Drop-in advising, registration, graduation all planned

It's a busy time of year with graduation festivities and registration for summer and fall semesters. If you're a continuing student in need of academic advisement, drop-in advising will be held on April 10-11 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 332 with Dr. Sheree Josephson, chair of the Department of Communication. You are welcome to show up without an appointment. You can also schedule an appointment with your academic adviser. If you encounter any registration problems or can't get into the classes you need, please contact Sonja Green at sonjagreen@weber.edu.

This is the April edition of the monthly email to majors. At least once a month during the regular school year, we will email you to let you know about meetings of student organizations, guest speakers, important deadlines, opportunities, student and faculty achievements—and more. If you have information you’d like us to distribute, please email department chair Sheree Josephson at sjosephson@weber.edu.

What’s Happening

April

- April 4: Mideast correspondent for Newsweek, 10:30 a.m., Wildcat Theater
- April 4: Meeting of Hispanic, black journalists, 3 p.m., Signpost offices
- April 4: “Shark Tank” survivor, 5:30-7 p.m., Union Building Sky Room
- April 8: Humane Society fund-raiser (see information below)
- April 7-10: National Debate Coaches Association tournament, hosted by WSU
- April 10: Fall Semester registration opens
- April 10: Drop-in advising with chair, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., EH 332
- April 11: Drop-in advising with chair, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., EH 332
- April 20: Speech Showcase, 7 p.m., EH 229
- April 21: Film Showcase, 7 p.m., Wildcat Theater
- April 28: Graduation

Student News

11 students graduating with master’s in Professional Communication
Congratulations to the 11 students graduating with a master’s degree in Professional Communication. Cami Ann Sabin was recognized as the outstanding graduate. The graduates include Angie R. Burton, Elizabeth Dela Cruz, Lucas T. Eddy, Colleen J. Henstra, Usman Khalid Javid, Melina Myers, Ann Parry, Amber Robson, Cami Ann Sabin, Jazmine Ellesse Thompson and Amanda Paige Wray.

61 students graduating with bachelor’s, associate’s in Communication
Congratulations to the 55 students graduating with a bachelor’s degree in Communication and the six students graduating with an associate’s degree in Communication. The graduates include:
Outstanding graduates in Communication to be honored
The outstanding graduates have been selected for the Department of Communication for the 2016-2017 academic year. They will be honored at a ceremony on April 20.

- **Academic Achievement:** Meghan Montecillo
- **Civic Advocacy:** Misty Tippets
- **Digital Media:** Matthew Havertz
- **Interpersonal & Family Communication:** Dawn O'Brien and Chelsey Conner
- **Multimedia Journalism:** Jasmine Pittman
- **Organizational Communication:** Bethany Rasmussen
- **Public Relations & Advertising:** Thais Stewart

22 to be inducted into national honor society for Communication
Twenty-two Communication majors will be inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for Communication, in a ceremony on April 20. To be eligible for Lambda Pi Eta, students must (1) complete 60 semester credit hours, (2) have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all courses taken, (3) complete the equivalent of 12 semester credit hours in Communication, (4) have a minimum GPA of 3.25 for all Communication courses, (5) currently be enrolled as a student in good standing, as determined by the institution's policies, and (6) rank within the highest 35 percent of one's class in general scholarship. The inductees include Emilee Atkinson, Rachel Badali, Daniel Baerga, Hayley Biddle, George Black, Benjamin Brandley, Eric Davenport, Natalie Hales, Melissa Jensen, Dax Johnson, Madison Kaufman, Jinelle Lumpris, Tonya Minson, Tawnie Moore, Nina Morse, Bethany Rasmussen, Megan Roessler, Dallas Terry, Madelaine Tesori, Kailey Thompson, Chase Van Orden, Jennifer Weight.

Two students to graduate with Honors in Communication
Two students will graduate with Honors in Communication. To graduate with Honors, students must earn a 3.75 GPA in the Communication major and have a 3.5 GPA overall. They must also present original research at a conference. They will be honored at the awards ceremony on April 20. They include:

- Mathew Havertz, Digital Media: “Call-to-action invitations which effectively increase total subscribers on YouTube”
- Jennifer Weight, Organizational Communication: “Employee motivation and the impact of incentive”
Six undergraduate Communication majors present research findings

Six Communication majors presented their findings on undergraduate research projects at various conferences in 2016-2017. These six students will be honored at the annual awards ceremony for the Department of Communication on April 20. The students and their projects include:

