

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



Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Hendersonville, NC 28723

April 2021 Newsletter



Chancellor Brown's Message on Fall 2021 Planning

Dear WCU Community,

It has been more than a year since COVID-19 transformed our university and our world. Although initially there was much uncertainty about how to navigate a global pandemic, I have been so impressed by the way our students, faculty, and staff demonstrated their strength, resilience, and creativity. Despite the challenges we faced, WCU continued to exceed all expectations. There is so much to reflect upon - so much to process, so much to understand, and so much change to absorb. Yet, this is also a time to look ahead with hope for the future.

During the past year, there has been no documented transmission of COVID-19 in our classrooms, and that is a direct result of our public health protocols and strong adherence to our [Catamounts Care Community Standards](#). Additionally, vaccinations become available to all members of the WCU community on April 1, which will allow all of our students, faculty, and staff to be vaccinated over the next few months.

With that understanding and as we look ahead, our top priority is to resume a fully in-person residential program for the upcoming fall semester. Residential, in-person instruction, and support services are cornerstones of the WCU mission. We want students, faculty, and staff fully integrated into campus life so that teaching and learning can return to our classrooms, studios, and labs. We also want students engaging in as full a residential life program as possible, taking part in extracurricular and co-curricular activities that allow them to learn and build community.

To accomplish this goal, we are committed to bringing all WCU students, faculty, and staff back to campus for the fall 2021 semester to fully engage our vibrant learning community. In order to best position ourselves to meet this goal, the time for planning is now. To facilitate the planning process and based upon current trends and the guidance currently available to us from the [UNC System](#), you should expect the following:

- Undergraduate and graduate students should plan to be on campus for in-person instruction for the fall 2021 semester.
- Faculty should assume a return to in-person instruction on campus for the coming academic year.
- Staff currently working remotely will be expected to return to campus on a rolling basis, beginning this spring and continuing through the summer, as determined by the operational progress and needs of their division. All staff members should anticipate being back at work on campus no later than the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.

- Any exemption from in-person teaching or onsite work will require appropriate documentation and approval through a formal request process. Contact your supervisor or Human Resources for more information.
- Students, faculty, and staff will be expected to continue to adhere to all health and safety guidelines outlined by the university, the CDC, and local and state health officials to ensure that the transition to being on campus more frequently is done in a safe manner.
- As guidelines evolve, information will be shared with the campus community and updated on the [Catamounts Care](#) webpage.

I know that many of you have continued to work on campus throughout the pandemic and I want you to know that your commitment has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. Thank you for your dedicated service. And thank you to those who have diligently worked remotely to ensure our university remained open and operations continued.

As we plan for our future, I encourage grace, flexibility, patience, and empathy for overall wellbeing as we take steps to fully integrate everyone back to campus. Additional guidance around workforce planning (to include scheduling and leave guidance) will be provided by Human Resources within the next few weeks.

Please be assured that we will continue to closely monitor conditions and continue to set our policies based on guidance issued by the CDC, the University of North Carolina System, and the State of North Carolina.

I am confident that WCU can safely return to the residential, in-person education that has long defined and elevated the campus experience for our students. Thank you for your collaboration and dedication as we pursue this goal.

Sincerely,
Kelli R. Brown, Chancellor



CHANCELLOR'S CORNER
FEATURING
DR. KELLI R. BROWN

MARCH 2021 EDITION
PRESENTED BY:

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY

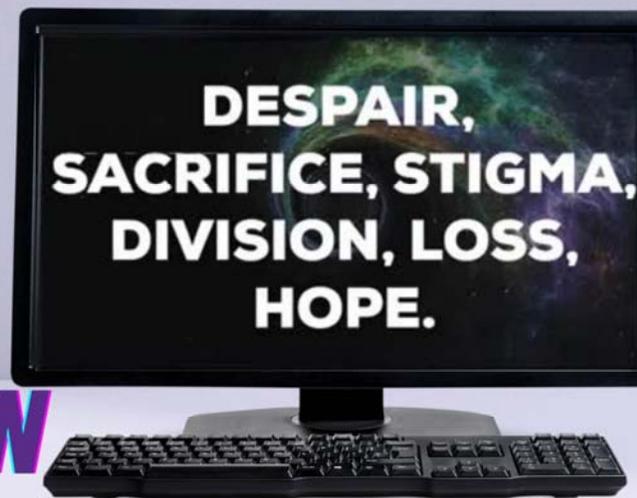


The Western Carolinian

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 our community.

[Online Articles](#)

VIRTUAL TUNNEL OF OPPRESSION



Visit dsa.wcu.edu/tunnel for more information.

Tunnel of Oppression

The Tunnel of Oppression program is an interactive, immersive presentation meant to raise awareness and explore different types of oppression. Started at WCU in 2016, the Tunnel of Oppression is designed and produced through the collaboration of ICA, campus partners, and our amazing students.

