Lessons from Broadway

Hein said. She researched and wrote on the history of Broadway.

Anderson also sought to give his students experience writing different kinds of features and to have their work be “print ready” for publication. However, the enormity of the project faced a major constraint, and that was the length of the 16-week semester. To provide a tighter framework for the students to draw from, he limited the reporting area from 61st Street South to 61st Street North. In this almost 15-mile stretch, classrooms would discover history, social changes, cultural influences and family stories.

Each student wrote five or six articles. One assignment was to write a “right place” that highlighted something unique or unusual about Broadway (such as the globe atop the Welch Cleaners building). Others wrote a 30-word feature on a staff member, volunteer or guest at the Lord’s Diner, a non-profit soup kitchen for the poor and homeless sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita.

“It was humbling,” Ayalla said of the second assignment.

The Wichita Eagle, the Wichita Beacon, The Wichita Sun, The Ark Valley News, The Eagle online editor, the project will be accessible for an indefinite length of time. Anderson believes the best way to tell the stories was share those tales with the community. He limited the reporting area from 61st Street South to 61st Street North. In this almost 15-mile stretch, classrooms would discover history, social changes, cultural influences and family stories.

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Faculty Accolades
Dinorah Arzpu, political science, was invited to present the results of her research on peace negotiations at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. She also attended a high-level meeting organized by the United Nations and the National Peace Academy to discuss the topic of democracy promotion in New York City.

Randy Brown, communication, was named vice president of the Kansas Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He is the vice chair of the Citizen Utility Ratepayers Board for Kansas, an appointment made by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius.

Mary Corrigan, geology, received the Central Plains-Anna Agency on Aging’s Irene Hart Award. It is presented to a local agency that makes a significant contribution to older adults in the community.

Margaret Davey, English, was a featured speaker at the Great Lakes Writers Festival at Lakeview College in Wisconsin. The short story “Why Oskulok” by Darren DeFord, English, was a finalist for the Eric Heller Prize.

Lineea GlenMaye, social work, announced that the Council on Social Work Education reaffirmed accreditation of the Master of Social Work program through the year 2015.

W. Bartley Hilbert, Regents Distinguished Professor of Public Finance, has been named interim dean of the W. Frank Barton School of Business.

Chuck Koehler, associate dean, oversaw the opening of Wichita’s #41 Under 40. He is part of the 30th anniversary class selected by the Wichita Business Journal.

Amy Mattson Lauters, communication, was awarded a $1.25 million, four-year renewable funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally focused program for Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally focused program for Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college. The program, Upward Bound, a federally funded program that prepares economically disadvantaged students for college.

Jeffrey May and Mark Schaezler, biological sciences, were named 2007 Faculty Scholars of the University’s Young Scholar’s Special Commendation for Research Excellence.

Bin Tan, Eunice Myers, associate dean, overseas Foundation funding; and student scholarships, faculty development and the “telephone campaign”; teacher education programs; and coordination of student learning assessment across the college. She also continues as the director of the Summer Program in Puebla, Mexico.

Mostly she was most chair and associate professor of the department of modern and classical languages and literature.

Chuck Koehler, associate dean, oversees state budget accounts including, OOE, capital equipment and travel. He also coordinate college class schedules and consequently oversee GTA, lecturer and summer budgets. He is the dean’s office liaison to the curriculum committee and coordinates the college’s certificate programs.

He was most recently associate professor of sociology and assistant director at the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence.

New to the campus is Marche Fleming-Randle, assistant dean. Her duties include consulting with faculty and students, particularly in regard to administrative withdrawal and grade appeals. She also coordinate college liaison for university admissions events; and serving as the college liaison for community colleges.

She comes to us from Joplin City, Kan., where she most recently worked with Upper Iowa University’s outreach program to Fort Riley.

Condé Weathers is the senior administrative assistant and scholarship coordinator for the college. She comes to us from Fort Hays State University where she spent a year as an admissions counselor.

Their transitions to the office have been smooth not only because of their competence but also because of the support and assistance given to them by members of staff members Steve McCann, Cheryl Miller and Rob Phillips. I am lucky to have such a dedicated and talented staff.

Lessons until from page 1

From cattle trail to ethnic journey

Broadway is part of U.S. Highway 81, a four-lane divided highway that stretches from Laredo, Texas, to the Canadian border of North Dakota. However, it had very humble and earthy beginnings.

While conducting background research, Hein learned the lowly beginnings of the street that would shape much of Wichita’s character and create a cattle path on the east side of Darius Munger’s tract of land. He referred to it as “Texas,” a nod to the cattle drives and commerce around the Great Platte River. The route was later named Lawrence, and finally, Broadway, in recognition of its importance to Wichita’s commerce and development.

Other names attributed to the blacktop included Meridian Highway and the familiar “Old 81.” From the early 1950s until the beginning of World War II, Lawrence hosted a large building boom for businesses, churches, motels and restaurants. However, when the Kansas Turnpike opened in 1968 and Interstate 25 opened in 1960, Broadway lost its importance as a thoroughfare and businesses began to close. People stopped going to Broadway for shopping and dining, and in the late 1980s, drug pushers and prostitutes found new groundings in the struggling motels on the south end of town.

In lesser city, Broadway might have died. However, Wichitans took up the old cattle trail and went to work to preserve many of its old structures. John Mack Bridge, Mackinac Island No. 6 and the Orpheum Theatre were a few of the structures saved from demolition. As the face of society changed, so did Broadway’s. Conner’s The project has reshaped her perspective of the city and brought many new characters and illicit activities.

“We really got to know Broadway a lot better than you can just driving by,” said Brown. “We snacked at various restaurants, checked out pawn shops, looked at the beautiful church architecture and generally exhausted ourselves.”

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“Showed me that Broadway doesn’t really deserve its reputation,” she said. “There are definitely still some prostitution and drug problems, but there are a lot of great things there, too. I enjoyed the multiculturalism of the Hispanic and Asian communities on North Broadway.”

Anderson also had a shift in perspective during the project. “A lot of people don’t know about Broadway,” said Anderson. “Many believe it’s a place to avoid. I rediscovered things I’d forgotten and realized how much things have changed.”

The project has spurred much interest for new Wichita residents as well as those who have lived here many years. As of Sept. 30, the “On Broadway” section of the Kansas, com Web site had 18,021 page views. Readers posted many comments and memories following several stories, and Anderson received a lot of feedback personally.

“It got people to reflect on Broadway,” he said.

The jury journeyed

Given its success and the number of stories left to mine, Anderson couldn’t put the Broadway Project to bed. Now students are working on stories involving the flaxton building at 21st Street North and Broadway, the Grand Chapel and the Commodore apartment building. They’ll also cover the mortuaries, the long-demolished 81 Drive- in and Wasco Products, a company that produces floor sweep and wiping rags. The students’ commitment to the project is evident. Those involved are participating as individual students in directed studies. As with the class, not all of the students are following a print emphasis. Some are pursuing electronic media, advertising or public relations, which Anderson said reflects the Elliott School’s integrated approach.

Though there has been some informal conversation about turning the Broadway Project into a book, Anderson is content now with helping students gain and hone the skills they’ll use as journalists. The project, he said, has given students something to use in their portfolios and provided them with networking opportunities.

In return, the students have given Wichita a gift. They have preserved Broadway and illuminated its spirit.

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