Message from Chancellor Brown
Dear Faculty and Staff,

The State Employees Combined Campaign allows state employees the opportunity to contribute to charitable organizations through one annual campaign. The campaign assures that state employees have the opportunity to support charitable organizations that are committed to improving the quality of life in North Carolina, the nation, and the world. The State Employees Combined Campaign is a direct way to help those in need; sustain local, national, and international health, educational, environmental, and social service organizations; and make a meaningful contribution to your community. Our support for the campaign and our local charities underlines our mission as a regionally engaged university.

The Campaign for 2021 will be headed by Coleman Leopard, Chancellor’s residence manager, and program specialist. He will be assisted by Ryan Cameron, Technology Commons manager, instructional technology and desktop, who will lead the campaign next year.
Your support will add to the financial strength of the programs sponsored by the campaign and will make life better for many people in our region and state.

Sincerely,

Kelli R. Brown
Chancellor

**Homecoming 2021**
"Roaring with Pride"

Congratulations to Sydney Spivey, a Junior from Gainsville, FL, and Colton Graham, a Junior from Franklin, NC, who were crowned Homecoming King and Queen on Saturday, October 9.
Campus Master Plan

WCU is in the process of updating its 2014 Campus Master Plan and will hold two virtual forums to allow for public feedback.

Faculty, staff, students, neighbors, and other interested parties are invited to learn more about this important revision to the university’s planning document that guides the physical development of its Cullowhee campus.

Two forums will be held to share WCU’s need for an update to its campus master plan, and allow for public feedback.

The dates for the forums are:

- Oct. 26, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
  at [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87084192045](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87084192045) (Meeting ID: 870 8419 2045)
- Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
  at [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82762416951](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82762416951) (Meeting ID: 827 6241 6951)

The latest campus master plan can be seen by visiting [info.wcu.edu/masterplan](http://info.wcu.edu/masterplan). Those who attend the forum will be able to access and provide feedback after the event via a link that will be provided at the forum.
The 2021 – 22 Holiday Ornament is now available for purchase. Manufactured by incredibly talented WCU engineering students, this ornament was created in partnership with the Cherokee Studies Program and Cherokee Center Staff. The Cherokee syllable Ꮻ is a symbol of place for the Cherokee people. The ornament was made in honor and recognition of the sacred homelands of the Cherokee people, who once resided in the town known as “Two Sparrows Place,” which was located on what is now the campus of Western Carolina University.

Proceeds from the holiday ornament sale will help support scholarships for currently enrolled or accepted students who are children of SHRA and EHRA non-faculty employees and also Staff Senate initiatives.

Order An Ornament
Student Affairs Leadership

The Student Affairs Leadership Team met on Tuesday, October 12 via Zoom.
DON’T MISS THE ANNUAL
31% OFF SALE*
AT THE WCU BOOKSTORE

THURSDAY—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28-30

*Excludes textbooks, regalia & Biltmore House tickets
Unit Highlights

Campus Activities
- 2021-22 Cat Camp Coordinators have been selected. Congratulations to Estefany Gordillo-Rivas, Abigail Stancil, and Aidan Tysinger!
- Congratulations to Alyssa Persina, this year's winner for Western's Got Talent held during Family Weekend.
- On October 13, Lyz Ruggiero is hosting a Registered Student Orientation (RSO) Leadership Mixer to develop RSO connections and encourage collaboration.
- DCA hired an undergraduate student intern for Leadership Programs. Welcome, Ben Helms!

Campus Services
- Residential Living has communicated with the fall 2021 first-year class that per, Policy 96, they will be required to live in on-campus housing during their second academic year.
- Catamount Dining needs more non-student help to have flexibility during daytime hours.
- Catamount Dining plans to open the Lodge at Brown Hall over Fall Break and WhichWich will open for lunch after Fall Break.
- The Bookstore will hold its annual 31% off sale beginning October 28 - 30.
Health & Wellness

- The Conference Room and Meeting Room in CRC have ShareLink capability, meaning that groups can bring their own devices and present from that device on their projector.
- CAPS volumes remained consistent: 176 clients were seen for 190 attended appointments. This is about 27% higher than utilization at the same point in time last year.
- The FDA and CDC approved the Pfizer booster shot for patients meeting the criteria. The booster shot is available for self-scheduling at the COVID Vaccine clinic at Madison Hall.
- There are a total of six Catamount Wellness Ambassadors, and they are still hiring!

Marketing & Assessment

- 2021-2022 Department CIRs have been submitted to Jane. Jane is working with Amy Strickland, Director of Assessment, to pilot a new review process this year.
- The One Book Committee is soliciting book nominations for preparation for the 2022-23 campus theme - Mental Health. Use this Qualtrics link to submit nominations: https://wcu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8odGoosD9fSN89g
- The Blue Ribbon Task Force on Inclusive Excellence held its inaugural meeting on September 29.
- University Communications hired a new social media manager, Jess Mizzi.
Dean of Students

- ICA hosted the first Martin Luther King, Jr. planning meeting for the 2022 campus celebrations.
- ICA co-sponsored the Global Black Studies Hispanic Heritage Month webinar featuring Dr. Eddie Bonilla.
- GSED reported 78 women joined CPC organizations during formal recruitment. IFC shared 70 men accepted bids so far.
- Zach Williams is currently serving as Interim Assistant Director in DSCE.
- Congratulations to Zarana Adial, she recently got married!

Undergraduate Enrollment

- The application fees for undergraduates and graduates will be waived for the 2022 entering terms.
- In collaboration with Marketing and Communication, the Admission envelope and packet have been redesigned.
- WCU and SCC financial aid are partnering to host FAFSA Day. FAFSA Day is Saturday, October 23, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Scholarship Recognition Luncheon will be held on October 28.
- Fall Open House dates are October 30 and November 20.

DSA IT Committee
The IT Division will perform system maintenance to ensure the reliability and safety of the data center. Work will begin on Saturday, October 23, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. During this time, system access may be sporadic or unavailable throughout the day.

Please contact the IT Help Desk or visit the Technology Commons if you have any questions or concerns. You can also check the status of your requests at http://ithelp.wcu.edu/.
WCU will continue to emphasize its Catamounts Care community standards to prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout the academic year. We also encourage faculty, staff, and students to follow current CDC guidance with respect to recommendations on face coverings in other circumstances and locations. Current CDC guidance recommends face coverings in indoor locations for ALL individuals in areas with high or substantial transmission of COVID-19. CDC guidance is subject to
change based on current conditions, and the University may alter its face-covering requirements as needed.

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

October 1 - FAFSA opened for 2022 - 2023

October 18 -22 - Fall Break, no classes

October 21 - State Employees Association of North Carolina (SEANC) Drive-Thru Breakfast, 7 - 9 a.m.

October 11 - 29 - NC State Health Plan Enrollment