in Wichita as a result of the emphasis on aircraft and hydraulics,” he said. “The whole idea of Wichita State taking on the theme of innovation and technological change will be the catalyst at the center of the city. In doing so, it becomes a national model of how you take the resources of the university, and the resources of the city and the state, and create the institution of the future.”

He and his wife, Karolyn – who danced as a professional ballerina – will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary on Sept. 1. Although many undergraduate and graduate students call him Papa or Grandpa, he and Karolyn have two biological children and one adopted daughter.
WICHITA STATE PROFESSORS INVENT ACCESSORY LENS FOR GOOGLE GLASS

wearable product that uses voice control so users can check information easily while keeping their hands busy. Information can be displayed in Google Glass’ see-through head-mounted display, and its built-in camera allows convenient video sharing and remote conference.

But the view users have with Google Glass has one drawback, He says. Its webcam has a narrow visual field of 54.8 degrees horizontally and 42.5 degrees vertically. The narrow field of view limits Google Glass’ usefulness for some applications.

Enter Google Lens, which expands the device’s view by 58 percent horizontally (to 109.8 degrees) and 34 percent vertically (to 57.8 degrees).

**Why is it important to expand Google Glass’ view?**

Professionals are starting to use Google Glass, for everything from surgery and medical training to usability research and even flying a plane. Several hospitals, including Wesley Medical Center in Wichita and the renowned Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston, are building Google Glass applications to improve their medical services, surgery and new doctor training.

“Despite all of its remarkable features, Google Glass has some limitations in its hardware,” he says.

Google Lens, he says, solves that problem. It includes a holder to attach the lens to the frame of Google Glass. The lens that is fitted into the accessory can be changed easily.

“The accessory lens helps remedy the bottleneck of Google Glass’ camera and improves and expand Google Glass’ application in professional areas,” He says.

He and Chaparro have applied for a U.S. patent for Google Lens and are awaiting approval.
Mark Glaser, professor, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, was selected for the WSU Excellence Award for Community Research. The award is presented to a faculty member who has established an exemplary and demonstrable record of scholarship extended to external constituents resulting in a significant outcome for individuals, organizations or communities in problem solving or development.

Jeffrey Hershfield, associate professor of philosophy, is the 2015 recipient of the John R. Barrier Distinguished Teaching Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences. This award is Fairmount College’s highest honor and recognizes a full-time faculty member who has a well-established record of excellence in teaching recognized by both peers and students; has made an impact on the lives and career choices of students; and has the ability to apply the methods and results of research or the experience of community or professional service to the classroom.

Mel Kahn, professor, political science, has been elected to the Wichita Downtown Lions Club Board of Directors. He was also included in the 2015 Edition of Who’s Who in the World.

Ron Matson, dean and associate professor of sociology, has been honored by a named fellowship, established by alum Jeff Blackman to pay tribute to Matson’s positive influence and mentoring in his career. The Ron Matson Fellowship will provide funds for second-year sociology graduate students who need financial assistance to complete their studies.

Lisa Parcell, associate professor and graduate coordinator at the Elliott School of Communication, was recently featured on “Rudy Maxa’s World,” America’s most widely syndicated radio travel show. They discussed the article she wrote with Dr. Meg Lamme, “Promoting Hershey: The Chocolate Bar, The Chocolate Town, The Chocolate King,” which was published in Journalism History. You may listen to a recording of the broadcast at goo.gl/isElbU.

Terrance Figy, visiting assistant professor, Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics

Bailey Blair, Center for Community Support and Research

Brittney Hauck, Center for Community Support and Research

Anne Maack, Center for Community Support and Research

Julia Nkanata, Center for Community Support and Research

Ramona Liera-Schwichtenberg, associate professor, women’s studies and religion.

Jerry Martin, director, Holmes Museum of Anthropology.

Hari Mukerjee, professor, mathematics, statistics and physics.