- **National Conference on Undergraduate Research:** Maedelaine Tesori, "Project success: Barriers and concerns related to health disparities in the African-American community in Utah"
- **Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research:** Bailey Paige Lefthand, “Facebook and college transition”
- **WSU Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium and Celebration:** Ben Brandley, “Nonverbal cues indicating stress in law enforcement”; Hayley Harris, “Instagram hashtags used as speech codes by young LDS mothers”; Matthew Havertz, “Which call-to-action invitations effectively increase total subscribers on YouTube?”; Jennifer Weight, “Employee motivation and the impact of incentive”

Signpost wins top prize for non-daily student newspaper

The Signpost, Weber State University's student news organization, came away with the top prize for non-daily student newspapers at the Region 9 Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Awards, held March 25 in Salt Lake City. The three-day-a-week newspaper beat out Brigham Young University to win Best All-Around Non-Daily Student Newspaper. BYU's The Universe, which publishes a print edition weekly, was a finalist behind The Signpost. In addition, Editor-in-Chief Charles Bowker won the top prize for editorial writing for a series of commentaries he penned on open government. Two other Signpost staffers were honored at the ceremony.

Spanish reporter Rosa Arambula was a finalist for general column writing among newspapers at large schools. Her columns explored the place of a Latina in the university and the world. Photo editor Emily Crooks had two photo illustrations honored as finalists: the cover of the Orientation issue, which featured a collage of Signpost photos overlaid by a student reading a book, and an illustration for breast exams that used a model wearing a hospital gown. Student news organizations—print, broadcast and online—compete annually in the Mark of Excellence. The Region 9 competition includes 13 colleges and universities from Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming. Winners at the regional level move on to compete nationally.

Communication majors, organizations, friends nominated for Crystal Crest

Communication majors, student organizations and friends of the department received nominations for Weber State’s annual Crystal Crest awards. Nominated students and groups include:

- **Excellence in Inclusivity:** Lola Moli, Haille van Patten
- **Registered Organization of the Year:** The Signpost, Studio 76
- **Friend of Student Award:** Matt Gerrish, Debbi Murphy
- **Woman of the Year:** Cydnee Green, Danielle Collier, Kailey Thompson
- **Wildcat Achievement:** Tawnie Moore, Marissa Questereit, Taylor Winnie
- **Talent of the Year:** Tawnie Moore
- **Man of the Year:** Felix Bacan

Public Relations and Advertising student to speak at commencement

Public Relations and Advertising student Thais Stewart, who also has a major in Political Science and a minor in Portuguese, has been selected as student speaker for the Spring 2017 commencement ceremony. Stewart is also one of the longest-serving members of Weber State’s chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America and is completing her tenure as chapter president. This is the third time since 2013 that a Communication student has been selected to deliver the student address at commencement.

Debate team makes Sweet 16 of national tournament
Weber State Debaters Kinsee Gaither and Misty Tippets made the Sweet 16 at the 71st National Debate Tournament at the University of Kansas. They defeated Trinity University on a 4-1 decision. In the octafinals, they were bested by the University of California-Berkeley on a 4-1 decision. Gaither and Tippets is the first all-woman team from WSU to compete in the elimination rounds of the NDT, and the first Weber State team to appear in the Sweet Sixteen round since 1991. Tippets is only the third Weber State debater to qualify for the National Debate Tournament four times in four years.

Editor in chief, other Signpost editors named for 2017-2018 academic year
Weber State senior Cole Eckhardt will take the reins of The Signpost in June for the 2017-18 school. Eckhardt, an archaeology and geoscience major, has served on The Signpost's copy desk for two years, the past year as copy desk chief. Senior Cydnee Green, a multimedia journalism major, will join Eckhardt's team as managing editor, overseeing The Signpost's digital presence. Green has been the sports editor for the past year. Other Signpost editors selected for the 2017-18 school year are Ashton Corsetti, news editor; Harrison Epstein, sports editor; Daniel Ray, assistant sports editor; Samantha Bunderson, arts & entertainment editor; Ezekiel Lee, science & technology editor, Leah Higginbotham, science & technology assistant editor; Abby VanEss, photo editor; Trevor Billings, Spanish editor; Alexandra Harris, copy desk chief; and Maddy VanOrman, graphics editor.

WSU chapters of Hispanic, black journalists to meet Tuesday
The Weber State University chapters of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and the National Association of Black Journalists will hold its final meeting of the school year at 3 p.m. April 4 in The Signpost offices on the fourth floor of the Shepherd Union. All interested students are invited to attend.

Studio 76 selects executive producer for 2017-2018
Studio 76 has chosen a new executive producer for 2017-2018. Mitch Lawson will be taking the reigns as the new student leader of the Studio 76 production team. Lawson has spent the last year on the team as the live event director in charge of streaming soccer, volleyball and softball games. As the new EP, Lawson will choose his incoming staff this week.