Concerns for actors and participants during the pandemic challenged Intercultural Affairs to create a virtual format for the Spring 2021 semester, while still maintaining the impactful and immersive experience of former face-to-face versions. Beginning on **April 6th**, 2021, ICA is proud to bring a Virtual Tunnel of Oppression - PANDEMIC PERSPECTIVES. This tunnel will present oppression through a Covid lens by exploring how the global pandemic has affected marginalized people. Perspectives include Global Impact, Loss, Sacrifice, Division, Stigma, and Despair.

A self-guided virtual tour takes participants through each perspective in a 3D gallery exhibit. The tour finishes in the Room of Hope with links to support resources. Also in the Room of Hope participants can reflect on their experience and emotions in a live, private, zoom breakout room with trained university representatives including trained counselors from Counseling & Psychological Services.

The 3D gallery tour can also be experienced in virtual reality. Just choose the VR option when entering the tunnel on your phone, then watch using VR goggles. Visit Dsa.wcu.edu/tunnel

UNIT HIGHLIGHTS



Campus Activities

- The DCA Marketing Team is hiring a Marketing and Promotions Coordinator and a Videographer/Photographer for the fall semester.
- *Miracle @ WCU* held their Main Event. The fundraising total is tentatively over \$10,600. Congratulations to all on this great achievement!
- LMP will host a new **Superhero** theme week this week. The listing of events is on Engage.
- The first meeting of SGA will be held on Monday, May 3.

Auxiliary Enterprises

- Residential Living is working on a move-out plan for spring and a move-in plan for the fall semester.
- Catamount Dining is preparing for summer projects with several facility upgrades underway.
- Electronic Door Access is kicking off a new upgrade project for doors at the UC, Telco Huts, and Killian Annex.
- Printing and Mailing are conducting a process review to enhance efficiency.



Health & Wellness

- Health Services volumes remain steady with patients experiencing

Marketing & Assessment

COVID symptoms. Early weekdays are the busiest testing days.

- April is Alcohol Awareness Month. *Safe Spring Fair* will be April 12 - 15 on the UC lawn from 12 - 1 pm each day.
- CAPS Doctoral Interns, Olivia and Savana collaborated with SGA to provide outreach on Mindfulness and Self-Compassion.
- CRW has been busy interviewing students for various staff positions.
- Jane attended the Compliance and Risk Enterprise Council meeting.
- Jane is serving on the search for the Vice Chancellor for Advancement position.
- Carol is serving on the University Graphic Designer search committee. They are inviting candidates for interviews.
- Carol attended the University & College Designers Association virtual conference on March 23 - 25.



Dean of Students

- DSCE has officially migrated the *Responsible Computing* Workshop to Canvas. They also welcomed 4 new hearing board members.
- The Xi Sigma chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity is now a recognized student organization and member of the Interfraternity Council.
- ICA partnered with Campus Activities, to host the final Whee Lead speaker in the series.

Undergraduate Enrollment

- Admissions closed the application for first-year students for summer/fall 2021. High School students who wish to apply post-deadline will need to petition to seek approval (admiss@wcu.edu).
- Undergraduate Enrollment directors (Trina, Brenda, Mike, and Josh) teamed with Marketing to host a live stream event in March: 133 views | 117 chat messages.

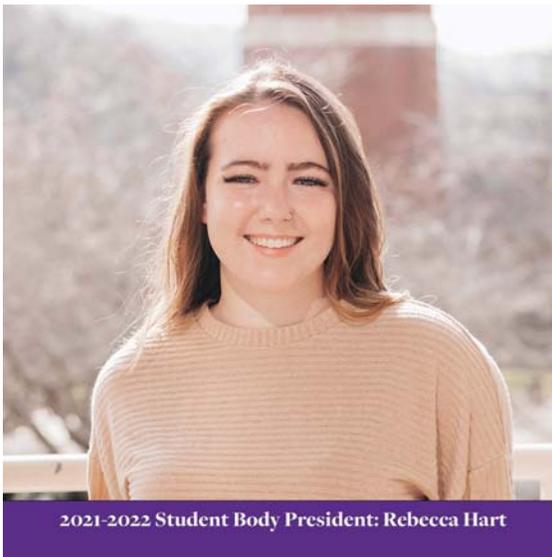
- Dr. Dana Patterson hosted mock interviews for the Lead 444 Capstone course.
- Ryan hosted a program on scholarships and how to pay for college for SCC Early College in Macon County.
- Orientation is awaiting IT approval on a Canvas course for parents and guests.



Student Government Association

Election Results

Rebecca Hart
2021-2022 President-Elect



Susannah Lester
2021-2022 Vice President-Elect



S.A.L.T.

The Student Affairs Leadership Team met on Tuesday, April 6 via Zoom.

