Introduction

The Student Affairs Division at Western Carolina University (WCU) is an energetic group of staff and students working together to make a difference in the lives of students and serve the WCU community. With this year’s operating expenditures totaling about $66 million, the Student Affairs Division includes approximately 200 full-time staff along with a handful of part-time employees working alongside nearly 400 student staff members.

The Division of Student Affairs serves Western Carolina University by facilitating, planning and implementing programs and services that create a dynamic campus community. Our services and collaborations assist students by promoting intentional experiences with our colleagues on campus and with our neighbors in the region. Student Affairs helps students discover and engage in our campus community, works to provide students with the information they need to make educated choices and supports faculty and staff in pursuit of the mission and vision of the university. We make a difference by building and strengthening the WCU campus community and providing students with experiences necessary to fully realize their potential in a global society.

Our areas of focus include Undergraduate Enrollment, Auxiliary Enterprises, Health and Wellness, the Dean of Students offices, Campus Activities, and the Student Affairs office. With responsibilities including oversight of several dozen facilities and an array of services designed to support our community and our students as they live and learn in a diverse environment.

As you review this report, I think you’ll see data that confirms how the Student Affairs team had another impactful year serving our campus community. Our teams focused on serving students despite the on-going challenges of staffing shortfalls, supply chain pressures, and other unexpected impacts on operations following the effects of the pandemic. During the 2022-23 academic year, we opened Water Rock, Shining Rock and Black Rock Residence Halls; we successfully piloted a new initiative for NC prospective students called Catamount Commitment; and we brought an array of summer camps and conferences back to campus.

This report contains descriptive narratives from each of our key areas of focus and is supported by performance and data dashboards from each of our departments (begins on page 30). These dashboards are a snapshot of the scope and issues our team engaged, but the data also highlights how much this team cares about students. I’m proud of the way we served WCU students and our campus community.

On behalf of my colleagues, thank you for taking the time to learn more about the Western Carolina University’s Division of Student Affairs.

H. Sam Miller
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

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Undergraduate Enrollment

A rising tide. That’s how total undergraduate (UG) enrollment could have been described for the decade leading up to the inaugural year of NC Promise in fall 2018. From 2008-2017, total UG enrollment increased each fall semester (from 7,129 in 2008 to 9,406 in 2017). The first two years of NC Promise elevated undergraduate enrollment to near-flood stage. WCU enrolled its two largest first-year cohorts (2,198 in 2018 and 2,106 in 2019), and total UG enrollment flowed above 10,000 for the first time in WCU history (fall 2018: 10,027; fall 2019 10,469).

In the spring of 2020, COVID hit and altered undercurrent enrollment patterns. Rural public universities like WCU were particularly negatively impacted as continuing students retreated home and prospective students hunkered down at home. Retention rates fell, as did recruitment numbers. The 1,813 first-year students who enrolled in fall 2020 were the smallest entering cohort in the prior five years. But the first-year cohort size would retrench further in fall 2021 as COVID intensified and as the number of high schools graduating seniors in the state troughed to the lowest level in decades.

Successive years of record-setting first-year cohorts and record new transfer student enrollment that NC Promise had pumped into the continuing undergraduate flow caused total undergraduate enrollment to crest in fall 2020 at 10,517. But as WCU celebrated high-water total enrollment (undergraduate and graduate) in fall 2020 (12,243), subsiding numbers in new freshmen, new transfer, and retention levels became indicators that the tide was about to turn. Whereas WCU could not help but grow because of successive, high new-student tributaries, a drought loomed on the horizon. In fall 2021, total enrollment dipped from the fall 2022 all-time high (from 12,243 to 11,877). Receding tributaries on the feeder end of enrollment coincided with a full spillway of record-setting graduation cohorts as the inaugural NC Promise cohorts began to Finish in Four. The tide continued to recede in the fall of 2022, lowering total enrollment under NC Promise levels (11,635).

Undergraduate Enrollment collaborated on and instituted numerous strategies to reverse the outgoing tide. Undergraduate Admissions instituted the use of self-reported grades to extend preliminary admission offers; went test-optional for admission, Honors College, and scholarship consideration; and tweaked application review based upon the UNC System’s pilot adjustments to Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER) criteria. Admissions advocated to waive the...

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Source: Tableau (OIBE)

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Source: Tableau (OIBE)
application fee for all 2022 entry terms to make the process as frictionless as possible. The slate of recruitment and enrollment events (e.g., college fairs, regional recruitment events, open houses, Honors day, campus tours) resumed or ramped back up with the lifting of COVID restrictions. The number of high school students graduating from high school increased over the trough year of fall 2021, but post-COVID, greater numbers of high school students still chose not to enroll in college. Despite the challenges, strategies employed for the fall 2022 cycle produced higher levels of first-year and transfer student enrollments in fall 2022. The 2022 first-year cohort proved to be the fourth largest in WCU history, and the 2022 transfer cohort became the second largest cohort ever (second only to the first year of NC Promise).

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Source: Tableau (OIPE)

Despite the increases in new undergraduate cohorts in fall 2022, new UG gains were not enough to turn the tide. Total enrollment and total undergraduate enrollment continued to abate because of the record graduating cohorts, smaller entering COVID cohorts coursing their way through, and hits to retention during COVID. In fall 2022, total undergraduate enrollment receded below 10,000 for the first time since the implementation of NC Promise.

For the fall 2023 recruitment cycle, Undergraduate Enrollment advocated for the continuation of measures undertaken that positively impacted new UG cohort enrollments. The decision was made to waive the application fee for all 2023 entry terms. With added competition for NC’s best and brightest, WCU had seen a drop in the number and percentage of Honors-College caliber students who were choosing to enroll at WCU. Undergraduate Admissions collaborated with the Honors College to pilot a new approach to Honors College promotion and review, establishing the Brinson Honors College Guarantee (BHCG).

In July 2022, the Office of University Scholarships became its own entity. While continuing to collaborate closely with the Office of Financial Aid, establishing a distinct office pertaining to scholarships is best practice and strategic in terms of identity, communication, workflow, and effectiveness. The director of university scholarships introduced a new approach to scholarship promotion, packaging, and awarding designed to enhance recruitment, incentivize retention, and better utilize resources. The Aid and Promotion Task Team (one of the working groups under the Enrollment Strategies Committee), fleshed out the concept, which was proposed to Executive Council (EC). The new approach was named Catamount Commitment, and EC endorsed piloting the program for the 2023 recruitment cycle. The program seeks to reward NC students who submit applications timely, gain admission, and follow program requirements with renewable awards. Award levels are based on a High School GPA look-up table so that prospective students can get a much earlier sense of the award amount for which they may be eligible. Promotion of Catamount Commitment dovetails well with NC Promise messaging. Modeling of the changes indicated that Catamount Commitment would positively impact first-year enrollment.

Enrollment figures do not become official until the 10th day of classes, so totals can change throughout the summer and early fall semester. Current comparative admission, orientation, and pre-registration analysis points to encouraging new-student, undergraduate enrollment. Fall 2023 first-year enrollment should be the largest entering cohort since COVID and has the potential to be only the third cohort to exceed 2,000 students. Thanks to the Brinson Honors College Guarantee (BHCG) and Catamount Commitment, commitments are up significantly for Honors College students. The Brinson Honors College should enroll one of the largest, if not the largest, Honors College cohort ever. Academic metrics for the entering first-year cohort (e.g., average GPA and ACT/SAT scores) are slightly higher than last fall’s entering class, which could bode well for new Performance Based Funding measures. New transfer figures resemble point-in-time totals from last year, so WCU is expecting another large cohort.

In 2022, Orientation returned to in-person sessions while retaining and enhancing some online pre-orientation modules introduced during COVID. Guest programming resumed.
Comparative preregistration for first-year students for fall 2023 is up, and preregistrations for resident-credit transfer students appear to be competitive with last year. Like so many other units on campus, staffing (both professional staffing and student workers) continues to prove challenging for New Student Orientation (and the other units within Undergraduate Enrollment).

While first-year applications from North Carolina students declined slightly this year, commitments have increased. Both NC Promise and the Catamount Commitment pilot initiative appear to have positively influenced admitted students from NC to choose WCU. NC Promise continues to be a big draw for out-of-state application submissions. WCU has seen a significant increase in nonresident applicants and commits, as well as an increase in the number of states represented. The increase coincides with a UNC Board of Governors change to the cap for the fall semester, first-year, and nonresident students. WCU’s cap on nonresidents moved from 18% to 25% of the prior year’s entering cohort. With the change to the cap, WCU was notified that its cap for fall 2023 is 483. Current commit numbers and projections indicate that first-year out-of-state enrollment could flirt with that mark.

