

March 2021 Newsletter



Celebrate

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981. Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "*Women's History Week*." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, the month of March 1987 was designated "*Women's History Month*." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as *Women's History Month*. Since 1995, presidents have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "*Women's History Month*." These proclamations celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and recognize the specific achievements women have made over the course of history in a variety of fields. For more information, visit [Women's History Month](#).





WCU Vaccine Clinic

After helping the Jackson County Department of Public Health clear its backlog of individuals waiting for the COVID-19 vaccine, Western Carolina University's vaccine clinic is now serving the larger Western North Carolina region.

The clinic is accepting appointments in compliance with North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services guidelines, which are currently focused on those in Priority Groups 1 and 2 and the first phase of Group 3.

The clinic is operating out of WCU's Health and Human Sciences building, located at 3971 Little Savannah Rd. in Cullowhee, and vaccines are available by appointment only.

To schedule an appointment, or for more information, visit vaccine.wcu.edu.



Being First-Generation in Cullowhee



Free Surveillance Testing

Open to all current WCU students, faculty, and staff

Scientific research suggests that COVID can be spread by individuals with no known contact to positive COVID, nor experiencing any symptoms. Surveillance testing help to identify those cases.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons from 1:00pm – 4:30pm
Location: Madison Residential Hall.

Schedule online through the [Health Services Patient Portal](#)

If you are feeling sick or concerned about a recent exposure, call Health Services at 828.227.7640 to discuss your situation with the COVID Triage Nurse.

MANDATORY IT TRAINING

You should have received an email noting your enrollment in the Spring 2021 Information Security Training. This mandatory information security awareness training is delivered through the Division of Information Technology. The ***Kevin Mitnick Security Awareness Training 2021*** must be completed no later than **March 29, 2021, at 11:59 pm.**

You can use the link below to start your training:

<https://training.knowbe4.com/login>.

If you have any questions, contact the IT Help Desk, M-F, 7:30 - 6:30 pm or visit the [Technology Commons](#) on the ground floor of Hunter Library.



Campus Police Department Forms Community Advisory Committee

Western Carolina University's Police Department recently instituted a standing advisory committee to help officers better understand and serve the community.

Chief Steve Lillard said the committee has already established an open dialogue and is ready to look at local issues. For more information visit [here](#).



The Western Carolinian

Your source for news at WCU since 1933. The Western Carolinian provides coverage of news, sports, entertainment, and culture relevant to current themes, topics, and trends within this community.

Online Articles

UNIT HIGHLIGHTS



Campus Activities

- With LMP, the DCA Marketing Team has been building a TikTok account. The recent “Don’t Be Suspicious” challenge had 1,428 views in 2 days for the first post, and the second post had 792 in 1 day.
- *Miracle @ WCU* will be hosting a blood drive with Blood Connection, March 22-25, 1-6 pm each day. Blood Connection will give \$10 per donor to Miracle and \$10 directly to each donor.
- LMP is planning their Marvel/DC Week and Student Appreciation Week.
- SGA Debates will be held on Tuesday, March 9, and Thursday, March 11.



Auxiliary Enterprises

- Catamount Dining has completed its Starbucks renovation in the Courtyard Dining Hall. Come visit us to see the new look!
- Strategic Planning: Catamount Dining and the WCU Bookstore are both conducting program-specific strategic planning exercises.
- Printing and Mailing Services has been busy with signage packages across campus, including the vaccine clinic, WCU Athletics, open houses, and more.
- Lower Campus construction continues with our first building walls positioned by crane.



Health & Wellness



Marketing & Assessment

- CRW has increased the max capacity in the CRC Studios to 12 people and the CRW Fields to 50 people.
- CAPS and ICA partnered to provide a Mindfulness and Stress Relief program.
- Health Services recorded 977 patient encounters last week. Of which, 211 presented with either COVID symptoms or exposure for COVID testing.
- Katherine presented a virtual residential living collaborative event on "The Color of Mental Health."
- Kudos to the student affairs team of Cortnee Lingerfelt, Jordan Jacobs, and Amy Smith for their hard work to open the COVID clinic. Also, thanks to CRW volunteers Jana Kent, Kay Tufts, and Kelsey Jones!
- Jane attended the virtual Cherokee Advisory Board meeting. The Cherokee Center has been creative in keeping students engaged through the pandemic.
- Jane participated in the search for the Executive Director of Communications position.
- Carol is serving on the University Graphic Designer position search committee.
- Survey results for the Canva Pro workshop noted positive ratings.
- Thank you to all who participated in the division budget hearings held February 24, 10 - 5 pm.