SALT Meeting Minutes

Nominate a Colleague

The purpose of the Division of Student Affairs Annual Awards is to recognize the work and contributions of individuals and programs that make our division exceptional. Please consider submitting a nomination for a colleague or program that exemplifies excellence. Nominations will be accepted through **May 1st** and recipients will be announced on **May 26th**.



[See Previous Recipients](#)

[Submit a Nomination](#)

Enrollment Update

Beginning with the Spring 2022 term for Transfer and then Fall 2022 Freshmen, WCU is moving away from the 2-deposit system we've been using to one deposit. We plan to call it an "Enrollment Deposit." There will no longer be a tuition deposit and housing deposit. It does not matter if a new, resident-credit undergraduate plan to live on campus or off. New first-year and transfer students will be required to pay the one fee.

If you have literature, websites, or electronic communication that refer to tuition and/or housing deposits, those will need to be edited. As with any transition, we are looking now to try and smooth all of those out. For the 2022 cycle, the AT and AH coding will not be used. Students will go from their A code to an S code, and you should not see any AT or AH stages once the transition has occurred.

WCU Parents Society

In partnership with Student Affairs, Western Carolina University's Office of Alumni Engagement is excited to present the WCU Parents Society. Western Carolina University's Parents Society's mission is to foster extraordinary relationships between the University and all WCU families.

Western Carolina University's Parents Society promotes and cultivates student success while engaging parents and families with the University. Throughout the year, Parents Society members will have the opportunity to host, attend, and volunteer at several events to improve student and family experiences, deepen family connections with WCU, and help WCU achieve its mission and goals.



If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parents Society, please contact Elizabeth Qualls, Coordinator of Affinity Programs, at equalls@email.wcu.edu or 828-227-3766.

2021 Family Weekend

Family Weekend will be held on September 18, 2021. Visit with families, enjoy campus activities, and cheer on the Catamounts as they face Samford in football. More information will be available on the Family Weekend website soon.



Safe Spring
Fair

GIVEAWAY

& informational tabling event

Join us! April 12th-15th
UC Lawn | 12pm-1pm

WHEE
STAY
HYDRATED

Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY | Health and Wellness
Education

DSA IT Committee Update



Are you having an IT issue? Are you in a zoom meeting or on the phone and you can't call the Help Desk? Don't wait, why not browse the IT Service Catalog? Find the solution to common problems and reported issues as well as other helpful tips.

[IT Service Catalog](#)



arts, crafts &
**STRESS
RELIEF**

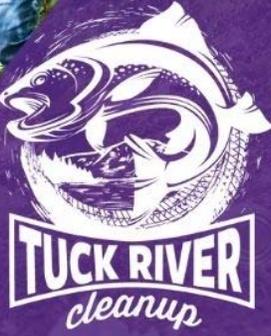
April 23 | 1:00-2:30pm

**Meet us physically distanced in
Intercultural Affairs (ICA) in the UC!**

*Supplies will be provided,
but you're welcome to bring your own.*

**Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY**

Sponsored by Counseling and Psychological Services and Intercultural Affairs



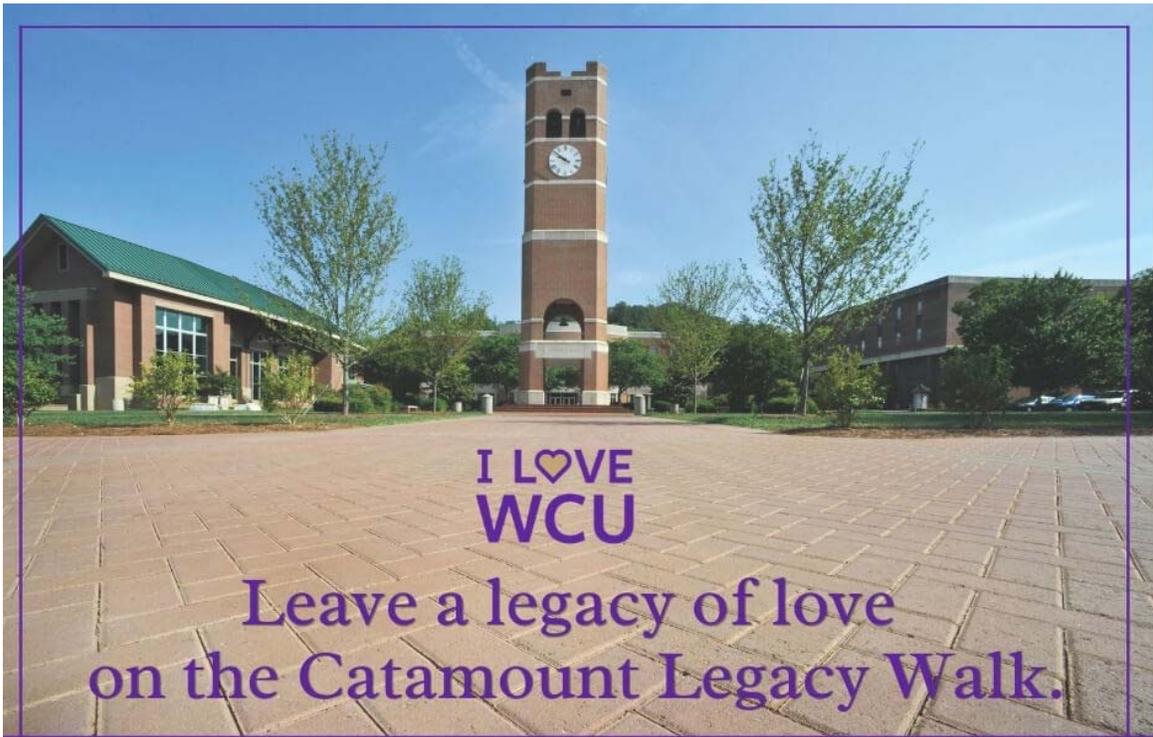
SHOW US HOW YOU CLEAN-UP!