Bob Rozzelle, advisor, LAS Advising Center

Bill Woods, M.V. Hughes Distinguished Professor in English
Eleven undergraduate students in Darren Defrain’s graphic novel class, English 375, were accepted into the National Undergraduate Literature Conference at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. This year’s keynote speakers include Michael Ondaatje, Terry Tempest Williams, Alan Cheuse and others. WSU students selected to present their work at the meeting include Caitlin Doolittle, Elizabeth Eckrote, Cole Ethington, Beth Ferrell, Leo Kust, Liz Potter, Ayesha Naveed, Zach Parker, Sarah Reida, Racheal Roberts and Shannon Strasser.

Wichita State’s Model United Nations team came home with an honorable mention for representing Estonia at the national MUN conference in New York City. They also received a mission briefing from Gert Auvaart – First Secretary for Legal Affairs, and attended sessions in the Great Hall at the UN. Approximately 3,000 students from more than 30 countries participated in the conference.

In February, political science students Will Amos, Jordan Haas, Emily Matta and Tiffany Massey attended the U.S. Academy Assembly on U.S.-Russian foreign policy, hosted by the U.S. Air Force Academy. They were able to meet with the former U.S. ambassador to Russia as well as many other policy experts.

Brian Ard and Paige Hungate are serving as Washington, D.C. interns with Sen. Jerry Moran this semester.

Emily Dee, a triple major in anthropology, psychology and sociology, received a $1,000 Undergraduate Research Award under the supervision of Kathy Perez, associate professor of sociology. Dee will use the award to attend next year’s annual meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology.

Lindsey Stillwell, undergraduate social work major, and Natalie Grant, assistant professor of social work, presented research at the Council on Social Work Education national conference in Tampa, Fla. Their session shared a professor-student digital ethnography of Wichita’s historic Dunbar Theatre including oral histories shared through digital storytelling, and implications of memory, emotion and meaning to spaces and places in relation to social work, community capacity building and historic preservation.

Ken Ward, graduate student, Elliott School of Communication, is the first WSU recipient of the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Excellence in Teaching Award. The award recognizes graduate students who exemplify excellence in the teaching and learning mission of MAGS universities.

IN MEMORIAM

Glenna Van Metre, 76, retired sociology lecturer, died Nov. 28, 2014. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kansas Children’s Service League, 1365 N. Custer, Wichita, KS 67203.
Students in Associate Professor Darren Defrain’s English 375 class made educational displays in Ablah Library featuring graphic novels. Students created storyboards and posters depicting novels that ranged from the history of sequential art to contemporary works. Similar to comic books, graphic novels use comic-strip-like panels to tell a story. The content may be a work of fiction, non-fiction or an anthology.
DEAN’S MESSAGE

Ron Matson, dean

Dear alumni, faculty, staff and friends -

Transitions are abundant in periods of change. I want to hallmark some of the important transitions that are occurring in Fairmount College as I approach the end of my third year as dean.

First come the exciting transitions as we watch the new faculty hired over the past two years find a place in their respective departments, develop a research agenda and generally orient themselves to life at WSU. There are many wonderful examples of this new, energetic engagement and several can be found in this newsletter.

Second are the transitions in people’s careers that bring them into their later periods of life. Buma Fridman, friend and longtime department chair of mathematics, statistics and physics, has announced that he is stepping down as chair and returning to the faculty. Buma has been the epitome of a fine leader in serving the college and the university, as well as the department. I personally thank Buma for his remarkable record of service and advocacy for the betterment of the department. William Woods (Bill), M.V. Hughes Distinguished Professor in English, has announced his retirement in May 2015. Again, decades of service, scholarship, exemplary teaching and good humor have left the department and the college with a much keener sense of purpose and identity. Bill continues to create a remarkable legacy as a Chaucer expert.

Third is the singular awareness that our alumni benefit Fairmount College with their generous investments of ideas, energy and financial resources. There are too many new funds to mention specifically, but one will soon support women’s leadership development at WSU. Another new fund will provide Fairmount College with essential resources to leverage more involvement of our alumni and friends.

As I look to the horizon, the growing opportunities and accomplishments of our alumni, faculty, staff and friends bring a sense of excitement to this office and the college. Indeed, work with the WSU Foundation and the new Alumni Association director, Courtney Marshall, creates an air of anticipation for new moments of transition yet to be defined. Help all of us to do that with your engagement and enthusiasm!

It is my pleasure to serve as your leader.