They came from every state in the West. They came from both parties. They came from business and from labor. They came from the private and the public sector. And they came from urban and rural America.

Despite their differences, the 36 members of the Class of 2004 at the Western Legislative Academy (WLA) had at least two things in common. When they applied to the Academy, these men and women made a commitment to becoming more effective as state legislators and to building stronger state legislative institutions. Newer legislators competed for slots at the Academy, and members of the bipartisan Executive Committee of the Council of State Governments-WEST selected the class based on essays and leader recommendations.

From December 7-10, 2004 Western state legislators chosen for the Academy took time out from their busy lives to sharpen the personal and professional skills they need back home. Their campus was the historic Penrose House at the El Pomar Foundation’s retreat center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

These newer lawmakers learned about 50 years of change in state legislatures and about the impacts of direct democracy. They learned to anticipate and handle tough ethical questions. They learned techniques of principled negotiations, and they reviewed the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. They learned about personality types, and they practiced team building. They studied time management and took a class in communications. They learned about the language of leadership.

At the end of three and a half days of intensive training, the members of the Class of 2004 rated the WLA 4.89 points out of a possible 5 for the overall value of the program. The grads also said they valued the opportunity the Academy gave them to network with colleagues across state borders.

The 2004 WLA marked the fifth anniversary of a scholarship program designed by CSG-WEST for the benefit of Western lawmakers in their first four years of service. The Academy now boasts 186 alumni. Seventy percent of those WLA graduates still serving in the legislature now occupy leadership positions. WLA alumni have gone on to become speakers, majority and minority leaders, committee chairs, vice chairs and one member of the U.S. Senate.

The 2005 Western Legislative Academy will be held November 14-18 in Colorado Springs. Legislators from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming who are still in their first four years of service are eligible to apply. A class of 39 lawmakers will be selected, with at least two and no more than four from each Western state.

For information about how to apply, call CSG-WEST at (916) 553-4423 or click on www.csgwest.org. The deadline to apply for the 2005 WLA is August 8.
Profile of the 2004 WLA Class President: New Mexico Representative Jose Campos

When he’s not in Santa Fe for the relatively short New Mexico legislative session, Jose Campos hangs his hat in Santa Rosa where he serves as mayor. And when he’s not at City Hall, he runs Joseph’s Bar and Grill, the family restaurant. In short, Jose Campos typifies the citizen legislator of the West.

Says Campos, “I’ve been in the family business since I was big enough to carry a bucket full of dishes. Through the years I graduated to busboy, dishwasher, cook, chef, baker, waiter, cashier, host and now for the past 19 years owner of my restaurant.”

Campos gets his best input about what average citizens think from the regular coffee drinkers at Joseph’s. “I truly enjoy morning conversations and debates with the coffee drinkers throughout my district,” reports Campos. “There’s hardly a problem the coffee drinkers aren’t able to solve more quickly and more efficiently than our state’s 112 legislators put together,” he concludes, only somewhat tongue in cheek.

Campos says the long hours, hard work and ingenuity required to turn a profit in a small business prepared him for public office. He’s proud of his roots in small town New Mexico. As a country commissioner, as a mayor and now as state legislator, Campos has worked hard for farmers and ranchers, rural physicians and senior citizens to name a few.

As a new legislator, Campos had no grand illusions about changing the state or the world in his first session. He was surprised at how well his views were respected. Despite bitter campaigns and a legislature that can be partisan, Campos says he has high hopes for state government. “I would like to develop a legislative camaraderie dedicated to solving people’s problems, rather than pandering to one extreme or the other.”

When asked to describe what the Western Legislative Academy meant to him, Campos answered that being reminded about the importance of quality family time was at the top of his list. Campos is married with three children.

As WLA class president, Rep. Campos will represent all WLA alumni on the CSG-WEST Executive Committee for the year of his tenure. He will also preside over a continuing education seminar hosted by WLA alumni at the CSG-WEST annual meeting in Portland, Oregon. Campos will welcome the WLA Class of 2005 in November in Colorado Springs.

Past WLA class presidents are Nevada Senator Barbara Cegavske, Alaska Representative Lesil McGuire, Montana Representative Jim Keane and Nevada Assemblymember Kelvin Atkinson.
When the 5th annual Western Legislative Academy convened in Colorado Springs from December 7-10, 36 state legislators in their first four years of service became the Class of 2004.

