



February means it's time to apply for Graduation

February means it's time for graduating seniors to apply for Graduation. The application deadline is Feb. 14 and you should receive information in your student portal. Meeting this deadline ensures your name will be in the Graduation program.

Even if you are not a senior, you may meet the requirements for the Associate of Science in Communication or the Associate in Workplace Communication & Writing. An associate's degree helps you to lock in your General Education requirements and get a degree you can list on your resume now. If you'd like to graduate with your associate's degree, please email one of the college's General Education advisers before Feb. 14: cahadvisors@weber.edu. Advisers may be able to substitute several classes to help you meet this requirement.

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. 6:** New PRSSA Professionals Panel, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **Feb. 14:** Deadline to apply for Graduation
- **Feb. 17:** Presidents' Day
- **Feb. 20:** PRSSA, Chris Thomas, president of Intrepid PR, 6:30 p.m., EH 307

March

- **March 2-6:** Spring Break
- **March 13:** PRSSA smashing midterm stress, Smash It rage room, 1 p.m.
- **March 26:** PRSSA resume critiques by professionals, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **March 30:** Former 60 Minutes Producer Mary Mapes, 7 p.m. (see below)

April

- **April 2:** PRSSA speaker, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **April 16:** PRSSA graduation cap decorating party, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **April 16:** Speech Showcase
- **April 24:** Graduation

Student News

Student to present paper at Western States Communication Association conference

Aubrielle Degn's paper titled "Symbolic warfare and justice: disrupting dominant discourses about schizophrenia" was accepted for presentation at the Western States Communication Association (WSCA) Undergraduate Scholars Conference. Her paper utilizes an autoethnographic method to critique and disrupt dominant discourses surrounding schizophrenia. The paper was originally written for Dr. Bobbi Van Gilder's COMM 3080 Intercultural Communication class and was then submitted to WSCA for consideration. The paper was competitively selected and programmed. She will present her work on Feb. 21 in Denver.

Two Communication students to present research at statewide conference

Two Communication students will make presentations at the Utah Conference for Undergraduate Research at Utah State University in February. Staci Arthur, who is majoring in Public Relations & Advertising, will present "Muted Group Theory: Isn't it romantic?" while Shaylee Stevens, who is majoring in Public Relations & Advertising, will present "An analysis of Harry Potter through the lens of Cultural Studies."

New Film Club organized to create film-based projects for festivals

Film Club has been organized by a group of Communication students. The Film Club meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Shepherd Union Building. According to a poster, club members "are a learning community for Weber State students with the intention of creating film-based projects with the hopes of submitting them into film festivals." Contact the group at we.are.cineastes@gmail.com.

Communication student ranked 12th in world for Women's Pro Rodeo Association

Anna Bahe, an Organizational Communication senior from Grantsville, is ranked 12th in the world for the Women's Pro Rodeo Association. Bahe is on a Weber State University scholarship for college rodeo.

Media Writing student publishes feature story in Davis Clipper

April Burger, a nontraditional student enrolled in Cathy McKittrick's COMM 1130 Media Writing class, published her feature story assignment about a bagpipe player who took his talent to the next level in a recent edition of the Davis Clipper. McKittrick said Burger has "a nose for news and a knack for storytelling." This was Burger's first official byline.

Alumni Achievements

Graduate to teach English in North Macedonia for Peace Corps

Marin Tarbox, a recent graduate in Civic Advocacy, will teach English in North Macedonia for the Peace Corps. She leaves in September.

Communication teaching graduate named UEA Teacher of the Year

Cassie Cox, who minored in Communication Teaching, was named the 2018 Utah Education Teacher of the Year. She teaches at Twin Rivers High School.

Announcements

PRSSA hosts New Professionals panel on Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

The PRSSA is hosting a New Professionals panel on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6:30 p.m. in Elizabeth Hall Room 307.

Diplomat who graduated from WSU Communication will speak on Feb. 19

Diplomat Christina “CJ” Hernandez, the regional director of the U.S. State Department’s Office of Foreign Missions in Los Angeles, will speak about her experience as a diplomat on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m. in Elizabeth Hall Room 307. Hernandez, who was a feature article writer at The Signpost during her senior year in 1993-1994, specializes in operational/management services, human rights and consular programs. She has served in Merida, Mexico, Washington D.C., Budapest and Mexico City. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Hernandez managed major acquisitions and public/private partnerships for the U.S. Air Force at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and at the Defense Logistics Agency in Weisbaden, Germany. She holds a master’s degree in Human Resource Management from Utah State University and a bachelor’s degree in Communication from Weber State University.

Former ‘60 Minutes’ producer to speak on **March 30**

Mary Mapes, the author of the book “Truth and Duty: The Press, The President and the Privilege of Power” and an award-winning former producer of “60 Minutes,” will speak March 30 at 7 p.m. on the campus of Weber State University. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$12.50-\$25 for the general public. They are available at <http://weberstatetickets.com/>. The event is sponsored by The Signpost and a number of other organizations.

Faculty Accomplishments

Graduate program director to spend time in Belarus as Fulbright Specialist

Dr. Sarah Steimel, the director of the Master of Professional Communication program, has accepted a Fulbright Specialist position at Polotsk State University in Belarus in April and May. The position is focused on pedagogy, so Steimel will teach and conduct research on teaching during her time there. She is an associate professor of Communication who teaches undergraduate- and graduate-level classes in areas of communication theory, communication research methods, organizational communication, gender and communication, among others.

Haislett awarded Ph.D. after completing dissertation about independent video games

Robin Haislett, an instructor in the Department of Communication, is now officially Dr. Haislett. She completed her doctoral degree at Texas Tech University. Her thesis was titled "Independent video games and the games 'indie' spectrum: dissecting the online discourse of independent game developers in industry culture." She will officially become an assistant professor on July 1.

Communication adjunct instructor named new director of WSU Online

RC Callahan, an adjunct instructor in the Department of Communication, has been named the director of WSU Online. In this capacity, Callahan leads a team of instructional designers and learning management system administrators in assisting faculty, staff and students with creating effective educational experiences. He became familiar with the demands and responsibilities of his new role by serving as interim director, but he has been with WSU for over a decade. In 2007, he joined the human resources office. He became a senior instructional designer with WSU Online in 2011. In addition to his directorship, Callahan serves as the representative for adjunct instructors on Faculty Senate.

Get Involved

- **The Signpost:** Contact Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- **Studio 76:** Contact Andrea Baltazar at andreabaltazar@weber.edu.
- **KWCR Wildcat Radio:** Contact Dr. Nathan Rodriguez at nathanrodriguez@weber.edu.
- **WSU Debate:** Contact Ryan Wash at ryanwash@weber.edu.
- **WSU Speech:** Contact Mark Galaviz at markgalaviz@weber.edu.
- **Ogden Peak Communications:** Contact Dr. Nicola Corbin at nicolacorbin@weber.edu.
- **PRSSA:** Contact Leslie Howerton at lesliehowerton@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. Hailey Gillen Hoke at haileygillenhoke@weber.edu.