With expected healthy entering new student cohorts, the biggest unanswered enrollment question remains as to whether gains in new-student enrollment will be large enough to overcome a fall semester deficit in total continuing students (a result of record-setting, inaugural NC Promise graduation cohorts; continuing-student retention declines during COVID; and two small COVID cohorts that will become the continuing-student, junior-and-senior cohorts in 2023-24). It is probable that the tide will not fully turn on total enrollment for fall 2023, but gains in the new-student enrollment tributaries in fall 2022 and fall 2023 are setting the stage for the enrollment tide to turn by fall 2024.
Auxiliary Enterprises

2022-2023 was another significant year for Auxiliary Enterprises at Western Carolina University. As we reflect on the past year, we are proud of our progress and our integral role in the University’s commitment to providing a friendly, safe, affordable, and valued experience for our students. The return to pre-COVID occupancy on campus and in the Residence Halls re-introduced old challenges, and nationwide pressure related to inflation, staffing shortages, and supply chains across different lines of business continued. Despite these challenges, it was a successful year with our core mission delivered in an exciting and changing environment. Our accomplishments for the year include:

- **Catamount Dining** continued renovating concepts and delivering new options for students. Within the next two months, we will open our newly renovated Courtyard Café station, which was formally the salad bar. The new station features breakfast all day and serves made-to-order omelets and a variety of fresh juice, coffee, smoothies, and assorted breakfast items.
- In Brown Hall, Catamount Dining opened “Blue Ridge Burger” and “1889 Bistro.” These two concepts were a huge hit with students, allowing students to use their existing meal plans without additional purchases to have hand-made artisan burgers, hand-cut fries, and specialty sandwiches.
- Replacement of depreciated equipment continues across our service areas, with the most notable replacement scheduled for installation over the next several weeks. The cookline in the back-of-house Courtyard will be updated, representing a quarter-million-dollar effort to provide reliable, dependable equipment for our team to provide over 20,000 meals a week in Courtyard for WCU students, faculty, and staff.
- Catamount Dining introduced tablet-based ordering in four retail locations to help speed service and ease lines for students. This effort compliments our “GET” mobile ordering solution.
- The Bookstore worked with the Textbook and Course Materials Committee to develop an e-book pilot for the Textbook Rental program, collaborating with faculty, staff, and students across the University to adopt program guidelines.
- As of June 2023, the Bookstore’s VitalSource integration with the University’s learning management system (LMS), Canvas, is complete, and we are preparing to offer a greater selection of e-books this Fall. With this update, the Bookstore is now fully digital, offering all supplemental texts in a digital purchase format, and Textbook Rental options through the e-book rental pilot.
- Printing and Mailing Services had a successful year, replacing several critical pieces of equipment and growing its business. This included a partnership with the NC Arboretum to produce “Bloom with a View,” a display featuring thousands of tulips in Asheville, North Carolina.
- The CatCard Office began working with emergency management on access procedures as part of our emergency response planning, ensuring easy identification of students, faculty, and staff.
- Auxiliary Enterprises has continued expanding the Electronic Door Access system at WCU, growing from 432 doors last year to 474 this year.
- Auxiliary Enterprises transitioned to new leadership with the retirement of its Associate Vice Chancellor, who had served at the University for over 34 years. The department would like to recognize the outstanding service that Keith Corzine gave to WCU and his work to prepare the organization for this transition.
Residential Living

The 2022-2023 was another busy year for Residential Living. The department worked hard to meet the challenges of another academic year and has much to be proud of regarding what we accomplished during the year. Campus life seemed to have truly returned to normal for the first time since March 2020. Below are some of the highlights that we are most proud of and areas that we will continue to build on:

• Residential Living occupancy returned to normal levels for the 2022-2023 academic year. In Fall 2022, we opened at over 97% and held strong at approximately 95% for the semester. All indications point to the trend of increased occupancy continuing.
• Residential Life area was down several positions throughout this year due to limited applicants and successful candidates for both Area Coordinator and Residential Case Manager roles. Within the Facilities area, we were able to fill all full-time housekeeping positions successfully and have been able to recruit and hire multiple hourly positions. Additionally, we were able to support campus partners by allowing staff to serve in interim roles throughout the year.
• Housekeeping staff implemented a true team cleaning concept at the beginning of the Fall semester. This method of cleaning allows staff to clean spaces more efficiently and ensures that absences or employee vacancies do not negatively impact the completion of work.
• Overnight summer camps and conferences, as well as Orientation, took place on the WCU campus for the first time in nearly three years in the summer of 2022. While many groups were smaller in number than in previous years, we still finished the year with over $400,000 in revenues generated by camps and conferences.
• Residential Living staff was able to return to somewhat of a normal conference season with both in-person and virtual attendance. Staff attended RMS World, SEAHO, ACCED-I, and other conferences throughout the year. Two Associate Directors completed the Mid-Managers sessions at the annual SEAHO conference in February.
• Numerous Residential Living staff were nominated for University Awards. Nominees and winners included:
  • Staff Star Award
    • Laura Allison
    • Maeve Kirby
    • Josh Rascatti
    • Ami Stephenson
  • Bright Idea Award
    • Stephanie Sue Rowell
  • Paul A. Reid Award
    • Annaleise Camacho

Brian Boyer was nominated and awarded the Southern Conference Staff Award for WCU.

• Several long-term staff retired and left the department during the 2022-2023 academic year. The departure of these longstanding employees left big shoes to fill, and we were lucky enough to recruit and hire individuals for these positions this year as well.

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Student Health & Wellness

The Health and Wellness unit provides essential services for the overall well-being of our diverse campus population. The departments within the unit: Campus Recreation and Wellness (CRW), Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Health Services (HS), and Health and Wellness Education (HWE) embrace the responsibility for Strategic Direction 2: Goal 2.4 of the WCU Strategic Plan Honoring our Promise:

**Strategic Direction 2: Student Experience**

**Goal 2.4: Create avenues to empower students to achieve their best possible well-being and cultivate a campus environment where students can reach their full potential in all facets of their lives, both in and out of the classroom.**

- 2.4.1: Create and implement programs that embrace the elements of wellness to build and sustain a collaborative, comprehensive framework approach to increase cross-campus awareness of current programs, services, and resources that support and assist students in engaging in a holistic, total college experience.

The 2022-2023 Campus Theme was Mental Health and Wellness, Support, and Community Care which allowed our unit to showcase existing efforts for student wellness, as well as open up additional partnerships and overall awareness regarding health, wellness, and support as student’s navigate the challenges of college. By exploring the broad impacts of mental health and wellness, we can help to create a community of support and care for students, staff, faculty, and the communities in our region. There are seven elements of wellness that are interconnected. Each of them equally important in the pursuit of optimum wellness.

- **Physical Wellness** is the ability to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- **Intellectual Wellness** is the ability to open your mind to new ideas and experiences.
- **Occupational Wellness** is the ability to receive personal fulfillment from our livelihoods while still maintaining balance.
- **Spiritual Wellness** is the ability to establish and maintain positive relationships.
- **Environmental Wellness** is the ability to recognize your responsibility for the world’s natural and built resources.

Campus Recreation and Wellness (CRW) enjoyed another successful year filled with several accomplishments and increased participation across programs and facilities. Some of the notable highlights included a renewed focus on Exercise is Medicine by strengthening the medical referral process for CAPS and Health Services providers, hosting renowned expert Florence Williams to discuss Wilderness is Wellness as a part of the Campus Theme, hosting One Book Yoga in the WCU Football Stadium as part of the Campus Theme and One Book committee, and offering private/semi-private swim lessons for the campus community via American Red Cross.

The Health and Wellness unit continued to strengthen their commitment to holistic wellness with their collaborative Exercise is Medicine Program between CAPS, HS and CRW. CRW offered personalized Fitness Orientation package, both a NEW PT Package and Exercise is Medicine referral option. Their efforts were recognized as the Exercise is Medicine won Program of the Year at the student affairs end of year divisional awards.

Participation at the Campus Recreation Center has continued to rebound from the pandemic, and the Catamount Climb Half Marathon and 5K and the Tuck River Clean Up special events experienced significant growth as well. Several facility upgrades and renovations occurred this year, including the replacement of the climbing wall floor, renovation of the basketball courts, replacement of light fixtures in the studios, replacement of outdated electrical baseboard outlets, replacement of aging fitness equipment, and the purchase of a new 12-passenger van. CRW did experience significant staff turnover this year with four vacancies, two of which were filled – Assistant Director of Outdoor Programs and Housekeeper, but the department was able to shift duties to meet the needs of the campus community.

CAPS began the year with a transition in the Associate Director for Clinical Services role when Dr. Caroline Engler moved into the...
and awarded at the National Collegiate EMS Foundation conference as a program of excellence that continues to strive for improved patient care in the campus community.

Health and Wellness Education had a successful year of programming. This year’s Health and Wellness Fair connected 221 students with 18 campus partners representing different areas of wellness. In October, 272 students participated in 5 events for National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, which covered topics such as driving under the influence, alcohol awareness, and the BASICS program. During the spring semester, HWE hosted four programs for Love Your Body Week and four programs for Safe Spring Break. The highlight of Safe Spring Break was Sober Olympics, an alcohol awareness and harm reduction program held in the Village in collaboration with Residential Living and Greek Student Engagement and Development.