Between April 19-April 23, take a photo of yourself in your chosen location with the trash you collected.

Stop by the CRC front desk to show your trash collection photo. The first 300 participants receive a free t-shirt!

**Don't forget safety protocols including wearing masks, social distancing guidelines, & washing your hands after collecting trash!*

For more info: tuckcleanup.wcu.edu



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

Title(s)

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

April 23 - Faculty & Staff Excellence Awards

May 7 - Last day of classes

May 8-14 - Final Exams

May 14-16 - Commencement Ceremonies



Campus Events



Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723

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

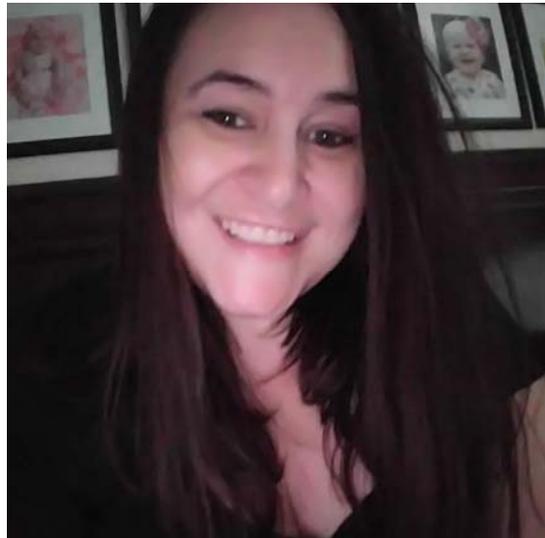
Celebrate the Good News!

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.
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HALF MARATHON & 5K
 presented by
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 Virtual Race Dates: April 5-19

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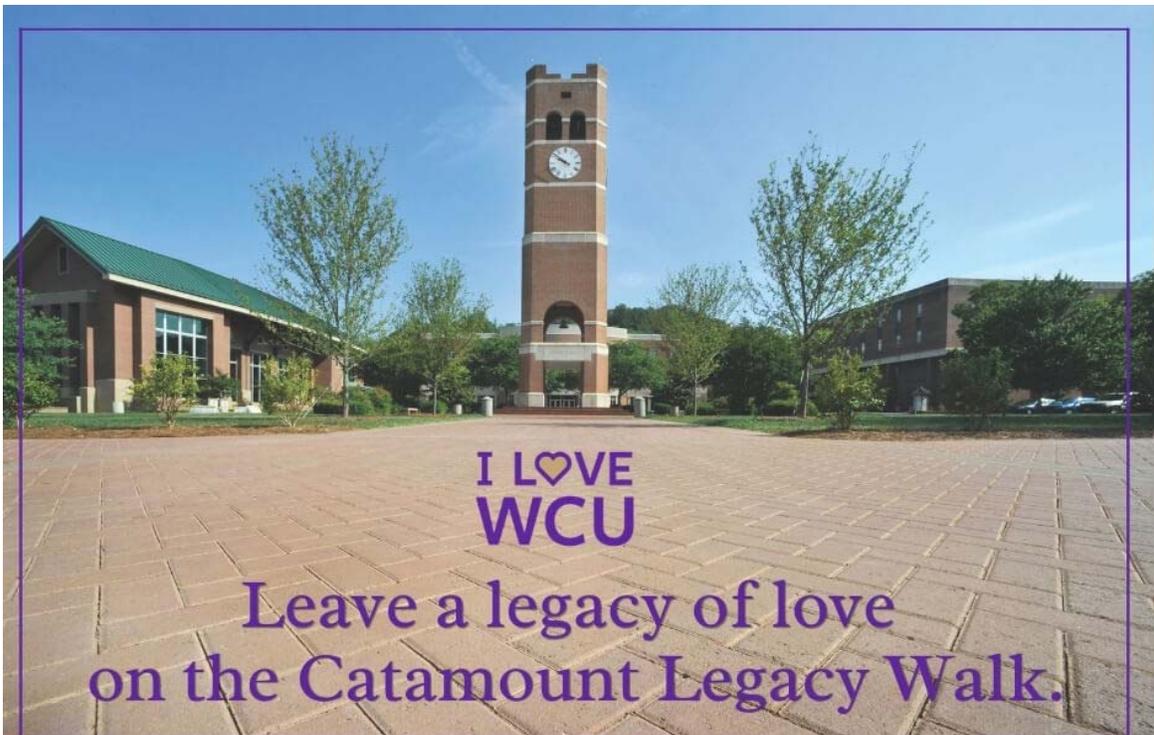
SPONSORED BY:

