

May 2021 Newsletter



Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards

The 2020-2021 year has been challenging, but our staff didn't just make it through, they shone brightly and persevered with distinction and grace. Congratulations to this year's recipients and nominees.

Judy H. Dowell Outstanding Support Award - Dina Towey

Nominated for her dedication to faculty, staff, and students, Dina is always present and ready to provide support to ensure events run smoothly. Anyone that has ever attended an open house has benefited from her dedication.



"Dina works orientation check-in, produces and runs slide shows at Western on Tour, arrives early and stays late without being asked, and never asks for the attention or credit that she so deserves."

Paul A. Reid Distinguished Service Award for Administrative Staff - Phil Cauley

When describing Phil's contributions, one colleague addressed his unique perspective: "He 'always has one eye to the future as we plan for growth while keeping one eye on the past to ensure we never forget who we are.'"



The selection committee especially noted Phil's longstanding contributions to WCU, as well as all the work he continues to do. "Phil truly embodies the ideas and the spirit of what it means to be a Catamount," Brown said.

Program of Excellence - Irene W. Welch Award: Administration Program - Health Services

"The staff in Health Services has done an amazing and phenomenal job taking care of students, staff, and faculty during this yearlong, crazy pandemic season of COVID-19," one of those who nominated the department said. "I am so proud of the team."



... have worked together through short staffing, record numbers, so many unknowns, and have really come through shining light. The daily 'thank yous' from parents and students, as well as from other departments, should be enough, but Health Services is truly deserving of this award and more.

Star Staff Award Nominees

...y Bingham
...nael Birch
...n Boyer
...gie Brostic
...n Buchanan
...quice Wiggan Davis

Brenda Holcombe
Brandon Lokey
Trista Middleton
Kellie Angelo Monteith
Trina Orr
Aaron Plantenberg

Kourtney Sandefur
Susan Skibbe
Linda Snyder
Josh Thompson
Kay Tufts

Bright Idea Staff Award Nominees

...n Boyer
...nda Buchanan
...aleise Camacho
...Cauley

Tacquice Wiggan Davis
Patrick Frazier
Jonathan Leonard
Heather Lloyd

Josh Rascati
Kourtney Sandefur
Josh Rascati
Kourtney Sandefur

Judy H. Dowell Outstanding Support Staff Award Nominees

...ie Shuler

Dina Towey

Phil Cauley

Paul A. Reid Distinguished Service Award Nominees

Kellie Angelo Monteith

Student Nominated Faculty of the Year Award Nominee

Brian Boyer

Program of Excellence Award - Administrative Program Irene Welch Award Nominees

...lth Services
...sekeeping - Madison Hall COVID Crew
...lent Financial Aid and Scholarships

Intercultural Affairs
Office of Admission
Print Shop



Catamounts Care Ambassadors Recognized

The National Consortium for Building Healthy Academic Communities recognized our Catamounts Care Ambassadors for their innovative programming to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Their collaboration with five other higher education institutions earned them second place in a recent competition, awarded at a virtual summit April 21-22. Well done, ambassadors!

[Read the Story](#)



Congratulations to Dr. BaShaun Smith for being one of 24 leaders from across the state to be selected for the UNC Executive Leadership Institute. The program is designed to build the next generation of top leadership from within the UNC System. The 10-month program will focus on providing an overall view of the UNC System and leadership opportunities. Cory Causby, Associate Vice Chancellor in Human Resources, will join BaShaun in this opportunity.

NEWS AND UPDATES

Division of Student Affairs

Annual Awards & Lunch

May 26th

Don't forget to reserve your spot. Check your email for your personalized reservation link



have received a few reports of links not working. If you receive an error message stating your link has expired, please email dlreynolds@wcu.edu to request a new link.

Homecoming Theme

campus Activities is looking for a great homecoming theme for this year! If you have one, let them know.

[Suggest a Theme](#)





DSA IT Committee Update

Share Drive Migration

When you log in on Thursday, May 20th, don't panic when you don't see the familiar "share (\\mercury) (H:) or personal (\\mercury) (P:)." No, you didn't lose your drive, and your documents are still there. IT has simply upgraded and moved them further out into the galaxy to "Saturn." All functionality for the new drives should be the same for end-users. If you have any issues accessing your drives after the migration, please contact the Help Desk.

