Scholarship, graduation sign-off deadlines are near

February means it’s time for graduating seniors to apply for graduation and for continuing students to apply for financial aid and scholarships.

This is the February 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

February
- Feb. 3: College scholarship and fellowship applications due
- Feb. 7: Black, Hispanic journalists meeting, 3 p.m., The Signpost
- Feb. 14: Get a professional headshot, see below
- Feb. 20: Presidents Day, no class

March
- March 1: Major Fest. Find Communication’s booth.
- March 6-10: Spring Break
- March 24-25: Society of Professional Journalists conference, SLC

April
- April 3: Summer Semester registration opens
- April 7: National Debate Coaches Association tournament, hosted by WSU
- April 10: Fall Semester registration opens
- April 28: Graduation

Student News

Weber State debaters posting top results in national tournaments
Weber State debaters Misty Tippets and Kinsee Gaither placed in the Sweet 16 of the University of Southern California tournament in early January. They beat Harvard in the first sudden-death elimination round with a 3-0 victory. Tippets is a Communication major while Gaither is majoring in philosophy. Four other WSU debaters had outstanding finishes in January tournaments. Henri Phan and David Astel placed in the Elite 8 of the junior varsity division of the California State University-Fullerton tournament. Crystal Hall and David Rawle placed in the Final 4 of the Southwestern College Tournament. They lost narrowly on a 2-1 decision to Gonzaga University. WSU debaters are coached by Communication faculty members Omar Guevara and Ryan Cheek.
Internship turns into full-time job as multimedia developer at WSU
David Rodriguez, a Digital Media student, has been hired as a multimedia developer at Weber State University. His internship required of all Communication majors turned into this full-time job working. Rodriguez told Dr. Susan Hafen, internship director, “I just wanted to say thank you. Going through the Communication program was one of the best things I've done in my life.” He will work with Alan Ferrin, an alum of the Department of Communication.

Communication students named to dean's list for Fall 2016
Scott Sprenger, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, announced that the following Communication majors made the dean’s list for Fall 2016. Alan Vogel, Alex Flitton, Alex Morrell, Alexis Rague, Amanda Wray, Ashley Bigbie, Ashton Corsetti, Aubrey Cox, Bailey Lefthand, Benjamin Brandley, Bethany Rasmussen, Brielle DuBois, Brooke Facer, Brooke Minnoch, Bryan Lay, Caitlyn Johnston, Caitlyn Larsen, Caleb Henney, Cameron Porter, Carver Nicholas, Celeste Daley, Chandra Zarogoza, Chelsey Conner, Clark Jensen, Colby Peterson, Cooper Jorgensen, Crystal Snow, Cydnee Green, David Leavitt, Dawn O'Brien, Daylen Bills, Desaree Sandoval, Dustin Williams, Elizabeth Wharton, Emily Eldredge, Emily Lane, Eric Davenport, Grayson Hodge, Haille Van Patten, Hayley Harris, Jacob Kapp, Jaden Larson, Jamie Spackman, Jazmine Thompson, Jeff Peterson, Jennifer Reeves, Jennifer Weight, Joseph Faiola, Julia Funtanilla, Kaden Saunders, Kailey Thompson, Kameron Searle, Karlee Stewart, Kelly Bingham, Kelsie Taylor, Kyle Hole, Kymberlee Smith, Madison Kaufman, Makayla Morris, Mallory Gallegos, Marissa Wolford, Mason White, Matthew Havertz, Meghan Montecillo, Michael Fifer, Michaela Carson, Morgan Gardiner, Morgan Stonehocker, Natalie Hales, Natalie Slater, Nicholas Chase, Nina Morse, Paige Guest, Paula Lopez Alvarado, Quincy Hyde, Rachel Badali, Rachel Wilding, Ryan Christ, Ryan Hauser, Ryan Mccormick, Saige Hadley, Sarah Oaks, Shaton Hatch, Shaundra Rushton, Sheila Favero, Steven Pugmire, Taylor Carlson, Thais Stewart, Trevor Pate, Zachary Berrett.

PR student will present at Utah Conference for Undergraduate Research
Bailey Paige Lefthand, a major in Public Relations and Advertising, will present her research at the Utah Conference for Undergraduate Research on Feb. 17. Her study is titled "Facebook and college transition."

Announcements

Get a professional headshot on Valentine's Day
You can get a professional headshot for an affordable price on Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you sign up before Feb. 12, you will receive $5 off your headshot and an opportunity to have your resume critiqued by professionals. Register today at: https://orgsync.com/148098/forms/241854.
  • Walk-in headshots - $20
  • Early registration headshots - $15
  • PRSSA members - FREE
Contact Haille Van Patten if you have any questions at haillevanpatten@mail.weber.edu.

Hispanic, black journalists to meet in The Signpost Feb. 7
The National Association of Hispanic Journalists and National Association of Black Journalists will meet Feb. 7 at 3 p.m. in The Signpost offices, Shepherd Union Room 401. All students of color who are interested in media are invited to attend.