Dean of Students

- DSCE participated in the annual budget presentations. While 2019-20 & 2020-21 have been lower financially for DSCE, they are

Undergraduate Enrollment

- Sister UNC institutions report being down in application submissions but up in Admission offers, so competition will be keen for students offered admission.

- optimistic about a rebound next fiscal year.
 - Pi Kappa Alpha will receive its charter in April.
 - ICA participated in the launch of the Latin X Alumni Association on Monday and helped to welcome new members.
 - Fall greek grade report analysis – 35% of students made the Dean’s List or Chancellor’s List (CPC – 48%, IFC – 25%, NPHC – 27%, and LPC – 36%). Congratulations students!
 - March 20 Open House is a go! Spring Blitz will be held April 12-16.
 - Brenda has been working with the College of Education and Allied Professions on application development for the new *Call Me MiSTER* program.
 - Orientation has compiled its spring survey and will use the information for assessment and planning.
 - The student emergency aid committee started meeting last week to review student HEERF II applications. As of 8 AM 03/05/2021, WCU had received 1,570 applications.
-

S.A.L.T.

The Student Affairs Leadership Team met on Tuesday, March 2nd via Zoom.

SALT Meeting Minutes

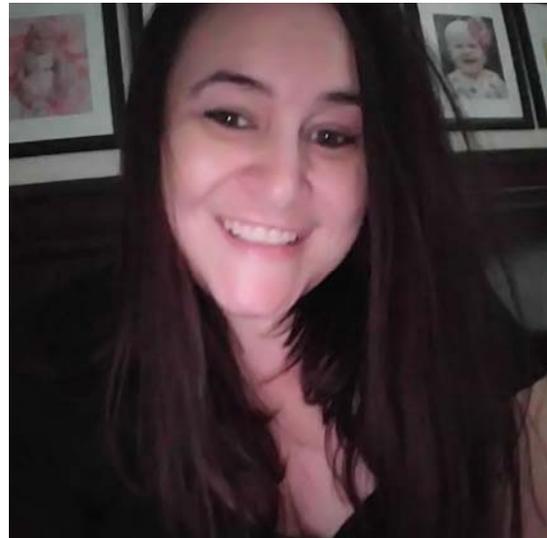
Celebrate the Good News!

Welcome New Staff



Donnie Ballew is the new Assistant Director of Facilities for Residential Living. A Swain county native, Donnie is a familiar face on campus, having served as a housekeeping team leader with Residential Living for the past 10 years. Donnie ('92) and his wife Sandra ('91) are both WCU alums and their son Trevor is set to join their ranks upon his graduation later this year. Donnie loves fly fishing and spending his free time with his family. He looks forward to serving our campus community in his new role.

Susan Huss joined WCU in February 2020 as Assistant Director of Financial Aid. She earned a B.S. in Communications from WCU in 2004 and would like to enroll in graduate school to study Business. Susan is thrilled to be working at WCU with such a great team and enjoys helping students navigate the financial aid process. Outside of work, she enjoys going to the gym and building furniture.





In February 2020, Jennifer Thomas (B.S.B.A. 03, M. Ed. 06) returned to the Financial Aid Office after 17 months in the International Programs and Services Office.

She previously worked in Financial Aid for ten years and said rejoining the Financial Aid team truly felt like coming home! She is proud to celebrate being a Catamount for 22 years, 17 of those years as a staff member. Jennifer can't imagine working in a better place.

Professional Development

- Jennifer Thomas will conduct a virtual *Dynamic Forms* training for Student Affairs, April 7, 9-11 am. Email [Donna Reynolds](#) if you are interested in attending.
- Amanda Buchanan, Maggie Brostic, and Trina Orr participated in the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SASFAA) virtual conference.
- Kelsey Jones presented at the NIRSA Annual Conference, held Feb. 23-25.
- Brandon MacCallum, Amy Lingenfelter, Kay Tufts, Kim Gorman, and Jeremiah Haas attended the UNC-System Behavioral Health meeting.
- Kim Gorman attended the virtual NIRSA conference.
- Shantoneeka Zorn and Caroline Engler both attended the American College Counseling Association virtual conference.

THE CATAMOUNT CLIMBER
HALF MARATHON & 5K
 presented by **CDC**
Virtual Race Dates: April 5-19
REGISTER NOW AT
RUNSIGNUP.COM

The 2021 Catamount Climb Half Marathon and 5K will be held virtually this year in accordance with University, local, state and national guidelines. Registered participants will have the opportunity to complete their distance (5K or Half Marathon) between April 5th – April 19th and submit their results online at RunSignUp.com.

ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A RACE SHIRT, RACE BIB, AND MEDAL!