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

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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.

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

Scan here to access
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safezone

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	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

February 2021 Newsletter



Celebrate

**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

BLACK EXCELLENCE

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

02.21.21 —
02.27.21

SUNDAY, FEB. 21ST
MLK MARCH (UNITY)
Poster Making: 9:30 am /
UC Multipurpose
TIME: March begins at 11 am
LOCATION: Catafountain & the UC

MONDAY, FEB. 22ND
DRESS FOR SUCCESS (ALPHA)
TIME: All day
PHOTO OPT: 5:30 pm / Catafountain
LOCATION: Western Carolina University

TUESDAY, FEB. 23RD
**JEOPARDY:
BSU EDITION (BSU)**
TIME: 7pm-8:30 pm
LOCATION: Zoom:
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/88902197404>

WEDNESDAY, FEB 24TH
**"I HAVE A DREAM"
BOARD (ICA COUNCIL)**
TIME: 6pm-7pm
LOCATION: Zoom:
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/83620936279>

THURSDAY, FEB. 25TH
BLACK LITERACY VOICES
TIME: 12:00pm-1:00pm
LOCATION: For details
email: diversity@wcu.edu

**HOW BLACK IS BLACK
ENOUGH (SGA)**
TIME: 5:30pm-6:30pm
LOCATION: Zoom:
<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/83170696312>

FRIDAY, FEB. 26TH
**COMMITTEE REVIEW AND
SELECTION FOR THE BLACK
EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Details on mlkjr.wcu.edu

SATURDAY, FEB 27TH
**BLACK EXCELLENCE AWARD
CEREMONY (UNITY)**
TIME: 7:06pm
LOCATION: Instagram / MLK Website
Winners will be announced on multiple
media platforms.

mlkjr.wcu.edu



Campus Partners: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.,
Black Student Union, Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, ICA Council, Intercultural
Affairs, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, Student Government Association
DEGREE PLUS & R&R APPROVED

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history. This month we will also take the opportunity to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr. Join Intercultural Affairs, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., ICA Council, Black Student Union, and many others for a weeklong celebration themed “Black Excellence.”

For additional information, contact Intercultural Affairs.



Call for Volunteers to Support Regional COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

Western Carolina University embraces our responsibilities as a regionally engaged university and shares with our communities the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. In support of our region, we have applied to, and have been approved to serve as a regional COVID-19 vaccination site. In addition to

operating our own COVID-19 vaccination clinic, we are partnering with our local health providers to support their efforts to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.

The WCU Vaccination Clinic needs both clinical and non-clinical volunteers. We hope you will consider volunteering your time to assist with the vaccine administration process.

To register as an interested volunteer, please complete the following form: [Vaccination Clinic Volunteer Form](#) (instructions and training will be provided once you are confirmed as a volunteer). For additional information, see our volunteer website: [WCU Vaccination Volunteer Resources](#).

For questions, please contact Dr. Lane Perry (laneperry@wcu.edu). Thank you for supporting our community engagement efforts.

LOVE YOUR BODY WEEK
Feb. 15-19, 2021

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY | Health and Wellness Education

MONDAY, 2/15/21: VIRTUAL INFORMATIONAL SESSION & Q&A WITH SEXUALITY PROFESSIONALS
Join us for sex-positive, inclusive education and answers to any questions you may have about sex and sexuality.
7:00pm | Register on Engage

TUESDAY, 2/16/21: RAD EXPRESS COURSE
This course is designed as a brief overview of the R.A.D. program. This course includes discussion on awareness and risk reduction followed by a self-defense component.
3pm-4pm | Register on Engage

WEDNESDAY, 2/17/21: YOGA
Practice mindfulness through yoga with a body positive focus.
6pm-7pm | CRC STUDIOS 1 & 2 (Free to all wcu affiliates) & IG Live @wcu_campusrec

