



**May 2019**

## Thankful to End Another Strong Year

I'm having a tough time believing that another academic year is ending! Over the last few weeks I had opportunities to attend several end of year student awards events and celebrations. The Catamount Pride and joy of those students winning awards and achieving their goals was inspiring. End of year programs are a great reminder to reflect back on the accomplishments of the year and to express gratitude.

Looking back at 2018-19 academic year, here are a few *thank you's* I'd like to share:

Interim Chancellor Alison Morrison-Shetlar: Tragically last year we lost an amazing leader when David Belcher went on leave and then passed away just a few months later. WCU was incredibly fortunate to have a campus leader like Alison ready to serve and able to take on the role of Chancellor. I deeply appreciate how she kept our community "stepping forward" throughout a very challenging time! Thank you!

Interim Provost Carol Burton: Similarly, Carol was called upon to assume the role of Provost as Alison assumed new interim responsibilities. Again, WCU was fortunate to have a

leader like Carol, a colleague deeply committed to, and invested in WCU's success, serving as Provost. Thank you!

Keith Corzine, Kellie Angelo Monteith, and Chris Parrish: Three Student Affairs colleagues served on the Chancellor's Search Committee in addition to their daily responsibilities. The exciting appointment Dr. Kelli R. Brown as WCU's next Chancellor concludes their service. I'm thankful to these Student Affairs colleagues for their participation in this important campus effort. Thank you!

Colleagues Making a Difference for WCU Students: As the Vice Chancellor I have the privilege of serving in a position from which I'm updated on the many, many ways Student Affairs staff make a difference for our students. The awards celebrations or even the challenges of this last week of the academic year exemplifies how the staff in this Division make a difference for WCU students every day. I'm humbled and inspired by the opportunity to be one of your colleagues in Student Affairs. If you haven't already, tell a colleague you appreciate them or congratulate someone for a job well-done.

Thank you all for your hard work and I look forward to seeing you at our Student Affairs Luncheon and Awards on May 24th!

Sam Miller  
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

**We want to hear from you! Click here to share your ideas for professional development, conference presentations, awards and good news or general feedback for the newsletter.**

## **Celebrate the Good News**

Congratulations to Vice Chancellor Sam Miller for receiving the Paul A. Reid award.

Dining's Emily Headrick, manager of both campus Starbucks, was recognized with a major Starbucks award. Regional Starbucks representatives were on

campus to celebrate her great work. We are all proud of her and her commitment to excellence.

## Congratulations Graduates

As the semester comes to an end, we want to recognize our students' accomplishments this year. Commencement will be held on May 10 and 11, we wish the graduates all the best. Heartfelt congratulations to all of the Higher Education Student Affairs graduates – thank you for your hard work and service. We know you will leave a footprint in our profession!

## NEWS & UPDATES

### ENROLLMENT



- Financial Aid awards
- Scholarship notifications
- Enrollment update
- Retention update

[Read more](#)

### HEALTH & WELLNESS



- Tuck River Cleanup
- Safe Zone training: Provost Council Assistants
- Risk Mgt. Advisory Committee
- RAD training

[Read more](#)

## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES



- Enhancing 25Live
- Illusions renovation
- Homecoming theme
- Engage - Banner integration

[Read more](#)

## CAMPUS SERVICES



- Wait list
- Food truck
- Residential Living program review
- Allen Hall Dedication planning

[Read more](#)

## DEAN of STUDENTS



- GSED program review
- GSED AD on-campus interviews
- ICA AD search
- Student conduct

[Read more](#)

## MARKETING & ASSESSMENT



- Design projects: Orientation projects & food truck menus
- Assessment plans
- Student Experience survey results

[Read more](#)

## DSA IT COMMITTEE

Do you need assistance from IT but are unsure as to whether you call the help desk or submit a ticket or project request?

[Read more](#)



## SGA ELECTION RESULTS

The Student Government Association's elections had strong student participation and a high voter turn out

with over 1,200 students voting in the election. Congratulations to all of the students who were voted to serve on the SGA. The following students will serve in their roles May 2019 - May 2020.