Claire Allison, Assistant Director for Health and Wellness Education, was certified as an instructor for Mental Health First Aid and taught three courses to WCU faculty, staff, and students throughout the academic year. Claire also won Student Affairs’ New Employee Impact Award this year.

The Catamount Wellness Ambassadors continued to grow, welcoming 16 students to the team this year. Nine of the Catamount Wellness Ambassadors were certified in Mental Health First Aid, and 11 were certified as Peer Health Educators. The Catamount Wellness Ambassadors were also nominated for the Most Innovative Program at the Department of Campus Activities’ Celebrate Excellence Leadership Awards.

The Health & Wellness unit supported the campus theme by providing training in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), a skills-based course, to the WCU community. We trained 204 Faculty/staff and students to identify and respond to someone experiencing a mental health challenge. We also contributed to the campus theme by creating eight videos that discuss the elements of wellness and the available wellness resources at WCU. https://www.wcu.edu/learn/academic-enrichment/campus-theme/campus-theme-resources.aspx

Recognizing that we are social beings, the health and wellness unit looks forward to the 2023-2024 Campus Theme of Community and Belonging. As with the importance of overall mental health and wellness, when students experience a sense of belonging in their campus community, it assists them in both their academic performance and will continue to promote overall health and wellness. A sense of belonging is equally important for our employees.

This has been another amazing year for our health and wellness team. The individual and team efforts put forth daily by these departments demonstrate that they believe in their work and contribution to our student’s success. As always, we will continue to assess and enhance our services for students and their overall well-being.
Dean of Students Offices & Services

The Dean of Students Offices include Student Community Ethics, Intercultural Affairs, and Greek Student Engagement and Development. This year an Associate Dean of Students position was created and Dr. Betsy Aspinwall was appointed to that new role. In addition to the offices reporting to the Dean of Students, there are also services administered by the Dean of Students, including the student complaints process and the Student Affairs Emergency Fund which is highlighted in this report.

Student Community Ethics

Throughout the 2022-23 academic year, the Department of Student Community Ethics (DSCE) focused on offering students who went through the conduct process compassionate accountability and care. DSCE is committed to relationship building with faculty and staff, which assists with providing a high level of support to our students. Further, the department seeks to build relationships with students outside our office and the conduct process. DSCE experienced another year of transition as it relates to staffing; Associate Director Keri Clark started in August 2023, and Director Alexandra (Alex) Fields served as Interim Director from October 2022 through February 2023 before being named Director beginning in March. In May 2023, Assistant Director Zachary Williams transitioned to the role of University Investigator, and DSCE closed the academic year and engaged in a nationwide search to fill the Assistant Director position.

Highlights:
- DSCE Staff were awarded $970 in Professional Development Funds by Staff Senate. These funds were used for the Director and Associate Director to attend the 2022 Gehring Academy.
- The Associate Director and Assistant Director attended the Association for Student Conduct Administrators annual conference in Portland, Oregon.
- DSCE was awarded the Irene Welch Program of Excellence Award at the Annual Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards on April 27, 2023. DSCE was recognized for improvements to the student experience through its commitment to a student-centered, educational-focused process.

Conduct Incidents:
In 2022-23, the number of cases decreased by 20 percent. This decrease can likely be attributed to the end of COVID-19 related policies such as “Get Vaccinated, Get Tested” and masking mandates. Alcohol & Drug Violations remained the two most frequent policy violations, with a 9.5 percent increase in Alcohol Violations and a 5 percent decrease in Drug Violations.

It should be noted that DSCE saw a 46 percent increase in cases resolved in absentia. This indicates a significant decrease in students engaging and participating in the conduct process.

Priorities for the coming academic year include increasing student engagement and participation, continued efforts in supporting University retention efforts, recruiting and training students as hearing board officers, and reduced recidivism through intentional educational opportunities for students who are assigned sanctions as part of their case resolution.

Student Assistance (Student Emergency Fund)

The Student Emergency Fund is a resource that students can utilize when they experience unexpected, urgent costs due to unforeseen life events. Generous donations from parents, alums, and employees and by the Catamount Legacy Walk funds us.

This past year, the Division of Advancement also prioritized this fund for its first-ever One Day for Western, and the fund received a dollar-for-dollar gift match of up to $10,000 from a generous donor.

When a report comes in, the Dean of Students office and Director of Financial Aid make a concerted effort to fund the student’s request. The amount of funding varies based on the nature of the request and the documentation provided with the application. In the 2023 Academic year, we saw an increase in the number of requests for student emergency funds and the dollars spent from the Student Affairs Student Emergency Fund. It seems likely that external factors such as continued inflation and the end of Covid-related Higher Ed Relief Funding impacted students’ needs this past year.

*Numbers reported are directly from the Student Affairs Student Emergency Fund. Some student requests can be funded with other available monies as determined through the Financial Aid Office.
Intercultural Affairs (ICA) provides a safe and brave space for students to explore and learn about different identities, perspectives, and experiences via educational programming, training, and certifications. The office works alongside our partners in the campus community to create opportunities and programming that foster conversations and exchanges between students and the campus community. Through education and engagement, we aim to develop culturally competent individuals who will thrive in a diverse and interconnected world. For the academic year 2022-23, we wanted to emphasize spreading our mission throughout the campus community through collaboration and partnership with our campus partners and outside stakeholders. Here are a few highlights of the year.

- We continued to recognize the longevity of Project C.A.R.E. as a HIP (High Impact Program) that began in 1991. This year Project C.A.R.E. included 32 upperclassmen mentors and 44 first-year and transfer student mentees. For the 2022-2023 year, we focused on the academic success of our Project C.A.R.E. students and began various initiatives to assist in this endeavor. We began study hall hours in the library, advising office hours in ICA, and student check-ins from ICA staff with an intentional focus on students who were under a 2.5 GPA after the Fall semester. We encouraged students to complete the ‘Better Study Skills’ and ‘Time Management’ modules from the Vector LMS, Higher Education Online Training System provided by the university to assist students in increasing their GPAs. Our freshmen mentees fell behind the all-freshmen (non-Project C.A.R.E. student) GPA cumulative average in the Fall semester. However, the Project C.A.R.E. mentee cumulative GPA significantly increased and surpassed the all-freshmen GPA in the spring semester. The cumulative GPA for all freshmen was 2.42 for the Spring semester, while the Project C.A.R.E. freshmen cumulative GPA was 2.90. Although our mentors finished with a lower cumulative GPA than all undergraduate cumulative GPAs, there was an increase in their fall-to-spring cumulative. We are looking to continue to push forward the mission of a successful academic transition by connecting the Project C.A.R.E. program to a first-year seminar course (USI). We will begin developing a curriculum in the coming year so that the class can be launched in the Fall of 2024.
- We created a new partnership with the CRW’s Base Camp by providing ICA Base Camp trips to our Project C.A.R.E. students at a prorated cost. We took students on two rafting trips and one ski trip.
- We resumed in-person Tunnel of Oppression after the past two semesters (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022) being virtual. Although our virtual tunnel was successful, we saw a positive response from the campus community when we announced that the Tunnel of Oppression would be back in person. We had over 100 participants go through the Tunnel experience. Of those participants, 103 completed our Tunnel exit survey designed to assess their Tunnel of Oppression experience. 50% of survey responders indicated they learned something new through the tunnel experience. 30% of responders indicated that the Tunnel of Oppression was the first ICA program they attended, and over 30% indicated that they would attend more ICA programming after attending the Tunnel of Oppression. Through this program, we collaborated with Residential Living, USI Instructors, student organizations, and the Stage and Screen department. Utilizing these offices, faculty and staff, and departments contributed to the success of Tunnel.
- Safe Zone registration totaled 144 people within our campus community. Of those registrants, 50% signed a safe zone contract after completing the certification program, indicating they agree to act as safe zone-trained certified individuals.
We also introduced a new safe zone continuing education module, Asexuality.

- Utilizing our Interior design department, we collaborated with students in the program to reimagine the ICA office space. Students participated in a competition where they were able to redesign the ICA space. They measured the space, interviewed students who frequent the space and developed drafts and blueprints of a reimagined ICA space. These students then presented their ideas to their peers, who then voted. We look forward to having an updated space for the upcoming academic year. The students who participated in the competition appreciated the opportunity to get field experience by designing a real space, and many indicated that if they were the competition winners, they would use the experience for their portfolios.