WEEKLONG:
BODY LOVE BLOG TOPICS: **Monday:** Sexual Health, **Tuesday:** Loving Your Black Body, **Wednesday:** Loving Your LatinX Body, **Thursday:** Loving Your Native American Body, **Friday:** Loving Your Queer Body

BETTERYOU APP PHYSICAL CHALLENGE

Information Technology Committee

Increased Phishing Attempts

The IT Division is witnessing a surge in social engineering activities, especially vaccine-related phishing attempts. It is important that we remain watchful and remember:



- Watch for suspicious sender addresses i.e. helpdesk.wcu.edu@gmail.com
- Watch for generic greetings i.e. "Dear Customer"
- Don't click links embedded in emails unless you are 100% sure of the sender
- If in doubt, contact IT

The next IT Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3rd at 9:00 am via Zoom. Email Donna Reynolds to request a link.



Division Budget Hearings

February 24, 2021

10:00 am Welcome

State-Funded Operations

10:05 am Student Affairs Office
10:20 am Financial Aid and Scholarships
11:00 am New Student Orientation
11:00 am Admissions

Auxiliary Operations

11:30 am Student Community Ethics
11:45 am Residential Living
12:15 pm Lunch
1:00 pm Bookstore
1:15 pm Catamount Dining
1:30 pm Auxiliary Services/Cat Card
1:45 pm Print and Mail Services

Student Activity Fee Funded Operations

2:00 pm Marketing & Assessment
2:15 pm Campus Activities
2:45 pm Break
3:00 pm Campus Recreation & Wellness
3:30 pm Greek Student Engagement
3:45 pm Intercultural Affairs

Health Fee Funded Operations

4:00 pm Health/Counseling and Psychological Services
4:30 pm Comments/Closing

Request the Zoom Link



Campus Activities

- Palin developed tutorial videos for Engage to be used for training new officers, administrators, etc. looks promising. Residential Living has



Auxiliary Enterprises

- Residence Halls opened on February 6. Approximately 2800 residents are expected to live on campus during the spring semester.

requested to acquire its branch within Engage.

- On February 18, LMP will host a virtual Escape Room to accommodate 500 students.
- The DCA Marketing Team is working to increase the production value of virtual programming.
- The Student Government Senate filing closes February 12.

- Starbucks in Courtyard opened with a new look.
- Large monitors were installed at some retail venues at Courtyard and most stations upstairs.
- High-fives and congratulations to Jennifer and the Bookstore staff for all the effort and competence in closing Fall, resetting the store, and delivering Spring.



Health & Wellness

- CRW partnered with Financial Aid to offer Wellness Wednesday: Financial Wellness program.
- Students are utilizing virtual appointments and can schedule same-day appointments with CAP Counselors.
- Kellie and several others within the unit are busy planning the opening of the Regional COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at HHS. Campus updates coming soon.
- BetterYou launches a fitness challenge for February.

Marketing & Assessment

- Budget Hearings are scheduled via Zoom, February 24, 10 - 5 pm.
- Carol held a virtual CANVA Pro tutorial workshop on February 4. If you are interested in this free resource, contact Carol.
- Legacy Walk update was emailed to all donors.
- Jane met with Tiffany Wysocki, Executive Creative Director in University Communications & Marketing to discuss collaborations.



Dean of Students

- Collin and Zarana attended ASCA's virtual conference.
- IFC began their recruitment week process. All events are virtual. The Spring semester Advisor Retreat happened on Saturday, February 6.
- ICA hosted a welcome back bash virtual dance party for Project CARE students on Wednesday, Feb. 10. ICA also participated in the first book club meeting with SCC on Ibram Kendi's, *How to be an Antiracist*.

Undergraduate Enrollment

- Admission offers are up significantly but traditional activities to boost commitments are modified.
- March Open House is TBD. Spring Blitz has been moved from March to April 12-16.
- Orientation has finalized proposed drafts for summer orientation.
- Financial Aid FAFSA application numbers are 14,541 for 2021-22 compared to 14,686 for 2020-2021.

WHEE LEAD Virtual Speaker Series: Leading to Racial Justice

Feb. 25 | 6:30pm
Justin Jones-Fosu >
Introduction to the Inclusive Mindset

DEGREE PLUS

Celebrate the Good News!

Welcome New Staff



Keyona Presha, born and raised in Asheville, NC. She attended North Carolina Central University (2016) for her undergraduate studies and Syracuse University (2017) for her graduate studies. She began her career in the banking industry prior to transitioning into higher education. Keyona has three sisters and 2 brothers. She has a 4-year-old Shih Tzu/toy poodle mix named Bailey who runs her entire life. Keyona enjoys reading, music, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family.

James Hopkins, IT nerd, and [musician](#). Married, usually-quite-happily. He has 7 animals more than he would like (would prefer none, but would accept a LLAMA).

