

**Western
Carolina**
UNIVERSITY

Division of
Student Affairs



April 2021





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.

CHANCELLOR'S CORNER
FEATURING
DR. KELLI R. BROWN

MARCH 2021 EDITION
PRESENTED BY:

Western Carolina UNIVERSITY



Free Surveillance Testing

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 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
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.

Covid-19 Vaccine for Students

Western Carolina University's regional COVID-19 vaccine clinic received a delivery of 1,700 Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccines that will be earmarked for students living in on-campus student housing and off-campus shared residences.

The clinic will be open to students first April 7-9.

Students must register for these appointments by calling 828.227.8222.

For additional information please contact the vaccine clinic at 828.227.8222 or vaccinequestions@wcu.edu.



2021 Family Weekend

Join your student in Cullowhee on September 17-19, 2021 for Family Weekend. Visit with your student, enjoy campus activities, and cheer on the Catamounts as they face Samford. More information will be available on the Family Weekend website soon.



Health and Wellness

For the past year, health concerns have largely focused on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Yet this worldwide pandemic has been taxing in so many ways that individuals may be experiencing new physical and/or physiological responses that are not being addressed. Now is a good time to check in with your student about their overall health and determine if any steps are necessary to ensure

minimization of long-term health or academic impacts. You can use the talking points below as a starting place.

- Ask your student if they have been experiencing any of the common physical responses to stress, which includes headaches, muscle tension, fatigue, and sleeplessness.
- Help your student identify the last time they had a physical and talk to them about the importance of routine health checks. Remember that [WCU Health Services](#) is available to serve the healthcare needs of WCU's campus community.
- Talk to your student about the health benefits of getting outside as the weather warms up. Being outside can help lower your blood pressure and resting heart rate, improve your mood, and promotes an opportunity for greater socialization. These are just a few of the benefits!
- During the final part of the semester, academic distress usually becomes more prominent. Remind your student to take regular study/wellness breaks. They can use the following resource for some great ideas to break up a study session:

Study Break Resource

A Recent Message from Chancellor Brown

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 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



Catamount Athletics



Cats Beat the Dogs

[Donnavan Spencer](#) rushed for a career-high 220 yards and two touchdowns, with [Mikai Stanley](#) adding a third score on the ground as Western Carolina built a 21-6 halftime lead and held off The Citadel to earn a 21-14 victory in Southern Conference football action...

[Read the Full Article](#)

Catch Up on Your Favorite Sports Team

[Baseball](#)

[Basketball Women's](#)

[Cross Country Women's](#)

[Golf Men's](#)

[Basketball Men's](#)

[Cross Country Men's](#)

[Football](#)

[Soccer](#)

[Golf Women's](#)

[Tennis](#)

[Softball](#)

[Track & Field Women's](#)

[Track & Field Men's](#)

[Volleyball](#)



