Welcome to Spring Semester 2017

Welcome back, Communication majors. We hope you had a nice break and are eager to get back to work.

If you need registration assistance or encounter any problems, please email Sonja Green at sonjagreen@weber.edu or check with your academic adviser. Make sure you use the wait lists if a class is full but you should be able to put a schedule together because several classes have been added.

This is the January 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

January
- Jan. 9: Spring Semester begins
- Jan. 10: University scholarship application deadline
- Jan. 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no class

February
- Feb. 3: College scholarship and fellowship applications due
- Feb. 20: Presidents Day, no class

March
- March 6-10: Spring Break

April
- April 7: National Debate Coaches Association tournament, hosted by WSU
- April 28: Graduation

Student News

Digital media student lands general production internship with Tonight Show
Nick Garrett, a student majoring in Digital Media, landed one of the country’s most sought-after internships in television. Garrett will be a general production intern on the “Tonight Show” this semester. His viral video helped land him this internship. To learn more, see: http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865670087/Weber-State-students-viral-video-gets-him-an-internship-with-The-Tonight-Show.html
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."

Finalist in Fall 2016 Speech Showcase dies in skiing accident
Ryan Roberts, one of the 25 finalists the Fall 2016 Speech Showcase, died in a skiing accident last week at Snowbasin Resort. His obituary can be viewed at http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hjnews/obituary.aspx?n=ryan-gregory-roberts&pid=183283198&fhid=6828

MPC graduate to present paper with faculty member at conference
Jonathan Oglesby, a top graduate in the Master of Professional Communication program, will present his research with his adviser Dr. Anne Bialowas at the Western States Communication Association conference in February. His thesis is 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.

WSU debaters finish as 11th seed in prestigious tournament, defeating Harvard
Weber State debaters Misty Tippets and Kinsee Gaither finished as the 11th seed in a very competitive field at the University of Southern California tournament last week. They posted wins against teams from San Francisco State University, the University of Texas-Austin, Wake Forest University and Harvard to reach the Sweet 16 where they lost a close debate against a tough team from the University of California-Berkeley.

Announcements

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/1FAIpQLSfKzsifws8pt-X7fgevWDwikOBv3MruhiY9H2pDEnouh1rg/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/.

Job postings available on Communication website
Weber State University Communication students and graduates can log into the Communication Department’s website at weber.edu/communication to look for job postings now or in the future. The listings are under the "Jobs" link. Employers contact the department looking for Communication students and graduates for full-time and part-time jobs.

Faculty Achievements

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.

Five faculty members to participate in panel discussion on primetime TV
Five members of the Department of Communication will participate in a panel discussion at the Western States Communication Association convention from Feb. 18-21 in Salt Lake City. 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."

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.