Back row (left to right): Joseph Cannon (ID Rep), Ralph Seekins (AK Sen), Scott Nishimoto (HI Rep), Paul K. Seaton (AK Rep), James F. Waring (AZ Sen), Gordon S. Anderson (OR Rep), Bill Konopnicki (AZ Rep), David R. Edwards (WY Rep), Dick Compton (ID Sen), Frank Morse (OR Sen)

3rd Row (left to right): Gregg Buxton (UT Rep), Dan Newhouse (WA Rep), David Guttenberg (AK Rep), Ed Orcutt (WA Rep), Jim Isgar (CO Sen), Ken Hansen (MT Sen), Marty Martin (WY Rep)

2nd Row (left to right): Todd Kiser (UT Rep), Cheri Jahn (CO Rep), Gabrielle Giffords (AZ Sen), Teresa Zanetti (NM Rep), Valerie E. Weber (NV Assmb), Nancy Dahlstrom (AK Rep), Jose Campos (NM Rep), Scott Mendenhall (MT Rep)

1st Row (left to right): Roderick Sherer (NV Assmb), George L. Gilman (OR Rep), Glenn Wakai (HI Rep), Lynn Finnegan (HI Rep), Rosalind McGee (UT Rep), Rosie Berger (WY Rep), Janice E. Arnold-Jones (NM Rep), Andy Nuñez (NM Rep), Mack G. Shirley (ID Rep), Robert J. Ring (ID Rep)

Not Pictured: Jeff Denham (CA Sen)

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Wyeth

The 2005 Western Legislative Academy will convene November 15-18. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Cheryl Duvauchelle at (415) 330-0312 or cduvauch@csg.org.
Legislative “Students”
Journalists talk frankly about how to work with statehouse reporters. Adam Schrager reports for KUSA-TV in Denver, and Kate Nelson writes for the Albuquerque Tribune. Not pictured is Denver Post editor Todd Engdahl.

FranklinCovey trainer Leigh Stevens teaches the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.

Winston Churchill (aka Professor James Humes, Denver University) gives lessons on the language of leadership.

Nevada Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson, 2003 WLA class president, welcomes 2004 WLA’ers.

WLA relies on veteran lawmakers to teach tips of successful lawmaking. From left to right: former New Mexico Speaker Raymond G. Sanchez, Eagleton Institute of Politics Professor Alan Rosenthal and former Utah Senate President Lane Beattie.

2004 CSG-WEST Chair Idaho Senator Bart Davis presides over the Academy with a firm hand and more than a little humor. Incoming chair Senator Kate Brown of Oregon takes it in stride.
Jack Marshall, president of ProEthics, shares the “secrets of virtuous lawmakers” during ethics training.

CSG-WEST Executive Director Kent Briggs discusses the unique geographical and political landscape of the Western region.

Boise State University Professor Gary Moncrief tells lawmakers why the old state house “ain’t” like it used to be after 50 years of change.

Pam Vaccaro, president of Designs on Time, helps lawmakers with time management.

Brigham Young University Dean David Magleby discusses impacts of ballot initiatives on state legislatures.

Speech coach Arch Lustberg spends an afternoon working with lawmakers on communications and media interviews.

Jim Hennig of JF Hennig Associates teaches principled negotiations techniques to the class.


Lisa Best of New Heights Training and Development works with Danny Miller on activity-based learning.
WLA Alumni 2000-2004

ALASKA
Class of 2000
Rep. Eric Croft
Speaker John Harris
U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski
Sen. Gary Wilken
Class of 2001
Sen. Gretchen Guss
Rep. Lesli McGuire
Senate Majority Leader
Gary Stevens
Rep. Peggy Wilson
Class of 2002
House Majority Leader
John Coghlin
Former Rep. Hugh Fate
Rep. Mary Kapsner
Rep. Kevin Meyer
Class of 2003
Rep. Jim Holm
Rep. Kevin Meyer
Former Rep. Ramey Johnson
Class of 2004
Rep. Melodie Williams Aduja
Former Speaker
Sen. Carl Miller
Class of 2005
Rep. Steve Smylie
Sen. Don M. Burtenshaw

ARIZONA
Class of 2000
Former Sen. Herb Guenther
Sen. Harry Mitchell
Class of 2001
Rep. Meg Burton Cahill
Sen. Robert Candel
Class of 2002
Senate Majority Leader
Timothy S. Bee
Sen. Toni L. Hellen
Rep. Tom O’Halleran
Class of 2003
Rep. Jennifer Burns
Rep. Olivia Cajero Bedford
House Minority Leader
Phil Lopes
Sen. Thayer Verschoor
Class of 2004
Rep. Gabriele Giffords
Rep. Bill Konopinski
Sen. James F. Waring

CALIFORNIA
Class of 2000
Former Asmb.
Marco Antonio Firebaugh
Assmb. Jenny Oropeza
Class of 2001
Assmb. Jenny Oropeza
Class of 2004
Sen. Jeff Denham

COLORADO
Class of 2000
Former Sen. Jim Dyer
Former Rep. Carl Miller
Former Speaker
Lola Spradley
Sen. Ron Teck
Class of 2001
Former Rep. Jim Snook
Class of 2002
Rep. Alice Borodkin
Rep. Mary Hodge
Rep. Debbie Stafford
Sen. Abel Tapia
Class of 2003
Former Rep. Ramey Johnson
Rep. Raymond Rose
Sen. Paula Sandoval
Class of 2004
Sen. Jim Isgar
Speaker Pro Tem CHERI JAHN

