Connections
PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY

March 2022

Catamount Family

Western Carolina University's COVID-19 metrics have declined considerably since late January and that trend continues both on campus and in our broader community. In wake of recent guidance from the NC Governor's office and from UNC System leadership, WCU will no longer require face coverings indoors effective Saturday, Feb. 26, with the exception of University Health Services operations (in the Bird Building and in Madison Hall) and on Cat Tran consistent with current federal regulations regarding public transportation.

The University recognizes that personal responsibility must become the priority as we modify campus protocols and procedures to meet this phase of the COVID-19 outbreak. Each person should decide at their own pace what is best for their health and personal risk. Those who feel more comfortable or safe while wearing a face-covering are encouraged to continue doing so at their discretion. All members of the campus community are reminded to be patient and show respect for the personal decision each person makes with respect to face coverings.

Students should continue to report their COVID status through MYWCU COVID19. In addition, the campus community should continue to follow the updated Catamounts Care guidelines.

Residential Living Room Selection

Room Selection for Continuing Students takes place between February 22 and March 26, 2022. A **brochure** outlining the process for Room Selection for continuing students was placed in Suite Boxes of all residential students in January. In addition, the room selection website at **roomselection.wcu.edu** highlights the details on how you will select a room for the 2022 - 2023 academic year. The website includes some video demonstrations, the steps to select a room, the dates in the room selection process, and some supplemental forms.

Steps in the Room Selection Process
1. Pay the $150.00 non-refundable housing deposit. You can pay this in MyWCU or by visiting Student Accounts. Be sure to select the "**2022 Fall Continuing Student Deposit**." *We encourage you to pay this deposit as soon as possible to have the earliest access to the next step.*
2. Log in at onlinehousing.wcu.edu and complete the Housing Agreement. If you plan to participate in an Open Room Selection date, we encourage you to log in early as the date and time you complete the Housing Agreement will determine your priority in the Open Room Selection dates.
3. On the appropriate date, select a room.

Information Session on Room Selection
March 14 @ 4:00 pm

Room Selection Dates
- **March 16 - Same Room Selection.** Eligible students can reclaim their current space for the 2022 - 2023 academic year.

- **March 17 - Same Room Selection Room-mate Pull-In.** If you participated in Same Room Selection and your room-mate or suite-mate did not, you have the option to pull in room-mates and suite-mates.
- **March 19 - Rising Upperclass and Graduate Open Room Selection and Room-mate Pull-In.** Rising upperclass and graduate students can select a room and pull in room-mates or suite-mates. *Students participating in this Open Room Selection date will be able to select rooms in Allen, Balsam, Blue Ridge, Buchanan, Judaculla, Madison, Noble and Robertson.*
- **March 23 - Rising Sophomore Honors Room Selection and Room-mate Pull-in.** Members of the Brinson Honors College who are classified as Rising Sophomores (began enrollment at WCU in Summer 2021, Fall 2021 or Spring 2022) can select a room in Balsam or Blue Ridge and pull-in room-mates.
- **March 26 - Rising Sophomore Open Room Selection and Room-mate Pull-in.** Students who are classified as Rising Sophomores (began enrollment at WCU in Summer 2021, Fall 2021 or Spring 2022) can select a room and pull in room-mates or suite-mates. Students participating in this Open Room Selection date will primarily select rooms in Harrill, Norton Road, Reynolds or The Village. Spaces in other buildings will be made available based on the number of Rising Sophomores remaining to select a room.

Info Session on Rising Sophomore Room Selection
March 25 @ 2:00 pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» Two-year on-campus residency requirement announced per WCU Policy 96

» Students impacted by this decision should not sign a lease for an off-campus housing provider for the 2022 – 2023 academic year.

Check your catamount email for full details.

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY | Residential Living

Click For More Information On Policy 96

Celebrate Women's History Month

Catamount Dining

Staffing and supply chain issues remain a challenge and are being mitigated as seamlessly as possible.

- Catamount Dining is finalizing details for a new program that will begin in Fall 2022, Catamount Dining's "Path to Leadership." This program will be comprised of five Juniors and five Seniors each semester. The program provides a competitive hourly rate with a stipend that covers the cost of those students' meal plans and tuition each semester. Upon graduation from WCU, these students are guaranteed a job as salaried managers with Aramark.

Catamount Dining is still hiring! If your student would like to come work for us, we offer flexible schedules, free meals, and competitive pay:

https://westerncarolina.campusdish.com/Careers

Academic Check-In

If your student would like academic assistance, encourage them to visit **Tutoring Services**. The Writing and Learning Commons (Belk 207) and Mathematics Tutoring Center (KA 214) promote student success through math and course tutoring, writing support, academic skills consultation, exam prep, and more. #

Off-Campus Housing Fair

Wednesday, MARCH 30

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Lawn in front of University Center
(inclement weather location: Illusions in the UC)

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY

offcampushousing.wcu.edu

Information Technology Update

March 5, 2022, the IT Division staff will perform system maintenance to ensure the reliability and safety of the data center, 8:00 am - 8:00 pm.

March 9, 2022, from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, the Networking Department will be upgrading the wireless network. This will result in the wireless network being down for approximately two hours.

March 22, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Migration of Wireless Users to ClearPass in **Allen Hall.**

March 29, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Migration of Wireless Users to ClearPass in **Harrill and Judaculla Halls.**

Out of the Darkness

The Out of Darkness Annual Suicide Awareness WCU Event will begin at **4 pm** on **Sunday, March 27**. The Campus Awareness/Prevention Walk starts and ends at the Catafount.

The Out of Darkness Student Organization coordinates the annual campus walk for suicide awareness and prevention. They have been fundraising and have already raised $1,000 of a $2,000 goal for the event.

WHITNEY BELL

Writer
Producer
Storyteller

MARCH 2ND | 7PM
UC Grand Room

MARCH 15TH
8:00PM

RAMSEY CENTER

Drag Show

STARRING:
Peppermint

MUST
RSVP ON ENGAGE
OR
THE CORQ APP

TICKETS
REQUIRED
FOR ENTRY

@WCUCAMPUSACTIVITIES

TAKE & MAKE
TOTES

3/17

2pm-5pm

UC Grand Room

6pm
UC Illusions

MURDER
MYSTERY
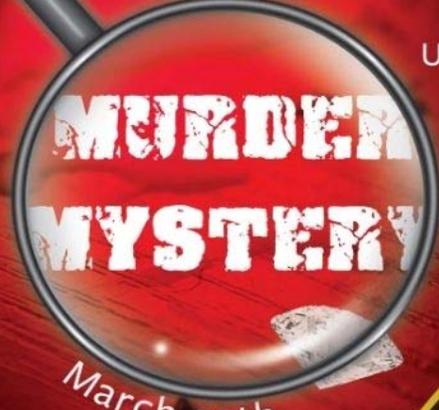
March 29th

CAUTION

RSVP on Engage

paint
a flower pot

March 31st
6-9pm UC Illusions

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

March 7 - 11 - Spring Break

March 26 - Room Selection Process Closes

March 27 - Out of Darkness March

March 30 - Off Campus Housing Fair

Schedule of Campus Events

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