



February 2020

Residential Living Room Selection

Greetings Catamount Families and Friends!

For students who successfully submitted a Residence Hall Agreement, room selection begins in March 2020.

For students who have not completed a Residence Hall Agreement, we have accepted the maximum number of Agreements for **continuing students** and have now moved to a waitlist. If your student wants to be added to the waitlist please have them:

- Pay \$150 non-refundable housing deposit
- Visit the Residential Living office in Brown Hall

For all room selection instructions, please visit the website at <http://onlinehousing.wcu.edu>, click on the selection levels under important links for instructions.

For more information visit [Residential Living](#) or email housingquestions@email.wcu.edu if you have specific questions.



Health and Human Services Building Update

Western Carolina University's Health and Human Sciences Building reopened Monday, February 10 after county, state and university officials determined that there were no public health or safety issues at the building in the wake of an incident that resulted in its evacuation Thursday, February 6.

Response teams from Cullowhee Volunteer Fire Department, the Regional Response Team 6 out of Asheville, and Western Carolina University Safety and Risk Management conducted thorough, room-by-room investigations and monitoring of the building throughout the day on February 6, and University Safety and Risk Management continued air-quality testing on Friday, February 7. These concluded with no findings.

As a result, the North Carolina Department of Public Health, Jackson County Department of Public Health, and University Safety and Risk Management have determined that it was safe to return to the building and for classes and laboratory sessions to resume on Monday, February 10. The various health clinics located in WCU's Health and Human Science Building also reopened on Monday.

Out of an abundance of caution, University Safety and Risk Management will continue to monitor air quality and will conduct walk-throughs every hour on the hour this week.

For more information visit emergency.wcu.edu.

The safety and security of the WCU community is our top priority. We know that it is important for us to work and learn in a safe, supportive environment. The Emergency Services team has resources in place to enhance our preparedness and ability to respond in an emergency. Review the [Emergency Services website](#) for a reminder of services and resources available.



WCU ALERTS

RAVE allows students, faculty, staff, and parents to receive voice, text, and email messages in case of emergency.

- This is an “opt-out” system, all students, staff, and faculty are automatically entered into Rave. Please ensure that your students Banner Emergency Contact information is correct to ensure they receive alerts.
- For parents, you can sign up for RAVE by registering at <https://getrave.com/login/wcu>. The Register button is at the top right of the page.

RAVE

MOBILE SAFETY



Intercultural Affairs 10th Birthday



It's Our Birthday!

Intercultural Affairs has reached a milestone. 10 years ago, WCU had the innovative idea to blend services and programs from the Women's Center and Multicultural Affairs. The merger created a new department, called Intercultural Affairs, with a mission to foster a campus environment where students from different backgrounds and cultures feel appreciated, respected and valued." The inaugural Director was James Felton who strived to promote inclusive values of social justice and human dignity through educational, social, and leadership programs.

In honor of the many lives that have been changed for the better because of ICA, we are hosting a birthday celebration on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, from 2 - 5 pm, and everyone is invited. We will share a brief history and pictures of those who have been impacted by ICA over the years. Please bring your own experiences to share with others.

In celebration, we are launching our ICA 10 campaign. If you love ICA, donate \$10 today! With your generous donation, we can continue to reach out to all students and provide even more out of the classroom learning experiences such as Tunnel of Oppression and the Immersion Excursion Annual trip. The window of giving starts now! Make your \$10 gift today by visiting give.wcu.edu/ica.

With Warmest Regards,

Dana Patterson, Director
Tacquice Davis, Associate Director
Dean Paulk, Assistant Director
Karin Kimenker, Administrative Associate
Jessica Gonzalez, Graduate Assistant
Riley Jelenick, Graduate Assistant



P.S. We are also accepting testimonials from current and former students that will become a part of our living history and be recorded for future generations. Please consider celebrating with us.

I Love WCU

The month of February marks the 4th annual *I Love WCU* celebration.

Over the past three years during February, the faculty and staff have rallied in support of scholarships, departmental needs, and athletics, just to name a few. However, this year, for the 4th installment of *I Love WCU* month, we are also encouraging them to volunteer their time in support of one of the many projects sponsored through the Center of Community Engagement and Service Learning. Additionally, they can volunteer for other causes in the local area. Not only are we celebrating WCU but also the greater Western Carolina region.

This year both volunteerism and donations will count as participation, and we want 100% of our faculty and staff to make a difference in our community.

To follow the progress of *I Love WCU* month, read updates, and to make a donation visit:

<https://give.wcu.edu/champions>.



Student Democracy Coalition

Established in 2016, the Student Democracy Coalition works to register voters, build awareness of political issues and hold community forums and candidate debates. At a recent planning session, the discussion centered on registering students to vote, an assignment for preparing a frequently asked questions info box for the group's webpage, facilitating with Jackson County Board of Elections to hire polling greeters for the campus precinct place and distribution of Student Government Association-funded get-out-the-vote messages printed on socks (yes, footwear).

Led by students, the nonpartisan group engages faculty, staff, and organizations across campus that are interested in increasing student civic engagement. And 2020 is a big election year, with local, state and presidential races at stake.

“An important message for us to convey for this coming primary is that IDs are not needed if student voters are already registered in Jackson County,” said Liam Currie, a sophomore political science major from Cary. “That’s big. Though for those students who live in Jackson County, including in on-campus residence halls, who are not yet registered, they can register and vote on campus at the same time during early voting with their student ID.”

An on-campus polling place for early voting will be located in the Multipurpose Room of A.K. Hinds University Center, weekdays Feb. 13 to Feb. 28, from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 29, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on student and community voting at WCU, contact the [Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning](#) at 828-227-7184.



Parent and Family Resources

Whether your student is new to WCU or is a current student, we’re here to support you when you need it. The [Parent and Families page](#) can provide explanations and short cuts to everything you need to know about the university, our policies, and procedures as well as information on navigating our business processes. Please reference this page as it may help to support your student through the college experience and make you feel a part of the Catamount family. Go CATS!



Important Dates

February 1	Scholarship Application Deadline
February 17	Fifth Week Grades
February 25	Advising Day, No Classes
March 5 - 9	SoCon Basketball Tournament
March 9 - 13	Spring Break

Student Activities Calendar



Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723

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