Multi-Factor Authentication Changes

The Division of IT will be transitioning Multi-Factor Authentication to a cloud-based solution to improve the security of our systems. Once implemented, you will be required to Authenticate when using a device on-campus and off-campus. The timeline for this transition will be over the summer for staff, summer and early fall for faculty, and fall for students. More information will be coming in May. Questions? IT will be discussing this topic at the next DSA IT Committee meeting.

VPN - GlobalProtect

Do you use VPN to connect to resources on campus? Don't let your data or equipment be at risk. [Download GlobalProtect](#) so you can connect faster and have increased security as well.

Document Sharing and Saving

Have you ever wondered which options are best for you to use to save documents? What about how to share documents? The DSA IT Committee will discuss this at the next meeting.

Next Meeting - Friday, May 21st @ 9:00 am. To get a link to the meeting email [Donna Reynolds](#) or [Pam Buchanan](#)



UNIT HIGHLIGHTS



Campus Activities

Student Appreciation Week was a success. Students received over 500 Nalgene bottles, 300 shirts were tie-dyed, 75 tarot card readings and 50 students received a complimentary breakfast.

The Western Carolinian will have a change in Leadership this upcoming year. Sara Stanley will be the editor for 21-22. LMP will have a full team for the 2021-2022 school year including, a new Virtual Coordinator position.



Auxiliary Enterprises

- Printing and Mailing are working hard to produce commencement materials, among other University “end-of-semester” jobs.
- The Bookstore is accepting Spring textbook rental returns, issuing Summer materials, preparing for a program review and an independent audit/inventory.

161 students have registered for Cat Camp.

- Catamount Dining is preparing for the end of the semester and working to support Auxiliary Enterprises over the summer.
- Facilities projects are underway across Auxiliary Enterprises to prepare for the Fall 2021 semester.



Marketing & Assessment

Carol is working with University Marketing to get updated photos for our resource library.

The new Creative Designer position was filled this month -- thanks to Carol for her diligent service on the search committee.

Jane is serving on the Vice Chancellor for Advancement search committee.

Jane serves on the University Communications and Marketing Council. Communications and Marketing would like your input on Western's brand. Please participate by completing the brand survey link at

https://wcu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9plmJv7piwMNe1o.

Health & Wellness

- EMS held their year-end (socially distanced) awards ceremony, recognizing years of service for each team member as well as officer of the year (Madison Benton) and EMT (Tyler White) of the year. Danny Tizon was recognized for his Community Outreach efforts and Garrison DeJarnette for EMT citizen of the year.
- CRW Director interviews are being held this month.
- Vaccine Clinic has expanded hours for students.
- CRW is seeking feedback from the WCU community on programs, services, and facilities in 2020-2021. Please complete this 1-2 minute survey.

https://wcu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bC9V0VaRTdr



Dean of Students

DSCE has selected a GA for the 2021-22 academic year- Antonio Oakley, Jr.

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority and Kappa Sigma Fraternity received their charters.

Undergraduate Enrollment

- Thanks to the MarCom team and livestream presenters J Hughes, Bryant Barnett, Josh Thompson, and Tammy Fri for a successful event last week.
- The application for first-year students for summer/fall 2021 closed.

Desmond Worrell won the Sigma Phi Epsilon Outstanding Zollinger Senior award.
ICA Graduation celebration was a success---Thank everyone for their support.

- Trina Orr and Brenda Holcombe presented at the NCASF Virtual Conference.
- Orientation has been approved to expand the August session capacity limits, over 1,400 students have registered to date.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE GO



Ed2Go

Take some time and focus on yourself. Ed2Go offers a large variety of courses that you can take from the comfort of your own computer. From Excel to Supervision and everything in between, you are sure to find something to peak your interest. Choose from instructor-led courses or self-paced and take your time to work it into your schedule.

[See What's Offered](#)

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

[COVID-19 RESOURCES](#)



Important Dates

8-14 - Final Exams

14-16 - Commencement Ceremonies

24 - Deadline to reserve your pickup time for lunch on May 26

26 - Division Annual Awards and Lunch



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