Announcements

Speech Showcase to highlight best student speakers from Comm. 1020
The Department of Communication will sponsor the Speech Showcase on Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m. in the lecture hall in Elizabeth Hall, Room 229. This event will recognize the best speeches from the Comm. 1020 (Public Speaking) classes. It will provide an opportunity for the Top 5 finalists to present their speeches to faculty, administration, students and the overall university community. Comm. 1020 classes in Spring 2017 will select one student to represent the class in the competition. Students selected will be recognized as semifinalists. Each semifinalist will receive a $25 Bookstore gift certificate and will have the opportunity to present their speech to a faculty selection committee on Selection Saturday on April 15. The faculty selection committee will then choose five finalists who will receive a $150 cash award and will be asked to present their speeches during the April 20 Speech Showcase evening. For any questions about the Speech Showcase, contact either Alex Lancaster at alancasater@weber.edu or Brent Warnock at brentwarnock1@weber.edu. Alan Hall, founder and chairman of MarketStar, will be the guest dignitary during the Speech Showcase. He will be honored for his contributions to public speaking and will lead the audience in the Weber Speaks anthem.

‘Shark Tank’ survivor to speak to public relations students
Have you ever watched “Shark Tank”? Now is your chance to hear from someone who survived. Join Ogden Peak Communications this Tuesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Sky Room in the Shepherd Union Building for “Show your Face: communicating that you care about more than just the bottom line through corporate social responsibility.” This event will feature speakers from Utah's Mission Belt who were funded through Shark Tank. To learn more, see https://orgsync.com/148098/forms/252206. Speakers will also include representatives from Coalatree and the WSU's Center for Leadership in Corporate Social Responsibility.
Student Film Showcase to highlight student work
Nine short student films will be shown at the 2017 Student Film Showcase on Friday, April 21, from 7-9 p.m. in the Wildcat Theater in the Union Building. The films were made in a class taught by Andres Orozco. Admission is free. The films and the student filmmakers include:

- Comes around: Nathan Stock
- Daydreamer: Nicholas Asay
- Fake-edge lips: Caleb Henney
- Faulty 101: Crystal Dawn Snow
- Ian: Logan Malan
- Topo and the pizza: Dave Rogers
- Waiting game: Valerie Sterrett
- What you make it: Emily Elredge

Students hosting concert to benefit Humane Society of Northern Utah
Weber State students will host a concert to benefit the Humane Society of Northern Utah following an all-day adoption event on April 8. The adoption event will run from noon until 5 p.m. The concert fundraiser will begin at 5 p.m. and run until 8 p.m. This will take place at Ken Garff Honda at 950 W. Riverdale Road in Riverdale. There will be food from Bella's Fresh Mexican Grill, live bands and K9 unit demonstrations. Donations are recommended but not required. All proceeds will go to the HSNU. For more information, follow @WeberStatePawSquad on Facebook.

Newsweek’s Mideast correspondent to speak on Syria
Janine DiGiovanni, the Mideast correspondent for Newsweek, will give a talk on Syria at the Holocaust Remembrance event on April 4 at 10:30 a.m. in the Wildcat Theater.

Sports Multimedia Journalism track now available
The Sports Multimedia Journalism track within the Multimedia Journalism major is now available. Students interested in becoming sports journalists should see Jean Norman, multimedia journalism adviser: jeannorman@weber.edu.

Special topics course ‘Innovations in Media’ to be offered in fall
A special topics course called "Innovations in Media" will be offered in fall. The course, Comm. 4500, will include demonstrations of drone photography, virtual reality, Google Tools and other innovations that are changing the media world landscape. Students will take on a project of their choosing that pushes the boundaries of media innovation. It will count as a Communication elective for majors. For more information, contact Jean Norman, jeannorman@weber.edu.

Broadcast news reporting class to be offered Fall Semester
Broadcast News Reporting and Production, Comm. 3780, will be offered only in fall starting in 2017-18. For multimedia journalism majors, this is a required course, and they need to plan their course schedules. Students who take News Reporting and Writing, Comm. 3130, in the same semester as Broadcast News Reporting and Writing may cover the same events for both classes and create multimedia journalism packages for their portfolios. For more information, contact Stacey Tyler at staceycragun@weber.edu.