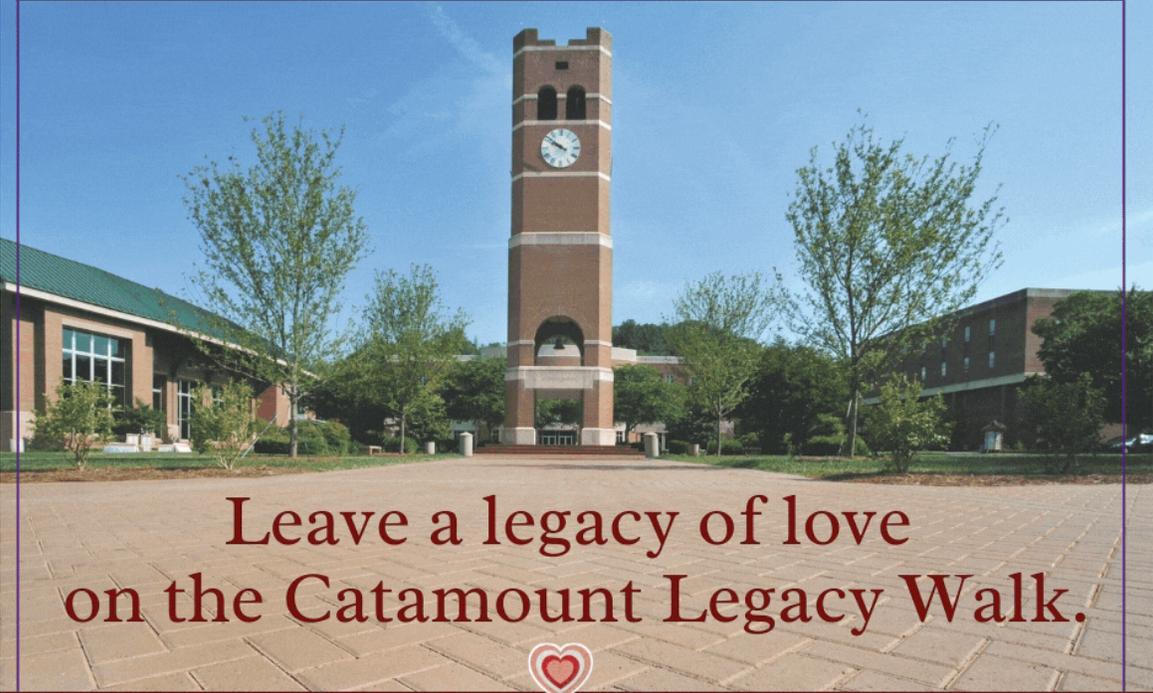
His family is from Peru and has a brother he likes solely due to distance (he lives in VA, which is almost far enough away). James has a kid on the way and is ultimately terrified of how to raise her to not be as bad as he was, growing up.



-
- *Jeff Hughes* participated in Title IX Advisor training with Ivy Gibson.
 - *Jeremiah Haas* will co-host a public webinar alongside the WCU Club Climbing Team and Carolina Climbers Coalition on Tuesday Feb. 16th 6pm-

7pm. The webinar is centered on public access and ethics in outdoor recreation. The zoom link is below.

- o <https://wcu.zoom.us/j/85177856054>



Leave a legacy of love
on the Catamount Legacy Walk.



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 **I LOVE WCU**



2021-2022 Room Selection

Do you know a student who needs on-campus housing for the 2021-2022 Academic Year? Below are some important items to remember:

- 1st Step: Pay the non-refundable housing deposit of \$150 through their MyWCU account
- 2nd Step: Submit a Residence Hall Agreement beginning **February 24, 2021**
- 3rd Step: Select a room during Room Selection which begins in March 2021
- Information will be online at roomselection.wcu.edu
- Information will be sent to your student's Suite box in January
- Emails will be sent to the student's WCU email account
- Being requested as a roommate does not qualify as submitting a Residence Hall Agreement

Students wanting to live on campus should pay their deposit and submit their Residence Hall agreement as early as possible.

Questions? Please call the Department of Residential Living at 828.227.7303.

WHEE BLACK

A Black-Autonomous Community Space for Black WCU Students

JOIN US.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/35jWI3i>

Western Carolina University
Counseling and Psychological Services



safezone

SPRING 2021 WORKSHOP DATES

SAFE ZONE PART 1:
Thursday, Jan. 28th | 2-4pm
Tuesday, Feb. 16th | 5-7pm
Wednesday, March 17th | 10-noon
Tuesday, April 20th | 2-4pm

SAFE ZONE PART 2:
Thursday, Feb. 4th | 2-4 pm
Tuesday, Feb. 23rd | 5-7pm
Wednesday, March 24th | 10-noon
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Optional pronouns	
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COVID-19 RESOURCES

Important Dates

February 24 - I Love WCU Drive-Thru Breakfast

February 24 - Division Budget Hearings

February 25 - Reading Day





Division of Student Affairs
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723

March 2021 Newsletter



Celebrate



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](#).