- ICA focused on building and sustaining our collaborative relationships with Campus partners and outside university community stakeholders this year. We wanted to work more in-depth with our partners to serve more sectors of students. Those collaborations included but were not limited to the following: Our annual Red Zone campaign programming collaborations with UPD for self-defense and community partners Jackson County’s Center for Domestic Peace for our ‘Consent and Chill’ program. Our monthly ‘Taco ‘Bout It Tuesdays’ advertised by the One Book committee, USI Professors, and other staff and faculty from various departments came in and spoke with students about their thoughts and the different aspects of the One Book ‘Normal Sucks’ by Johnathan Mooney. ICA partnered with the School of Teaching and Learning for its Transformative Urban Rural Exchange (TRUE) program. Students from NC A&T met with our students via an ICA meet and greet to talk about their perspective universities. We introduced office hours from several different departments. Staff and faculty members from several departments advertised office hours in ICA as a more accessible resource to our students by setting up office hours in the ICA space. These offices and departments were Hunter Library, MAPS from the Division of Student Success, and advising. Our annual MLK Jr. Celebration week saw an increase in campus partner involvement. Some of those campus partners included the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, the Center for Professional Development, the Student Government Association, Mentoring and Persistence to Success, the Hunter Library, and Last Minute Productions. These are not all of the departments but some that headed programming during MLK Jr. Celebration week.

- ICA Council included 13 of the most dedicated, up-and-coming student leaders. ICA Council programming this year was successful. Success is measured by program attendance and student outreach. The programming they coordinated this year included Sex in the Dark in the fall semester. It was a collaboration with our Office of Health and Wellness and Youth Outright, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting individuals in the LGBT community by engaging in conversations that focus on gender and racial justice. Sex in the Dark centered around healthy sexual relationships and consent. The program was so popular that many students asked for a follow-up program in the spring semester. ICA Council looks forward to continuing this program.

Greek Student Engagement and Development

The Department of Greek Student Engagement & Development’s Mission is to actively engage students in an exceptional fraternity and sorority program by using a values-based framework to offer customized and equitable learning opportunities. GSED is committed to the holistic development of our students by providing experiences focusing on academics, council governance, health and wellness, inclusivity, relationship building, risk management, and service.

Greek Student Engagement & Development continued to evolve from pandemic operations. All meetings and events were in person, and those via Zoom were done because of student preference. This resulted in an active and vibrant year of interactions with the fraternity/ sorority and campus community. It brought different challenges regarding preparing our students to plan, implement and lead. The students provided 8081 hours of service to various causes in and around the community. 34,929 dollars was raised for several philanthropies such as cancer research, feeding the hungry, and other medical research efforts. Our students also actively planned, implemented and participated in campus marches.

Highlights from the office:
The first of our office highlights was the filling of our assistant director position and our administrative support specialist position. These two key positions have allowed the office to move forward with several initiatives and provide more comprehensive support and guidance for our students. Having the opportunity to welcome, build a team and provide more comprehensive support for our students has directly impacted their development of leadership skills.
The next highlight involved our student leaders from all councils stepping up, planning, and implementing a community-wide celebration of belonging to a fraternity or sorority. The Battle of the Greeks was a two-day event that included a kickball tournament and a volleyball tournament, along with a cookout. Day one, the kickball tournament, was canceled due to weather, but day two was a successful day of interaction, volleyball, food, and comradery. In May, our office moved to the other side of the suite of offices. All staff now have windows allowing natural light to shine and improve mental health. Our students have a functional large room to use as a meeting room, home space, and storage space. This move has increased space and will allow an increased presence in the Registered Student Organization space. It will also enable our students to combine the strengthening of their leadership skills and their focus on academics. Preliminary feedback from the students is that they love the space and cannot wait to return in the fall to use it.

The 22-23 academic year was a success in a multitude of ways. It has been a year of reflection, growth, and personal development for all.

Campus Activities

The Department of Campus Activities is located in the center of campus. The University Center is a place for students to study and hang out with friends, attend movies and events, and uncover new activities. Last Minute Productions (LMP), the student programming board, hosts comedians, spoken word artists, concerts, movies and other fun events.

Business Operations

- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Matt Buck as an Administration Support Associate in September 2022.
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Nicole Van Ryen as an Administration Support Specialist in September 2022. In March 2023, Nicole received a title change to University Programs Specialist.
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Jenea Shuler as the Budget Officer in April 2023.
- The Department of Campus Activities implemented Fusion in March 2023. Fusion is serving as the new point of sales, registration, and reporting system for assessment and data.
- An Employee Operational Manual has been drafted for the Department of Campus Activities to ensure the department runs efficiently. The manual is under review by a review committee, and plans to have it finalized for the next fiscal year.
- Catherine MacCallum, the Assistant Director for Business Operations, has restructured the department’s student worker hiring process and uniform tracking.
- The Department of Campus Activities employed 66 student workers for 2022-2023.
- Tailgating presentations were given by the Department of Student Community Ethics, Health and Wellness, and the Department of Campus Activities with 23 attendees. 23 season permits and 13 single-game permits were issued.
- All staff members in the Department of Campus Activities are Crowd Management Certified.
- Catherine MacCallum, Diane Swenson, Matt Buck, and Nicole Van Ryen earned professional development certificates in one or more of the following: WCU Works, Safe Zone Training, 5 Choices of Extraordinary Productivity, Hire Advantage Supervisor Program and/or Marketing Certificate.
Operations

- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Paul Hammer as the Associate Director for Guest Services in August 2022.
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Wil Bryan as the Senior Assistant Director for Operations in August 2022.
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Jacob Gwyn as the Building and Environmental Service Technician in April 2023.
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed David Cauley as the Assistant Director for Guest Services in June 2023.

Lighting Project: The University Center underwent a building-wide upgrade of LED lighting fixtures in public spaces and has begun upgrading to LED lights in small meeting rooms.

New Furniture: The second floor of the University Center has been completely replaced and includes more table seating to give students better flexibility to work on homework or attend online meetings.

Elevator Project: The passenger elevator in the University Center received a new Power Control Unit to address some challenges with the original hydraulic pump system. This modernization project will include new control hardware and a refreshed cabin interior.

Guest Services: Reserved 5,914 events over the 2022-2023 Academic Year. Of the 5,914 reservations, 2,107, or 35.6%, were student organization reservations.

Student workers for Tech Crew and Building Managers moved over 32,000 chairs for all the events hosted in the 2022-2023 Academic Year.

Leadership Programs

- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Kelsey Jones as the Assistant Director for Leadership Programs in December 2022.

Leadership Programs

- **Cat Camp:** Cat Camp Leadership Exploration 2022 returned to Black Mountain YMCA for a portion of the program. In addition to exploring other locations within Western North Carolina, students stayed on campus in Cullowhee for the second half of Cat Camp to connect with the campus and surrounding community. 122 students were served throughout the six-day experience. Partnerships with WCU’s Parks and Recreation Management and Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning continued this year and continue to show success in the overall objectives of building leadership skills and connecting new students and WCU’s culture of the community.

- **FLI:** The 2022-2023 Freshman Leadership Initiative cohort comprised 18 first-year students. This year was the first time the FLI cohort was housed in the Village. Students reported that they enjoyed these living arrangements as they allowed them to be together in a more intentional space that consisted of students within the Living-Learning Community. FLI continued to see success with the Mentor Program that was established in the previous school year.

- **LEAD Minor:** Leadership Programs staff taught four classes throughout the school year: LEAD 140 (Freshman Leadership Initiative I), LEAD 180 (Freshman Leadership Initiative II), LEAD 244 (Intro to Leadership), and LEAD 344 (Advanced Leadership Practices).

- **Thrive:** The Thrive Peer Leadership Educators program showed constant growth and welcomed two additional Peer Educators for a total of seven for the school year. Amber Scarboro, Leadership Programs Intern for Peer Leadership, introduced new training sessions and worked on marketing to educate the campus community regarding Thrive’s opportunities in both academic and organizational settings.

Recognized Student Organizations

- **Manual:** To keep RSOs informed of policies and procedures, the RSO Manual continues to be updated annually, consistent with Campus Recreation and Wellness, Greek Student Engagement and Development, Campus Activities, and the Dean of Students.

- **Recognition:** The recognition and re-recognition process for Student Clubs (Club Sports, Greek Organizations, and Student Organizations) continues to be done completely electronically through ENGAGE. This has greatly improved the process as it is more streamlined for students and advisors and easy to keep organized for the Student Involvement Unit.

- **Club Suite:** The RSO Club Suite consisted
of 13 offices, including 3 media groups. The average office hours completed by RSOs were 11.5 hours per week.

### Student Government Association
- This year was the 99th Session of the Student Government Association.
- SGA revised multiple governing documents, which will aid the progression of the organization.
- SGA presented the first Catamount Noble, Brandon Rice, with a $500 SGA Sponsored scholarship, cementing a new tradition and way of participating in Catamount Noble.
- SGA executed the first SGA Accessibility Walk and the SGA Safety Walk.
- SGA awarded over $25,000 of supplemental funding toward the success of student organizations for events and conference travel.
- Matt Buck, Administrative Support Associate, worked with SGA to complete 22 supplemental funding applications for 18 organizations.
- SGA approved various sponsorships toward the success of campus programming.
- The Student Senate reviewed various pieces of legislation that improved the internal operations of SGA and brought light to many issues that students face. These resolutions include the Revised Constitution and Bylaws, SGA Commitment to Campus and Student Safety, SGA Campus Safety and Accessibility, Safety, SGA Campus Safety and Accessibility, SGA Commitment to Campus and Student Programs, including the Revised Constitution and Bylaws, SGA Commitment to Campus and Student Programs, including the Revised Constitution and Bylaws.