The Buzz app gives students access to latest campus, local, national and world news
The Buzz: Weber State University, a new digital resource, is available to students, faculty and staff for download through both iTunes or Google Play. Weber State has partnered with USA TODAY for a number of years to provide a selection of newspapers to students through the Collegiate Readership Program. However, the consumption of print news is on the decline and reaching the most-connected and
tech-savvy generation with reliable news and information is a real challenge. The Buzz: Weber State University is a first-of-its-kind news app that gives students access to the latest national, world, local, and campus news they care about in one app. Students are able to:

- Examine multiple opinions and perspectives.
- Create conversations and promote a sharing of ideas within their community and beyond.
- Access the latest headlines from The Signpost and USA TODAY, stream live radio from KWCR, and view videos from Studio 76.
- Receive the latest career advice for use in their prospective field.
- See their lives in a global context and relate major stories to specific course-work.

**National Debate Coaches Association national championship hosted by WSU**
Weber State Debate will host the 12th annual National Debate Coaches Association national championship in April 2017. The event will bring 600-plus people to Ogden during 2017, the centennial year for debate at WSU. Participants will include the elite tier of high school debaters in the United States. This event is expected to insert half a million dollars in the community. To visit the hosting website for the event, visit [http://www.ndca2017.com/](http://www.ndca2017.com/).

**Faculty Achievements**

**Dr. Ty Sanders to retire after 26-year career at Weber State**
Dr. Ty Sanders will retire after 26 years of teaching and advising KWCR at Weber State University. Dr. Sanders came to WSU in 1991 after an 18-year career in radio and television news. In his first career, he did “a little bit of everything” from all-night DJ to working as vice president in charge of the news operations for a small chain of television stations in the Northwest. At WSU, Sanders established many of the audio and video classes in the Communication Department. He served as chair of the department from 2000 to 2003. Sanders spent much of his efforts working directly with student organizations, establishing the Studio 76 program for students interested in video journalism and serving as adviser to KWCR-FM, the campus radio station for more than 20 years, and as advisor to the campus newspaper, The Signpost. In the four years leading up to the 2002 Salt Lake Olympics, he served as director of the International Olympic Broadcast Student Training Program. He trained more than three dozen students who worked full time during the Olympics, broadcasting the games all over the world. Sanders also served as the chief broadcast liaison officer during the games at the Snowbasin downhill skiing events.

**Faculty members to make documentary film in Mozambique**
Faculty member Drew Tyler and adjunct faculty member Stacey Tyler will travel to Mozambique in May with the Global Community Engaged Learning program to produce a documentary about the work of Weber State students in Boane, Mozambique. Students will construct two classrooms and a library for the Eduardo Mondlane School for elementary-aged children. Participants will also assist with education programs at the Women’s Center that was built by Weber State students in 2014. The Tylers will spend about 10 days shooting and interviewing participants on location to tell their stories.

**Faculty members presenting panel at Broadcast Education Association meeting**
Faculty members Robin Haislett and Drew Tyler will present a panel at the annual meeting of the Broadcast Education Association in Las Vegas at the end of April. It is called "Making accessibility accessible: Designing accessible course material and teaching students about accessibility."

**Steimel’s article on volunteering published in online version of Voluntas**
Dr. Sarah Steimel’s article titled “Skills-based volunteering as both work and not work: a tension-centered examination of constructions of ‘volunteer’” has come out in *Voluntas*, an interdisciplinary journal on volunteering scholarship, online. The article will soon be published in the print edition.

**Seven faculty members nominated for Master Teacher award**

Seven faculty members in the Department of Communication received a nomination for Master Teacher in the annual Crystal Crest awards. They are Dr. Michael Ault, Dr. Anne Bialowas, Dr. Nicola Corbin, Dr. Jean Norman, Dr. Colleen Packer, Drew Tyler and Brent Warnock.

**Two Communication professors present at WSU Faculty Symposium**

Faculty Dr. Jean Norman and Dr. Alexander Lancaster presented at the 2017 Faculty Symposium March 21 in the Shepherd Union. Both projects grew out of a Teaching and Learning Forum semester-long course on Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Lancaster compared a strict no-cell-phone policy to a lax cell phone policy in equivalent public speaking classes. Norman reported on a project to bring training to community journalists in a rural community.

**Get Involved**

- **The Signpost:** Contact Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- **Studio 76/Wildcat ONE:** Contact Drew Tyler at drewtyler@weber.edu.
- **KWCR 88.1 Weber FM:** Contact Robin Haislett at robinhaislett@weber.edu.
- **WSU Debate:** Contact Omar Guevara at oguevara@weber.edu.
- **Ogden Peak Communication, PRSSA:** Contact Dr. Nicola Corbin at nicolacorbin@weber.edu.
- **Society of Professional Journalists:** Contact Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- **Departmental Honors:** Contact Dr. Susan Hafen at shafen@weber.edu.
- **Lambda Pi Eta:** Contact Dr. Cynthia Bishop at cynthiabishop@weber.edu.