A video thumbnail for "Chancellor's Corner" featuring Dr. Kelli R. Brown. The image shows a woman with glasses and a purple patterned jacket. Text on the right side of the thumbnail includes "CHANCELLOR'S CORNER" in large white letters, "FEATURING DR. KELLI R. BROWN" in smaller white letters, "FEBRUARY 2021 EDITION" in white letters on a purple background, and "PRESENTED BY:" in white letters. Below the text is the Western Carolina University logo and a circular logo for "THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN" with the tagline "DOCUMENTING HISTORY SINCE 1828". A play button icon is centered over the text.

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

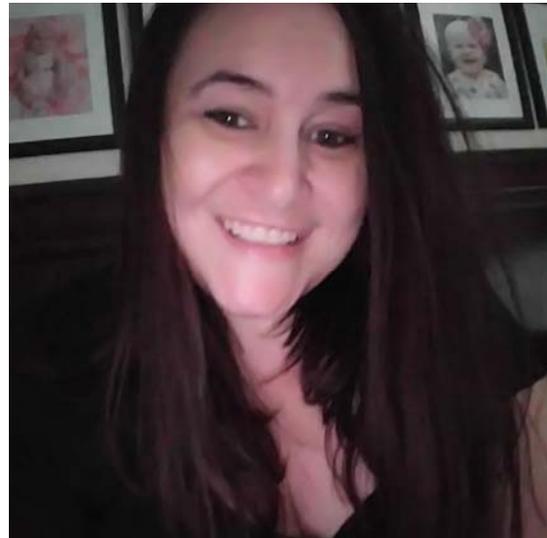
Celebrate the Good News!

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

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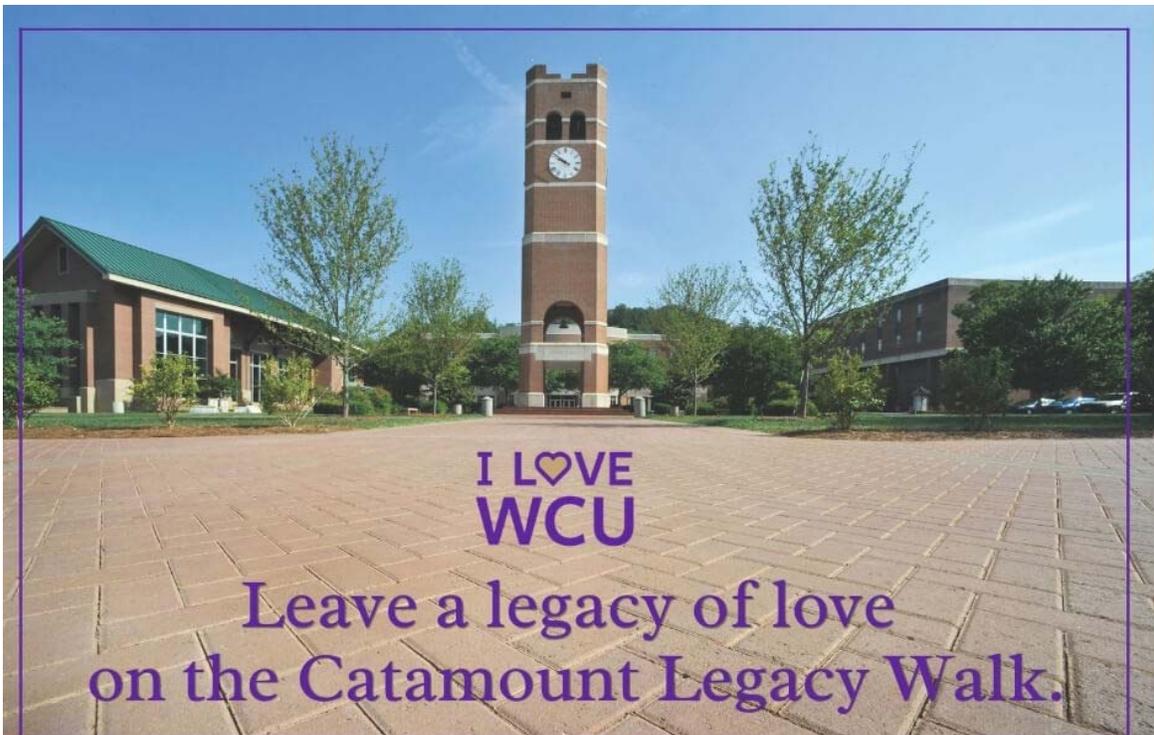
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THOUGHTS OF GRATITUDE

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

CALLS OF LOVE

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