### Campus and Student Programs
- The Department of Campus Activities welcomed Coleman Leopard as the Associate Director for Campus Programs in January 2023.
- This academic year, there was a combined total of 80 programs hosted by the Department of Campus Activities and Last Minute Productions.
- Over 9,000 students served, with over 2,600 students in attendance.
- We have seen record participation in our Spring 2023 concert survey totaling 15% of the student body.
- Average event attendance: 100.
- The average event cost is $1,472.46.
- The average cost per student is $22.19.
- Two student workers attended the National Association of Campus Activities in St. Paul, Minnesota, where they received professional development on best practices for campus events and viewed possible talent to bring to our campus.

### Communications
- Facebook: The engagement rate for Facebook 2022-2023 was 13.2%. In 2021-2022, Facebook’s engagement rate was 9%.
- Instagram: The engagement rate for Instagram 2022-2023 was 9.3%. In 2021-2022, the Instagram engagement rate was 8.58%.
- Industry Standards for Non-Profits are a 0.22% Engagement Rate on Facebook and a 1.37% Engagement Rate on Instagram. Industry Standards for Higher Education is a 0.148% Engagement Rate on Facebook and a 2.99% Engagement Rate on Instagram.
- The Judicial Branch heard over 700 cases pertaining to student parking ticket appeals. It worked on facilitating a ride-along with University Parking Operations and University Police to gain further insight into the parking ticket process.
- SGA was highly involved with the Association of Student Governments, leading to Estefany Gordillo-Rivas’s appointment as the next ASG president for 2023-2024.

### Other Highlights
- LMP was nominated for the “Most Innovative Program” award for the Celebrate Excellence Leadership Awards and the “Irene Welch Program of Excellence Award” for the Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards.
- SGA’s Inauguration of the 100th administration welcomed CJ Mitchell as Student Body President and Estefany Gordillo-Rivas as Student Body Vice President.
- 98% of student workers had a 2.5 GPA or higher, 78% had a 3.0 GPA or higher, and 7% had a 4.0 GPA.
- The University Center Restroom Renovation project is underway with the design and planned refresh of the first-floor public-facing restrooms and the completion of a facility-wide building code study to help direct future restroom renovation projects.

### Interesting Figures & Facts DCA
- 67 events hosted by Last Minute Productions for the year.
- 67 hours of professional development training was completed by DCA staff.
- 88 students utilized the Club Hub in the RSO suite this year.
- 21 Student Workers Graduated at the end of the Spring semester.
Vision: Provide prospective students access to pursue a college education, with a focus on retention and academic excellence.

Mission Statement: The Office of Undergraduate Admission encourages and supports prospective student access to higher education by managing the recruitment and admission processes for new and returning undergraduate students at Western Carolina University.

First Year Student Data – Fall 2023 up to 6/15/23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year Students</th>
<th>2020–2021</th>
<th>2021–2022</th>
<th>2022–2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>13,174</td>
<td>17,972</td>
<td>18,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admits</td>
<td>9,809</td>
<td>15,241</td>
<td>15,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Commitments</td>
<td>1,995</td>
<td>2,228</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


| Admits | 1,823 | 2,225 | 3,301 |
| Gross Commitments | 325 | 340 | 485 |

Transfer Student Data – Fall 2023 up to 6/15/23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>2,370</td>
<td>2,770</td>
<td>2,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admits</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>2,043</td>
<td>1,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Distance Admits*</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitments</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>1,202</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Distance admit total is a subtotal of total transfer admit count.

Weighted GPA Admits 2021–2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weighted GPA Admits</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>4.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>4.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Event Data 7/1/22 – 6/15/23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Data</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WCU on Tour</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Blitz</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors Day</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Undergraduate Admissions
110 HFR Administration Building
828-227-7317
admissions@wcu.edu
AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES

MISSION STATEMENT

Auxiliary Enterprises manages the auxiliary functions of the University, and in doing so, holds the departments within the unit accountable to their missions below:

The Bookstore is dedicated to supporting academic programs and student life at Western Carolina University. The Bookstore offers imprinted merchandise to promote the University brand and school spirit among the campus community. The Bookstore helps lower the total cost of attendance for students by running an extremely competitive self-managed Book Rental program.

The CatCard Office serves as the University’s central credentialing agency and provides access to University services including meal plans, door access, and other programmatic tracking.

Dining Services strives to provide students with attractive dining destinations that foster a lasting experience through customer service, quality, and programming that creates a welcoming and appreciated environment, enhancing the overall educational experience.

Printing and Mailing Services is committed to supporting the educational mission of the university community with reliable, high-quality services to meet your printing and mailing needs.

**All values, for all areas, are estimates for 2023 fiscal year end. This document was produced on 5/26/2022.**

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**Printing and Mailing Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2020-2021</th>
<th>FY 2021-2022</th>
<th>FY 2022-2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Print Shop Revenue</td>
<td>$987,454</td>
<td>$1,056,572</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Shop Expenses*</td>
<td>$898,083</td>
<td>$971,367</td>
<td>$980,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Printing Reserves</td>
<td>$46,285</td>
<td>$39,535</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Expense values do not include transfers, including payments to Auxiliary Administration

**Bookstore**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2020-2021</th>
<th>FY 2021-2022</th>
<th>FY 2022-2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bookstore Revenue</td>
<td>$1,619,902</td>
<td>$2,320,375</td>
<td>$2,050,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookstore Expenses*</td>
<td>$1,356,468</td>
<td>$1,841,526</td>
<td>$2,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Bookstore Reserves</td>
<td>$140,518</td>
<td>$385,390</td>
<td>-$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Rental Revenue</td>
<td>$2,773,992</td>
<td>$2,664,991</td>
<td>$2,478,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Rental Expenses*</td>
<td>$1,972,959</td>
<td>$1,616,277</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Rental Reserves</td>
<td>$661,163</td>
<td>$896,036</td>
<td>$831,783</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Expense values do not include transfers, including payments to Auxiliary Administration
# CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

## MISSION STATEMENT
The Department of Campus Activities provides quality programs, services and facilities.

We engage and develop members of Western Carolina University to foster a vibrant and inclusive campus community.

## Interesting Figures and Facts from AY 2022–23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>18</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>66</th>
<th>67</th>
<th>67</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students enrolled in the Freshman Leadership Initiative learning and living community.</td>
<td>Student workers graduated at the end of Spring Semester.</td>
<td>Events were hosted by Last Minute Productions.</td>
<td>Hours of professional development training was completed by DCA staff.</td>
<td>88 Students utilized the Club Hub in the RSO suite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103 Recognized Student Organizations.</td>
<td>393 Students completed the Satisfactory Survey after attending Last Minute Productions events.</td>
<td>5,914 Room reservations in the University Center.</td>
<td>$413,321 Went toward Capital Improvements for the University Center.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other Highlights

- The Department of Campus Activities staff members participated in 8 different trainings.
- LMP was nominated for the “Most Innovative Program” award for the Celebrate Excellence Leadership Awards and was also nominated for the “Irene Welch Program of Excellence Award” for the Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards.
- SGA’s Inauguration of the 100th administration welcomed CJ Mitchell as Student Body President and Estefany Gordillo-Rivas as Student Body Vice President.
- 98% of student workers had a 2.5 GPA or higher, 78% of student workers had a 3.0 GPA or higher, and 7% of student workers had a 4.0 GPA.
- The University Center Restroom Renovation project is underway with the design and scheduled refresh of the first-floor public facing restrooms, as well as the completion of a facility wide building code study to help direct future restroom renovation projects.
MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of Campus Recreation and Wellness is to foster a campus-wide culture of recreation and wellness through a comprehensive array of programs and services that educate, empower, and engage individuals to pursue and sustain healthy, balanced lifestyles.

CRW Fast Facts
Each CRW fact is accompanied by a % change year over year. Almost all programs and services saw increased usage this year.

*Club Sport participations are lower due to improved data keeping. CRW implemented a new swim lessons program on campus, offering private swim lessons to the campus.

8,212 (+17%)

$188,175 (+36%)

4,151 (+54%)

Staffing Levels
CRW experienced turnover in various FTE positions this year which allowed an opportunity to restructure positions to serve the changing needs of services. Although a challenge at times, our team found creative solutions to serve the campus community.

CRW employed ~100 student employees, including work study and non-work study. A pay rate increase was implemented for the summer 2023 semester, which moved the minimum pay rate from $9.15 to $12.00, incentivizing employment and assisting students financially.