IDAHO
Class of 2000
Former Rep. Emily Auwae
Sen. Lorraine Inouye
Former Rep.
Sol Kaho’ohalahala
Rep. Hermena Monta
Class of 2001
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Rep. Helene Hale
Former Rep. Mindy Jaife
Class of 2002
Sen. Russell S. Kokubun
Senate Vice President
Donna Mercado Kim
Former Rep. David Pendleton
Class of 2003
Former Sen.
Melodie Williams Aduja
Rep. Cindy Evans
Rep. Jon Riki Karamatsu
Class of 2004
Rep. Lynn Finneghan
Rep. Scott Nishimoto
Rep. Glenn Wakai

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Rep. R.J. Harwood
Sen. Brent Hill
Rep. Dell Raybould
Class of 2003
Rep. Sharon Block
Sen. Curt McKenzie
Rep. Elaine Smith
Class of 2004
Rep. Joseph Cannon
Sen. Dick Compton
Rep. Robert J. Ring
Rep. Mack G. Shirley

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Sen. Kim Gillan
Rep. George Golie
Rep. Monica Lindeen
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Rep. Joey Jayne
Rep. Mark E. Nennin
Sen. Don Ryan
Class of 2002
Rep. Jim Keane
Sen. Frank J. Smith
Class of 2003
Sen. Rick Laible
Rep. Michael Lange
Sen. Trudi Schmidt
Class of 2004
Sen. Ken Hansen
Rep. Scott Mendenhall

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Sen. Barbara Cagavske
Asmb. Jerry Claborn
Asmb. Ellen Kolvisto
Class of 2001
Former Asmb. Don Gustavson
Asmb. John Oceguera
Asmb. Debbie Smith
Class of 2002
Asmb. Marcus L. Conklin
Asmb. Kelvin Atkinson
Asmb. William Horne
Class of 2004
Asmb. Roderick Sherer
Asmb. Valerie E. Weber

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Former Rep. Ron Godby
Rep. Thomas Taylor
Class of 2001
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Sen. Mary Kay Papen
Rep. Al Park
Sen. Helen Diane Snyder
Class of 2002
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Sen. Lidia G. Rainalde
The late Rep. Raymond Ruiz
Class of 2003
Rep. Irwin Harrison
Sen. Gay G. Kema
Rep. Jane Powell-Culbert
Class of 2004
Rep. Janice E. Arnold-Jones
Rep. Jose Campos
Rep. Andy Nunez
Rep. Teresa Zanetti

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Sen. Vicki Walker
Class of 2001
Former Rep. Janet Carlson
Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson
Class of 2002
Former Rep. Vic Backlund
Rep. Phil Barnhart
Rep. Jackie Dingfelder
Class of 2003
Rep. Vicki Berger
Rep. Linda Flores
Rep. Mitch Greenlick
Rep. Mike Schaufler
Class of 2004
Rep. Gordon S. Anderson
Rep. George L. Gilman
Sen. Frank Morse

UHAK
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Peter Knudson
Class of 2001
Rep. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Carlyne Walker
Class of 2002
Rep. James A. Ferrin
Rep. Marlynn T. Newbold
Former Rep. J. Morgan Filpot

UTAH
Class of 2000
Rep. Brad Dee
Rep. Michael T. Morley
Sen. David Thomas
Class of 2004
Rep. Gregg Buxton
Rep. Todd Kiser
Rep. Rosalind J. McGee

WASHINGTON
Class of 2000
Former Rep. Carolyn Edmonds
Sen. Jim Honeyford
Sen. Linda Evans Pareille
Class of 2001
Rep. Glenn Anderson
House Minority Leader
Bruce Chandler
Rep. Mark Miloscia
Class of 2002
Rep. Mike Armstrong
Rep. Sam Hunt
Rep. Kirk Pearson
Class of 2003
Sen. Dale Brandland
Sen. Mike Hewitt
Rep. Dawn Morell
Rep. Beverly Woods
Class of 2004
Rep. Dan Newhouse
Rep. Ed Orcutt

WYOMING
Class of 2000
Rep. Pete Illoway
Speaker Pro Tempore
Colin Simpson
Class of 2001
Rep. Jerry Ikel
Rep. Thomas A. Lockhart
Rep. David R. Miller
Class of 2002
Former Rep. Saundra Meyer
Rep. Bill Thompson
Class of 2003
Sen. John Barrasso
Sen. Stan Cooper
Former Rep. Liz Gentile
Rep. Elaine Harvey
Class of 2004
Rep. Rosie Berger
Rep. Marty Martin
Rep. David R. Edwards

GUAM
Class of 2000
Former Sen. Marcel Camacho

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