Journalism students encouraged to attend regional conference in Salt Lake City
The Region 9 annual convention of the Society of Professional Journalists will be in Salt Lake City on March 24-25. The regional conference provides an opportunity for students interested in journalism to network with professionals. Registration for students is only $25. For more information, go to the Utah Headliners chapter's website.
Application deadline Feb. 3 for college scholarships, fellowships
Applications for scholarships and fellowships from the College of Arts and Humanities are due Feb. 3. For all scholarships, complete the University application first. Continuing WSU students must complete the online scholarship application each year to be considered for all university scholarships. The application is available as early as Sept. 1 of the prior academic year. The priority deadline is Jan. 10. Applicants must reapply each year to be considered. Here are the steps: (1) Go to www.weber.edu, (2) Log into eWeber, (3) Search for scholarship, (4) Click on the Scholarship app, (5) Be sure the aid year is correct, (6) Update the information, and (7) Submit. A link can be found at https://docs.google.com/a/weber.edu/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKzsifws8ptX7ftqevVDWkigOBv3MruhiY9H2pDEnouh1rg/viewform?c=0&w=1.

Communication scholarships will be decided later this spring
Even though the priority date for financial aid is Jan. 10, the Communication Department has many opportunities for scholarships, and many of them are not decided until later this spring. Most, but not all, are awarded for participation in the department's five co-curricular activities. One scholarship, the Communication Studies Merit Scholarship, is available to majors in the Civic Advocacy, Interpersonal and Family or Organizational Communication emphases.

Here is where to get more information:

- Weber State Debate: http://www.weberdebate.com/scholarships or contact Omar Guevara, oguevara@weber.edu.
- The Signpost, student news organization: Contact Jean Norman, adviser, at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- KWCR, student radio: Contact Robin Haislett, adviser, at robinhaislett@weber.edu.
- Studio 76 student broadcast: Contact Drew Tyler, adviser, at drewtyler@weber.edu.
- Ogden Peak Communications, student public relations firm: Contact Nicola Corbin, nicolacorbin@weber.edu.
- Communication Studies Merit Scholarship: Contact Sonja Green, sonjagreen@weber.edu.

Watch the Communication Department e-newsletter for deadlines to apply for these co-curricular activities. For scholarships associated with the co-curriculars, these dates are also scholarship deadlines. Application requirements for the Communications Studies Merit Scholarship will also be publicized through a future e-newsletter.

Here’s what you need to do to graduate with departmental Honors
If you have a 3.5 overall GPA or above and 3.7 in your concentration, apply for Departmental Honors. Benefits:

- HONORS in gold on your diploma
- HONORS in gold on your transcript
- Letter of commendation from WSU President, Chuck Wight
- Invitation to Honors Banquet the semester you graduate

What you have to do: Sign the Honors admissions form, present an individual undergraduate research project at WSU Symposium or other professional conference. For more information, contact Dr. Susan Hafen at shafen@weber.edu

Studio 76 students starting live-streaming club this semester
Students at Studio 76 are starting a live-streaming/Twitch club where they will learn the ins and outs of live-streaming. If you’re interested in live-streaming, email faculty adviser Drew Tyler at drewtyler@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**

**Research conducted with Comm. 3150 students to be presented at conference**

Dr. Hailey Gillen-Hoke will present research conducted with students in the Comm. 3150 Research Communications class she taught in Spring 2016 at the Western Communication Association conference in Salt Lake City in February. The paper is titled "An investigation of academic locus of control, attendance, and academic success."

**Nine faculty members to participate in Western States Communication conference**

Nine faculty members will present research at the Western States Communication conference in Salt Lake City from Feb. 18-21. Dr. Michael Ault will present a paper titled "Experiencing the modern 'Hero's Journey': the structuration process of LDS missionary service." The paper is about how Mormon missionary service helps young LDS people learn the rules of the LDS culture and helps them develop resources that allow them to maintain and alter the LDS culture. Dr. Anne Bialowas and Jonathan Oglesby, a top graduate in the Master of Professional Communication program, will present his thesis project titled "The social gridiron: understanding social media interaction with Big Sky Conference football games televised on ROOT SPORT." The research study was accepted as a competitive paper in the Media Studies Division. Dr. Gillen-Hoke and Dr. Sarah Steimel will participate on a roundtable discussion titled "Gender(ed) identities, expressions, and work: centering gender in the organizational communication classroom." Dr. Susan Hafen, Dr. Jean Norman, Dr. Alexander Lancaster, Dr. Nicola Corbin and Robin Haislett will discuss "The intersection of race, gender, and feminism in primetime television."

**Professor to present papers on religious organizations, campus police department**

Dr. Alexander Lancaster will present two research papers at the 2017 Eastern Communication Association convention in Boston in April. The first is titled "Organizational elements of religious institutions," and is part of a panel discussion on nontraditional applications of organizational communication research. The second is "Spotlight on law enforcement: The organizational culture of a university police department." This paper discusses the observed officer-to-officer interactions at a university police agency.

**Two faculty members to discuss research, teaching at regional conference**

Two Communication faculty members will discuss research, teaching and advising at the Central States Communication Association conference in Minneapolis in March. Dr. Hailey Gillen-Hoke will present a paper titled "But first, let me take a selfie": The Big Five, interpersonal communication motives and selfies." Dr. Sarah Steimel will participate on three panels: "Best practices and ideas for ‘creating’ new courses and assignments in
organizational communication," "Create excellence in academic advising: best practices for communication faculty advisors" and "Creating further opportunities for scholarship through data-driven case studies."

**Adjunct instructor to discuss Weber Speaks at Utah faculty retreat**
Kim Smith, an adjunct instructor in Communication, has been selected to present at the Utah Campus Compact Biennial Engaged Faculty Retreat on Feb. 10. She will discuss the Weber Speaks program, where public speaking students present on important topics to local groups such as city councils.

**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.