Facilities Operations
CRW facility and equipment enhancements included the following:

- Replaced 20 spin bikes, added a hack squat machine, a deadlift platform, and new bumper weight plates
- Additional security cameras were installed to reduce gaps in coverage
- The Climbing Wall and Basketball Courts had renovations to the flooring
- A new 12-passenger van was purchased to help serve off-campus programming
- HVAC repair work to fix an aging system was completed

New Campus Partnerships
CRW new partnerships and programs this year included:

- Partnered with CAPS and Health Services to offer personalized exercise packages to students to increase the Exercise is Medicine program on campus
- Hosted One Book Day Yoga in partnership with the Office of Retention and the One Book Committee
- Hosted Florence Williams for lecture series on Wilderness is Wellness in partnership with Campus Activities and Campus Theme

Special Events
The two main special events for CRW saw tremendous growth this year:

- The Catamount Climb Half Marathon had 420 participants (+64%) this year, making it the second largest in the race’s history
- The Tuck River Clean Up had 405 participants (+96%) and removed 2,500lbs (+39%) of trash from the river
MISSION STATEMENT
Empower students to engage in, and be successful in a full range of academic, social, and cultural endeavors through fostering psychological wellness.

CAPS provided 5,760 routine appointments this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th># of Clients</th>
<th># of Appts.</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
<th># of Clients</th>
<th># of Appts.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>2,549</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>2,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>2,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>2,879</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>2,881</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bimodal Service Delivery
CAPS offered both in-person and telehealth appointments this year. Most students preferred to be seen in person: 41.2% in-person and 58.8% Zoom.

Reasons Clients Seek Counseling
The three-year trend in why students seek counseling remain relatively consistent with anxiety and depression related concerns as the primary reasons.

Out of the Darkness
The OOTD Student Organization held its 4th annual campus walk to raise awareness about suicide and to raise funds to support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on March 26. The organization raised nearly $3,000 for the cause.

Trauma-Informed Care
CAPS continues to focus on implementing trauma-informed care principles across all areas of our department. Our clients gave feedback this year on how these principles are enacted: 100% of clients shared they felt safe to talk about their concerns, their choices about treatment were valued, they felt empowered, their experiences were collaborative, and 98% stated that they could trust CAPS actions.

Case Management
CAPS received grant funding for our Case Management services including helping students find services and resources on campus and in the community. Predominately, the case manager helps students who are seeking mental health services off campus to determine which specific therapist may be a good fit, how to use insurance, and how to make an appointment. Additionally, the case manager helps students in identifying community resources for finances, food, clothing, and other social services.

This year, the case manager met with 233 students.

Six Principles of Trauma-Informed Care

- **SAFETY** Ensuring physical and emotional safety
- **CHOICE** Providing autonomy and control
- **COLLABORATION** Making alliances together
- **TRUSTWORTHINESS** Being clear and consistent
- **EMPOWERMENT** Prioritizing building on strengths
- **CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND GENDER CONTEXTS** Understanding of cultural contexts and leveraging individual and community healing practices

Protocall
118 calls; 37 seconds was average speed of answer;
78.3% answered within 30 seconds
FINANCIAL AID

MISSION STATEMENT
The Financial Aid Office provides students with the highest quality service while helping to remove financial barriers to higher education at Western Carolina University. Our staff is committed to administering federal, state and institutional assistance programs and maintaining compliance with laws and regulations.

2022-2023 academic year:

- Because of COVID-19, emergency aid for students was allocated to Western Carolina University through Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF). Since May 2020, Western Carolina University disbursed $39,951,049.62 in student emergency aid. All HEERF funding has been expended.
- Since NC Promise went into effect fall 2018, Western Carolina University has experienced a 1% decrease in debt incurred from 2021-22 to 2022-23 as noted in the chart below. Comparing 2018-19 to 2022-23, Western Carolina University has experienced a 20.3% decrease in debt.

### Loan Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Program</th>
<th>2021-2022 Final Paid</th>
<th>2022-2023 YTD Accepted</th>
<th>2022-2023 YTD Paid</th>
<th>Difference +/-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Graduate Student PLUS Loans</td>
<td>$731,707.00</td>
<td>$951,152.00</td>
<td>$880,756.00</td>
<td>20.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans</td>
<td>$5,421,875.00</td>
<td>$5,234,419.00</td>
<td>$4,972,471.00</td>
<td>-8.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Subsidized Student Loans</td>
<td>$13,146,117.00</td>
<td>$12,599,117.00</td>
<td>$12,090,450.00</td>
<td>-8.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loans</td>
<td>$25,942,055.00</td>
<td>$27,450,941.00</td>
<td>$26,557,041.00</td>
<td>2.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Student Loans</td>
<td>$5,099,828.00</td>
<td>$5,413,369.18</td>
<td>$5,390,094.18</td>
<td>5.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Debt</td>
<td>$50,341,582.00</td>
<td>$51,648,998.18</td>
<td>$49,890,812.18</td>
<td>-0.90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Student Loan Default Rates

- **WCU**: 6.50% - 5.20% - 2.30%
- **National**: 9.70% - 7.30% - 2.30%

2020 Default rates will be released late September 2023

### Average WCU Debt (Fall, Spring & Summer)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020-21</th>
<th>2021-22</th>
<th>2022-23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Undergraduate and Graduate</td>
<td>$23,437</td>
<td>$23,366</td>
<td>$22,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate (includes any undergraduate debt incurred)</td>
<td>$33,726</td>
<td>$35,084</td>
<td>$34,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>$20,996</td>
<td>$20,693</td>
<td>$19,499</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Processing

- **Number of Federal Student Aid Applications (FAFSA’s) received**: 20,891, 20,620, 20,039, 20,800
- **Number of FAFSA’s verified**: 2,856, 2,766, 2,533, 994
- **Number of students packaged (completed FAFSA results)**: 13,753, 14,061, 13,911, 16,633
- **Number of summer aid applications**: 2,268, 2,520, 2,978, 2,405

### Funds Management (Disbursed/Paid Amount)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
<td>$18,482,718.78</td>
<td>$17,889,211.13</td>
<td>$16,953,746.48</td>
<td>$17,363,310.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC State Grants</td>
<td>$3,732,154.50</td>
<td>$4,593,848.50</td>
<td>$4,341,667.50</td>
<td>$3,739,816.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Study</td>
<td>$482,455.45</td>
<td>$272,357.95</td>
<td>$365,607.92</td>
<td>$354,074.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Loans</td>
<td>$56,203,146.00</td>
<td>$49,406,045.00</td>
<td>$45,241,754.00</td>
<td>$44,508,127.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Loans</td>
<td>$4,953,577.00</td>
<td>$4,777,355.21</td>
<td>$5,078,328.00</td>
<td>$5,371,094.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Other Aid Programs</td>
<td>$20,542,171.88</td>
<td>$21,737,519.77</td>
<td>$26,606,098.10</td>
<td>$26,415,106.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Aid Disbursements</td>
<td>$104,396,223.61</td>
<td>$98,676,317.56</td>
<td>$98,587,202.00</td>
<td>$97,752,501.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Other aid programs includes HEERF

NC Promise assists Western Carolina University with a quality, affordable education for anyone who wishes to pursue an undergraduate degree.

---

Undergraduate Cost of Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>$3,979.00</td>
<td>$4,285.00</td>
<td>$4,367.00</td>
<td>$4,453.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing and Food</td>
<td>$10,725.00</td>
<td>$10,953.99</td>
<td>$11,097.96</td>
<td>$11,173.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Fees</td>
<td>$62.00</td>
<td>$61.38</td>
<td>$61.20</td>
<td>$59.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>$809.00</td>
<td>$366.00</td>
<td>$371.12</td>
<td>$413.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$1,037.00</td>
<td>$1,383.00</td>
<td>$1,335.00</td>
<td>$1,394.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Expenses</td>
<td>$1,580.00</td>
<td>$1,575.00</td>
<td>$1,597.04</td>
<td>$1,597.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$18,192.00</td>
<td>$18,624.34</td>
<td>$18,829.32</td>
<td>$19,090.92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As of 2020-2021 Book Rental costs are now part of Tuition and Fees, instead of Books and Supplies.
GREEK STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

MISSION STATEMENT
The Department of Greek Student Engagement & Development’s Mission is to actively engage students in an exceptional values-driven fraternity and sorority program offering customized and experiential learning opportunities. These experiences contribute to academic, social, and personal growth.

Academic Achievement and Population

Programming and Office Highlights
- GSED held a Leadership retreat for council and chapter presidents in August and January.
- The Order of Omega initiated 26 new members during the academic year.
- CPC held officer elections and officer transition during fall semester. IFC and NPHC held elections and officer transitions toward the end of spring semester.
- GSED participated in all four Open Houses held during the academic year.
- 253 new members participated in the Vector Hazing course and the New Member Education program over the year.
- GSED participated in professional development with DSCE several times, covering hazing and fraternity/sorority recruitment.
- GSED moved office locations and now has a large, spacious office for our student leaders.
- GSED started a leadership program called Greek Squad. These individuals will be trained on the facets of fraternity/sorority life and represent the office at various campus activities.
- GSED sponsored four academic programs throughout the year.
- Student leaders worked together to host the Battle of the Greeks. This two-day event was a first in a post-Covid era, with all councils participating.