Student Government Association

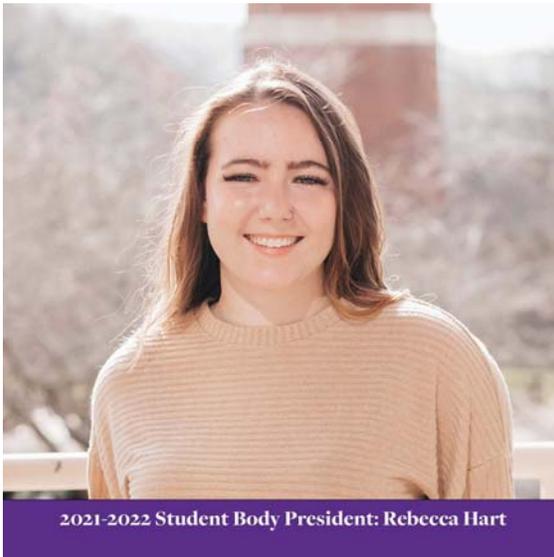
Election Results

Rebecca Hart

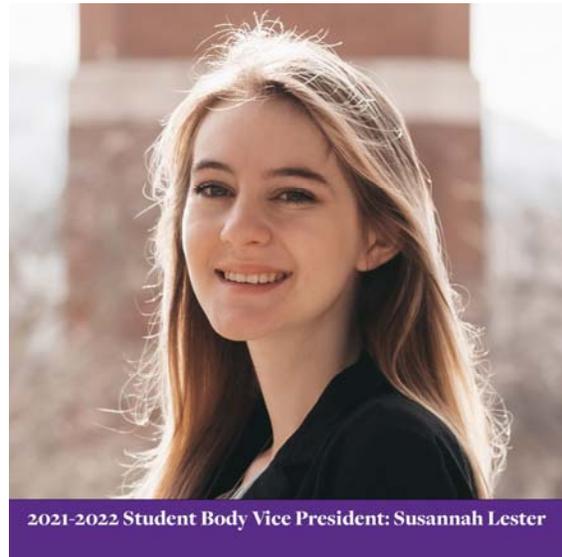
2021-2022 President-Elect

Susannah Lester

2021-2022 Vice President-Elect



2021-2022 Student Body President: Rebecca Hart



2021-2022 Student Body Vice President: Susannah Lester

The following individuals will serve as 2021-2022 Senator Elects

Angela Cambridge

Anna Shronce

Baily Beebout

D Germain

Diana Gabriel

Diego Valenzuela

Ethan Williams

Evelyn Voegeli

Harold Sarmiento

Isabella McMahan

James Pointer

Jonathan Dalton

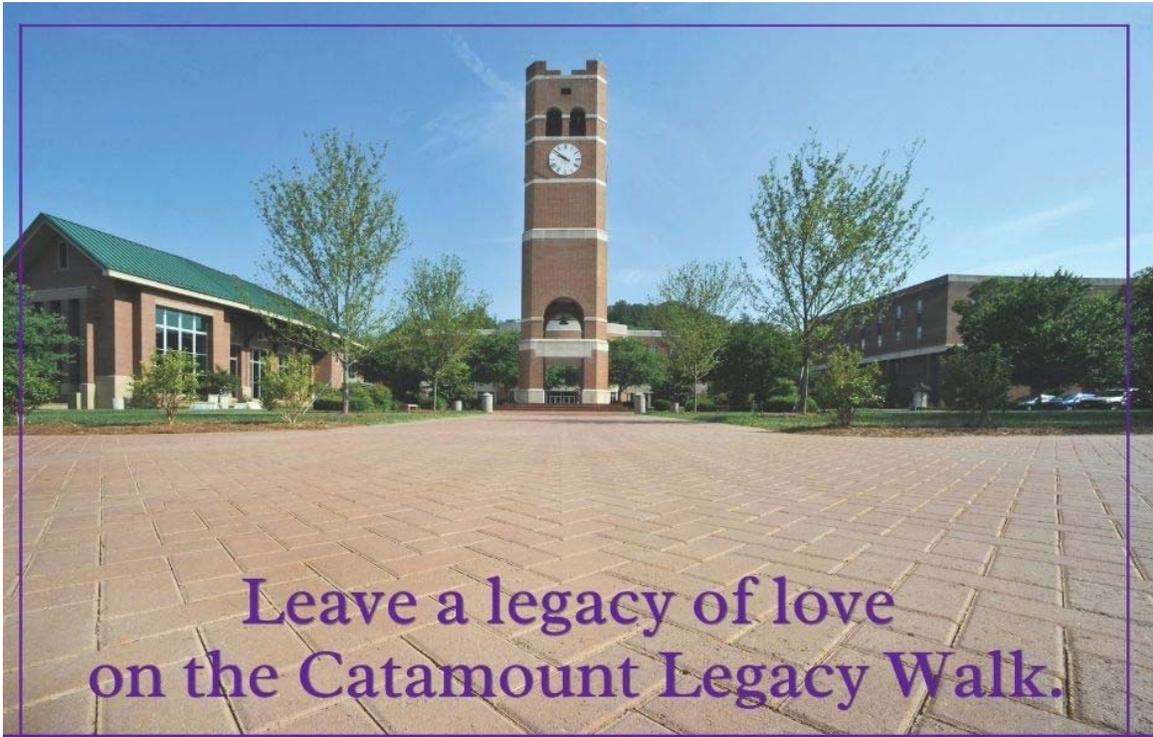
Kaleb Watson

Madeline King

Malaika Newsome

Olivia D'Angelo

Rae Suber



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



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.

Parent Society Interest Form

Important Dates

May 7 - Last day of classes

May 8-14 - Final Exams

May 14 - Doctorate & Masters Commencement Ceremony

May 15 - College of Education & Allied Professions, David Orr Belcher College of Fine & Performing Arts, and College of Arts & Sciences Commencement Ceremonies

May 16 - College of Business, College of Engineering & Technology, and College of Health & Human Sciences Commencement Ceremonies



Campus Events

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