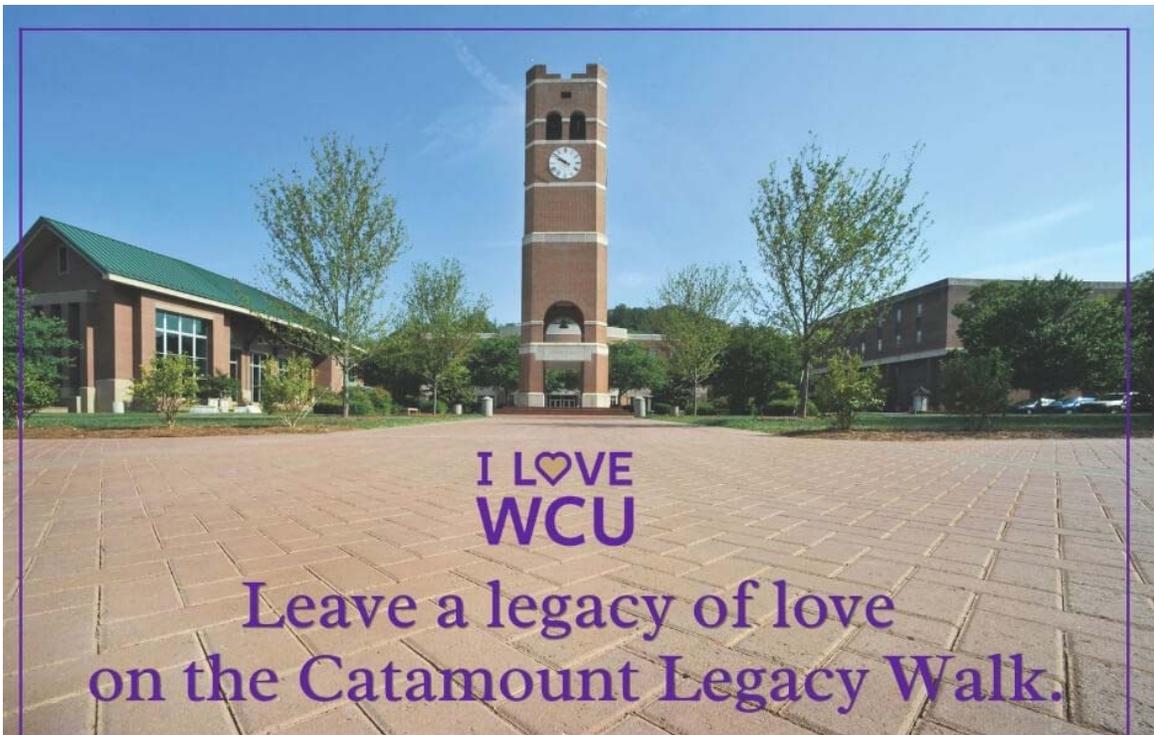
SPONSORED BY:

Race Hosts: Western Carolina University | School of Health Sciences | Campus Recreation & Wellness

DSA IT Committee Update

IT can integrate the Madison Bot into specific systems. For instance, students can now ask Madison, "who is my advisor" and the Bot will be able to tell them? If you would like to discuss the possible integration of a system email, [Dan Berk](#).





SHARE YOUR CATAMOUNT SPIRIT WITH A LOVED ONE!

Purchase a custom brick paver that will be placed by the Alumni tower. Donations to the legacy walk support the student emergency fund. To purchase using payroll deduction, or for more information visit:

legacywalk.wcu.edu



Social Wellness

THOUGHTS OF GRATITUDE

. Spend time thinking of the positives in your life. Then, write a gratitude note and send to that person.

CALLS OF LOVE

. Take some time to call a loved one to express how much they mean to you.

Scan here to access
these technique videos!





safezone

SPRING 2021 WORKSHOP DATES

SAFE ZONE PART I:
Wednesday, March 17th | 10-noon
Tuesday, April 20th | 2-4pm

SAFE ZONE PART II:
Wednesday, March 24th | 10-noon
Tuesday, April 27th | 2-4pm

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE VIRTUAL. TO RSVP, VISIT:
SAFEZONE.WCU.EDU



Email Signature Generator

The University Communications and Marketing website team developed an email signature generator to create university branded email signatures.

Signatures can be personalized to include pronouns, cell phone numbers, or the last line of free text. Once created, the signature can be copied, pasted, and saved as your Outlook email signature.

	Firstname Lastname
	<i>Title(s)</i>
	Department, Unit, or College
	Western Carolina University Office # and Building
	Cullowhee, NC 28723
	o: (828) 123.4567 c: (828) 987.6543 email@wcu.edu
	Optional pronouns
	Optional last line

Generate an Email
Signature

Remember to visit the COVID-19 website for the latest campus updates and resources.

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Important Dates

- March 9** - Advising Day
- March 19** - Last day to withdraw from class
- April 2** - University Closed





Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723