Registration & Recognition

Member Numbers

GSED started a leadership program called Greek Squad. These individuals will be trained on the facets of fraternity/sorority life and represent the office at various campus activities.

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GSED sponsored four academic programs throughout the year.

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HEALTH SERVICES

MISSION STATEMENT
Health Services’ mission is to meet the health care needs of the academic community and to enhance the physical, psychological, environmental and health education needs of our campus. Health Services strives to keep students well and in the classroom.

Patient Volumes
Health Services continued to operate under the CDC’s pandemic guidelines and maintained a separate respiratory clinic throughout the academic year.
- Demand shifted away from respiratory illnesses with 25.6% of patients requesting respiratory clinic related care, down from 52.8% in year 2021-2022.
- Overall patient demand decreased 37.3%, a direct result of the decrease in COVID positive cases and the shift to testing only symptomatic patients.
- 3,422 patients picked up free at-home COVID tests.
- COVID Vaccines remained available.

In conjunction with Counseling and Psychological Services, Health Services began referring to NC Neuropsychiatry for telepsychiatry care as part of the UNC pilot program. WCU is the largest referral source from the five pilot schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Patient Encounters</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>% Change from 2021/2022</th>
<th>Positive Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory-Related Encounter</td>
<td>4,379</td>
<td>-66.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID tests</td>
<td>2,834</td>
<td>-62.6%</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID at-home provided</td>
<td>4,445</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLU tests</td>
<td>1,627</td>
<td>-42.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Respiratory Related Encounter</td>
<td>10,519</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same-Day Illness</td>
<td>4,313</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Appointment</td>
<td>5,547</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Management</td>
<td>659</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injection Clinic</td>
<td>2,282</td>
<td>-7.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID Vaccines</td>
<td>201</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLU Vaccines</td>
<td>317</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Patient Encounters</td>
<td>17,180</td>
<td>-37.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staffing Updates
- Cassie Stewart, RN, was promoted to Nursing Clinical Coordinator.
- Hailey Parham, RN joined the team to staff the Injection Clinic.
- Miranda Cook, CMA was hired to assist with laboratory specimen collection and processing, as well as provider orders and referral management.
- Destiny Hampton joined the team as an administrative specialist.

Awards/Celebrations
Health Services, along with Campus Recreation and Wellness and Counseling and Psychological Services, was awarded the Program of the Year Award for Exercise is Medicine at the annual Division of Student Affairs awards ceremony. This program is designed to assist with referrals to Campus Recreation for patients seeking alternatives to medication for treatment of depression and anxiety.

WCU EMS
- Call volumes rebounded to pre-pandemic levels.
- The team hosted a mass casualty event drill in December with UPD, Emergency Management and the Ramsey Regional Activity Center Staff.
- The team was recertified as a heart safe campus team and awarded the bronze level for Campus Readiness at the National Collegiate EMS Foundation meeting.

EMS Call Volume

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022/2023</th>
<th>2021/2022</th>
<th>2020/2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Health Services
Bird Building
Healthservices.wcu.edu
828.227.7640
cathealth@wcu.edu
MISSION STATEMENT

Intercultural Affairs (ICA) provides a safe and brave space for students to explore and learn about different identities, perspectives, and experiences via educational programming, training, and certifications. The office works alongside our partners in the campus community to create opportunities and programming that foster conversations and exchanges between students and the campus community. Through education and engagement, we aim to develop culturally competent individuals who will thrive in a diverse and interconnected world. For the academic year 2022-2023, we wanted to emphasize our work with our campus partners and outside stakeholders who share ICA’s mission through intentional collaborations and partnerships.

Office Operations

ICA Staff

ICA continues to undergo transition. Evelyn Ruck er started as the new director in March 2023. We hired a new Associate Director, Diandra Macias, and a new Assistant Director, Tristan Reid, and both will start in the Fall of 2023. We will also gain a new Higher Education Student Affairs (HESA) Graduate Assistant. Although for the 2022-2023 academic year, we were not operating with a full staff, we were able to fulfill the needs of the university and students with a dedicated staff and student workers.

Student Development and Enrichment

Tunnel of Oppression

The Tunnel of Oppression program is an interactive, immersive presentation to raise awareness and explore different types of oppression. ICA resumed its first in-person Tunnel of Oppression after two semester of it being virtual due to Covid-19.

| TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEES* | 103 |
| OF ATTENDEES INDICATED THEY LEARNED SOMETHING NEW | 50% |
| OF ATTENDEES WERE FIRST-TIME ICA PROGRAM ATTENDEES | 30% |
| OF ATTENDEES SAID THEY’D BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING MORE ICA PROGRAMS | 31% |

*attendance is indicated by the amount of Tunnel of Oppression post survey responses

Developing Collaborative Partnerships

For the 2022-23 academic year, ICA developed new partnerships and sustained partnerships with our campus partners and outside university stakeholders to continue to serve our students through new initiatives and annual programming.

- Campus Recreation & Wellness - ICA Base Camp Trips
- Student Success & Hunter Library - Office Hours in ICA
- Interior Design Program - ICA Redesign
- University One Book Committee - ICA Taco ‘Bout It Tuesday
- Uncomplicated Kitchen
- Nonprofit - ICA Munchie Mondays
- Jackson County Center for Domestic Peace - ICA Red Zone

Project C.A.R.E. 2022-2023

Project C.A.R.E. (Culturally Aligned Retention Enhancement) is a high impact program focused on building peer-to-peer mentorship that will help first-year and transfer students successfully adjust and navigate their collegiate experience at WCU.

Our freshmen mentees fell behind the all freshmen GPA cumulative average in the Fall semester. However, the Project C.A.R.E. mentee’s cumulative GPA significantly increased, surpassing all fresh men’s cumulative GPA in the spring semester. (See chart below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT OF PROJECT C.A.R.E.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our freshmen mentee’s cumulative GPA surpassed the general population freshmen GPA significantly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our mentor’s GPA increased from Fall to Spring semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 50% of Project C.A.R.E. participants finished with a 3.0 or higher GPA for the 2022-2023 academic year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Safe Zone Certification Program

This certification and training program helps provide the campus with relevant information about the the LGBTQ+ community provided by the Safe Zone Project Resource. ICA staff, along with faculty and staff volunteers facilitate this certification throughout the year, consistently providing access to update information and material to the WCU campus.

ICA registered 146 individuals in the campus community, including faculty, staff and students, for the Safe Zone Certification program. Of those registrants, 49 % signed a safe zone contract after completing the certification program, indicating they agree to act as safe zone-trained certified individual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE ZONE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM</th>
<th>FALL 2022</th>
<th>SPRING 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Individuals Registered</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Individuals who completed the SafeZone contract</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MISSION STATEMENT
The office of marketing and assessment supports the Division of Student Affairs and works to increase capabilities, alignment and effectiveness of departmental and division efforts in the areas of branding, communication and assessment.

INDIVIDUAL DESIGN REQUESTS
Fall Semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2020 Requests</th>
<th>2021 Requests</th>
<th>2022 Requests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INDIVIDUAL DESIGN REQUESTS
Spring Semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2020 Requests</th>
<th>2021 Requests</th>
<th>2022 Requests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FAMILY NEWSLETTER OPEN RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2020 Rate</th>
<th>2021 Rate</th>
<th>2022 Rate</th>
<th>2023 Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jul/Aug</td>
<td>50.3%</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
<td>51.6%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>74.8%</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
<td>74.8%</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MISSION STATEMENT
New Student Orientation is committed to acclimating new WCU students and their families to the institution, college transitions, and life within the community by showcasing samples of student involvement on and off-campus, as well as state-wide and nationally through research, academic, and cultural experiences. Students are instructed to consider their entire experience at Western Carolina University, including student clubs/organizations, service learning, internships, etc., as a learning opportunity that will shape their future.

Orientation Updates
- New Student Orientation brought back the 1-day local session in Summer 2023 after feedback from local participants in the 2-day Summer 2022 sessions. The local session is set for June 29th and is unadvertised but available to local students when registering in MyWCU.
- The Pre-Orientation model that was implemented in 2022 has continued in 2023 as all students are required to complete the program before attending their mandatory in-person sessions. January completion was at 95% (217/258) of students added to the course.
- The June Pre-Orientation course consists of four mandatory modules including Student Resources and Responsibilities, Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning (CCESL), Information Technology at WCU, and Financial Aid and Scholarships. Students were also invited to participate in two optional modules featuring Campus Recreation and Wellness at WCU and Residential Living and Campus Dining. The CCESL module is new for Summer 2023 as they reached out asking for more ways to be involved in the Orientation process.
- The 2-Day Orientation schedule from 2022 was evaluated after changing dramatically from the previous in-person sessions pre-pandemic. For the 2023 2-Day schedule, we dropped sessions that were less well received like the Parent Networking Social and the Ready to Start Panel while keeping others that were very well received in the Passport Fair and Professors Perspective Panel.
- The 2023 Orientation Student Staff consists of 7 returners from the Summer of 2022 and 15 new Orientation Counselors.
- Student and Professional Staff participated in the annual Southern Regional Orientation Workshop (SROW) in Tallahassee, FL on the campus of Florida A&M this March where the theme was “SROWTown.”