***Student Body President:*** David Rhode

***Student Body Vice President:*** Dawson Spencer

***Senators:*** Carleigh Ballard, Benito Garcia, Alejandra Gonzalez-Cepedes, Brandon Holandez, Alexia Martin, Erica McCurdy, Benjamin Miskelly, Clarissa Mitchell, Dylan Rood, Addison Rush, Elizabeth Grace Sebestyen, E-Quince Smith, Aaron Speyer, Gabriela Witter, Desmond Worrell



David Rhode  
SGA Student Body President



Dawson Spencer  
SGA Student Body Vice President



### Valley of the Lilies Results

Registration for the 9th annual Valley of the Lilies Half Marathon and 5K grew by 32% over 2018 for a total of 429 participants. Half marathon participants came from 14 states including Hawaii. For photos and race results, see Randall Holcombe's [article online](#).

### LEADERSHIP MEETING

The Student Affairs Leadership team met on April 2, 2019.

#### [April meeting minutes](#)

### Talent Development

Please take advantage of the training opportunities available on campus:

[Talent & professional development](#)

[HR training & events](#)

[Diversity related trainings](#)

### Compliance Assist Replacement

Compliance Assist will officially be closed on May 15th. Xitracs will be phased in as the official university assessment and planning platform beginning the fall of

2019. Xitracs will be piloted during 2019-2020 and fully implemented 2020-2021.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE GO



Description from TED Talks: The Silent Generation, baby boomers, Generation X, millennials, Gen Z -- we're all in the workforce together. How are our assumptions about each other holding us back from working and communicating better? Social psychologist Leah Georges shows how we're more similar than different and offers helpful tactics for navigating the multigenerational workplace.

## RECENT EVENTS

### International Festival







**Student Appreciation Week**



**Celebrate Excellence Awards Ceremony**



Dr. Bob Caruso, former Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs with current Vice Chancellor Sam Miller.



Vice Chancellor Sam Miller and members of the Organization of the Year, Rotaract Club.

## **REMINDERS**

### **Division of Student Affairs Annual Celebration**

Mark your calendars, the annual Student Affairs awards luncheon will be held in Brown Hall on May 24th. If you would like to submit an idea or recommendation for this year's celebration click the button below.

**Share your Feedback on the Annual  
Celebration**

**A Big Welcome to the Class of 2024 and our  
New Transfer Students**

New Student Orientation is just around the corner and will highlight a number changes to accommodate our growing student population. This includes a new one-day session for our local students. This session will allow students from Buncombe, Swain, Transylvania, Haywood, Macon, and Jackson counties to join us on May 30th in a session that will mirror our transfer orientation process. We have also added an additional two-day session on July 1-2 that will increase our total of 2-day sessions by 1 from the 2018 summer season. Our student-staff features 12 returning Orientation Leaders and we will debut 27 new Orientation Counselors in June. We look forward to working with you all again this summer to help provide our incoming First-Year and Transfer students the best possible transition to becoming a Western Carolina University student.

**Orientation dates:**

- May 30th (local students only)
- May 31st (Transfer)
- June 3-4 (First-Year)
- June 6-7 (First-Year)
- June 10-11 (First-Year)
- June 13-14 (First-Year)
- June 17-18 (First-Year)
- June 20-21 (First-Year, ASP only)
- June 24-25 (First-Year, Catamount Gap)
- June 27-28 (First-Year)
- July 1-2 (First-Year)
- July 3rd (Transfer)
- August 16th (Transfer)



**Summer Session Registration**

Don't forget that there's still time to register to take classes during the summer session. If you haven't already used all of your tuition waivers, you can use one of your remaining

waivers to take a summer class. Applications for summer session [tuition waivers](#) are being accepted through May 31, 2019.

## UPCOMING DATES

**May 4-10:** Finals week

**May 10:** Graduate Commencement

**May 11:** Undergraduate Commencement

**May 24:** DSA Awards Luncheon

**May 31:** CIRs Due

**June 3:** Spring Dashboards Due



Division of Student Affairs  
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