Latest Year-By-Year Numbers
Orientation Registration Report 2023 | June 12, 2023 versus June 11, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-Year</th>
<th>2023 Students</th>
<th>2022 Students</th>
<th>2023 Guests</th>
<th>2022 Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1-2</td>
<td>187 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>186 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>132 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>133 (actual attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5-6</td>
<td>191 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>195 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>136 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>148 (actual attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8-9</td>
<td>170 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>185 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>150 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>201 (actual attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12-13</td>
<td>215 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>260 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>169 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>233 (actual attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15-16</td>
<td>3011</td>
<td>2956</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 19-20</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 22-23 ASP/GAP</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 26-27 Local Only</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3 (Athletics)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Difference</td>
<td>+195</td>
<td>+84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer</th>
<th>2023 Students</th>
<th>2022 Students</th>
<th>2023 Guests</th>
<th>2022 Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>134 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>151 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>75 (actual attendance)</td>
<td>72 (actual attendance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3 (Athletics)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 18</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Difference</td>
<td>-33</td>
<td>+35</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration Totals
- Total Students Registrations 2023: 24879
- Total Student Registrations 2022: 24479
- Change: +400
- Student Registration Difference: +380
- Total Guest Registrations 2023: 18726
- Total Guest Registrations 2022: 18236
- Change: +490
RESIDENTIAL LIVING

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to serve the communities of Western Carolina University by providing clean, safe, and healthy living environments which enhance and support the educational mission, goals and creed of the University. We strive to create living and learning communities where students feel valued as individuals and where diversity and fellowship with others can be celebrated. While maintaining a high quality of service, we shall encourage and provide opportunities for personal growth and development of character, leadership, honesty, respect, and pride.

Departmental Highlights

- Completed the construction and opening of Water Rock, Shining Rock, and Black Rock Halls.
- Creation and implementation of electronic Room Condition Reports and a paperless Room Change process.
- Mailroom Packages Delivered (placed in mailboxes and delivered by hand):
  - Fall – 34,355
  - Spring – 27,675

Awards & Recognition

Numerous Residential Living staff were nominated for Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards. Nominees and winners included:

**Star Staff Award:**
- Laura Allison
- Maeve Kirby
- Josh Rascatti
- Ami Stephenson

**Bright Idea Award:**
- Stephanie Sue Rowell
- Laura Johnson

**Paul A. Reid Award:**
- Annaleise Camacho

* COVID safety caused all summer conference activities to be suspended.
**** COVID-19 pandemic safety precautions impacted the 2020-2021 academic year.
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

MISSION STATEMENT
University Scholarships works in collaboration with campus departments and external partners in order to manage a comprehensive scholarship program focused on the needs of our students, parents, donors, faculty, and staff who are seeking, receiving, and awarding scholarships.

Student Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021-2022</th>
<th>2022-2023</th>
<th>2023-2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of applications started UG</td>
<td>6,523</td>
<td>5,978</td>
<td>6,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of applications finished UG</td>
<td>5,351</td>
<td>4,497</td>
<td>5,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of applications started GR</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>808*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of applications finished GR</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>598*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finished applications are a subset of started applications. UG application deadline was February 1, 2023.* GR application deadline is August 1, 2023.*

2022-2023 Scholarship Disbursements (excluding athletic scholarships) (as of June 15)

- Donor-Funded Scholarships $2,958,107
- State Scholarships $1,534,725
- Institutionally Supported Scholarships $2,767,756
- Outside Scholarships $3,316,165

2022-2023 Figures

- Offers Level 1: Up to 3.65 $1,000
- Offers Level 2: 3.65-3.79 $1,500
- Offers Level 3: 3.80-3.99 $2,000
- Offers Level 4: 4.0+ $3,000

- Commits Level 1: Up to 3.65 $1,000
- Commits Level 2: 3.65-3.79 $1,500
- Commits Level 3: 3.80-3.99 $2,000
- Commits Level 4: 4.0+ $3,000

4,640 WCU scholarships have been awarded to 3,026 graduate and undergraduate students (including athletic scholarships) for the 2022-2023 academic year to date (June 15). The significant increase in numbers can primarily be attributed to the awarding of a one-time $250,000 donor gift.

2022-2023

Highlights for 2022-2023

➢ On July 1, 2022, University Scholarships became a stand-alone office separate from the Financial Aid Office.

➢ The Catamount Commitment Program was approved by Executive Council as a pilot program for the fall 2023 entering first-year student cohort. The program concept focuses on providing early notification of funding students can expect to receive from WCU (notification follows an offer of admission). The funding is renewable to a maximum of eight semesters for students who remain in good academic standing, maintain a 3.0 GPA, and earn 12 credit hours each semester. Unused semesters can be used for graduate school at WCU should students complete an undergraduate degree in fewer than eight semesters. The program is only available to students from North Carolina.

Students impacted by funding

Percentage of students who have received a scholarship from WCU 2022-2023 (as of June 15)

- 23%
- 22.6%
- 22.2%
- 22.2%

Comprehensive Scholarship Program

Institutionally Supported Scholarships

2018-2019

Spring Opening

Fall

2018-2019

Spring

688

Residence Life Staff completed

22.2%

4,497

1921-2022

Summer

2018-2019

Spring

672

2021

2018

$1,000

The Catamount Commitment Program was approved by Executive Council as a comprehensive scholarship program focused on the needs of our students, parents, donors, faculty, and staff who are seeking, receiving, and awarding scholarships.

Ups (formerly SSIs) changed in how they were conducted and COVID-19 expenses.

WCU 2022

Conference Services Revenue

2017-2018

1,836,167

2021 (as of June 15)

94.10%

2017-2018

$1,534,725

0-186

2020-2021 (as of June 7, 2021)

Scholarship Disbursements (excluding athletic scholarships)

2019-2020

2020-2021

2021-2022

$814,161

2019

2020

2021

$1,000

2022

2023

2023

1,550

2022

2023

2,000

2022

2023

3,000

*pilot program for the fall 2023 entering first-year student cohort. The program

➢ highlights for 2022-2023

➢ highlights for 2020-2021

➢ highlights for 2019-2020

➢ highlights for 2018-2019

➢ highlights for 2017-2018

➢ highlights for 2016-2017

➢ highlights for 2015-2016

➢ highlights for 2014-2015

➢ highlights for 2013-2014

➢ highlights for 2012-2013

➢ highlights for 2011-2012

➢ highlights for 2010-2011

➢ highlights for 2009-2010

➢ highlights for 2008-2009
STUDENT COMMUNITY ETHICS

MISSION STATEMENT
The Department of Student Community Ethics (DSCE) fosters student accountability and responsible decision-making by facilitating an understanding of the University’s Code of Student Conduct through learning-centered opportunities. The DSCE cultivates a culture of respect, integrity, and safety in order to foster a health and inclusive living and learning environment for each student and the Catamount Community.

3-year trend — Total Conduct Incidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020-21</th>
<th>2021-22</th>
<th>2022-23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Unique Incidents</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Individuals Involved</td>
<td>1211</td>
<td>1719</td>
<td>1374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 5 Violations:
1. Alcohol Violation
2. Alcohol/Drug Paraphernalia
3. Drug Violation
4. General Violation
5. Disorderly Conduct

Fast Facts:
- 15 Conduct Hearing Officers
- 667 Cases Resolved by Initial Meetings
- 11 Cases Resolved by Hearing Board
- 190 Cases Resolved In-Absentia

Top 5 Violations (2020-21):
- Alcohol Violation: 64 cases
- Drug Violation: 54 cases
- General Violation: 77 cases
- Disorderly Conduct: 92 cases
- Alcohol/Drug Paraphernalia: 99 cases

Awards & Recognition
- Keri Clark, Katie Sorel, and Alex Fields were nominated for Excellence in Student Affairs Awards.
- Keri Clark was awarded the Excellence in Student Affairs Award.
- Alex Fields was recognized for 5 years of service to the Division of Student Affairs.
- DSCE was awarded the Irene Welch Program of Excellence Award at the annual Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards.

Highlights
- We have had 11 students sanctioned, BASICS, with 8 students assigned after the re-launch in February 2023.
- Associate Director & Assistant Director attended the Association for Student Conduct Administrators annual conference in Portland, Oregon.
- Associate Director & Director attended the 2022 Gehring Academy.
- Implemented e-Checkup-to-Go software to allow anyone in the University community to explore and reflect on their use of alcohol anonymously.