



Time to Join Honor Society, Apply for Graduation, Plan for Summer and Fall Registration

March is the month to check your inbox or mailbox to see if you have been invited to join Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for Communication students. You can also get your name in the Graduation program if you apply by March 16. It is also time to start planning for Summer and Fall registration.

This is the March 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

March

- **March 13:** PRSSA smashing midterm stress, Smash It rage room, 1 p.m.
- **March 16:** Last day to apply for Graduation to get your name in the program
- **March 20:** Deadline to turn in application for Lambda Pi Eta honor society
- **March 26:** PRSSA resume critiques by professionals, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **March 30:** Registration opens for Summer Semester
- **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 3:** Wildcat Film Festival, 6 p.m., Wildcat Theater (see below)
- **April 6:** Registration opens for Fall Semester
- **April 16:** PRSSA graduation cap decorating party, 6:30 p.m., EH 307
- **April 16:** Speech Showcase
- **April 24:** Graduation

Student News

Top Communication students invited to join national honor society

Junior and senior Communication majors with high GPAs will receive invitations this week to join Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for Communication students. To be eligible students must (1) complete 60 semester credit hours, (2) have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 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% of one's class in general scholarship. Invitations will be extended via postal mail and campus email. If you qualify, but do not receive your invitation by March 12, please contact Dr. Sheree Josephson at sjosephson@weber.edu to check your eligibility. Qualifying students will be honored at the department's end-of-year event. The deadline to join is March 20.

Communication major elected WSU student body president

Benjamin Ferney, a Communication major, was elected as the student body president of Weber State University for the 2020-2021 year.

Two students qualify for National Debate Tournament as top team in District 2

Congratulations to Arianna Nelson and Hannah Phelps for qualifying to the 74th National Debate Tournament as the top team out of District 2.

Speech team brings home awards from Oregon State tournament

The inaugural Weber State University speech team placed fifth overall at the 13th Annual Earl Wells Memorial Tournament at Oregon State. The tournament featured 12 schools, including Oregon State, University of Idaho, Lewis and Clark College, Pacific University, and the College of Southern Idaho to name a few. "Our team was really something," said Mark Galaviz, director of Speech. "We had only three competitors due to some scheduling conflicts and made quite an impact, placing fifth overall and having less than half of the competitors than all other schools save one." In individual speaking events, junior Emma Harris placed first in Novice Prose, first in Novice Dramatic Interpretation, fifth in Open Informative Speaking, and third overall. Freshman Morgan Allen took second overall in Open Communication Analysis, fourth in Novice Impromptu, and fourth in Open Dramatic Interpretation. Senior Rebecca Brown placed sixth in Open Inform. In Debate, both Allen and Harris made it to the out rounds, with Harris achieving the fifth-place speaker award overall and reaching the quarterfinals. Allen went all the way to the semifinals. WSU has qualified four students to the National Comprehensive Tournament in San Diego, California.

Digital Media major offered full-time job for Real Salt Lake after internship

Tristin White, a Digital Media major, interned at Real Salt Lake, making soccer videos as a content creator and has now been offered a full-time job.

Weber State debaters busy competing, hosting tournaments

Weber State Debate competed at tournaments the University of Texas-Austin and at Southwestern College in San Diego, California, and hosted the Wasatch Independent Debate League. At UT-Austin, Arianna Nelson was the 14th speaker out of 220 competitors. Nelson and partner Hannah Phelps finished preliminary debates with a 5-3 record. Jordan Stephens and Roey Sellouk had wins over the University of Houston, Wake Forest University and the University of Wyoming. At Southwestern, Nelson and Phelps were finalists, losing on a close 2-1 decision to Long Beach. In junior varsity, Rei Olsen and Miri McPherson finished as semifinalists and the third and fifth speakers. Bailey Brunyer reached a personal milestone with his second-place speaker award. In novice, Shawnica Sanders and Brittany Washington debated for their first time and won second and third speaker awards. In February, WSU Debate hosted the Wasatch Independent Debate League, Utah's homeschool debate league. The debaters were given an experience similar to a college debate tournament. Their director is Sam Martineau.

Interpersonal & Small Group Communication students offer garbage challenge

After completing a community-engaged learning assignment in COMM 2110 Interpersonal & Small Group Communication, the students created a group on the Litterati app known as "plicking," short for picking up trash and hiking. Heather O'Bannion, one of the students in this student group, explained that their challenge on the free app that captures a photograph of each piece of trash encountered is for users to pick up 300 pieces of garbage a day. She explained that this can be used by students in the Outdoor Program Club and can bring awareness to Earth Day on April 22. The app shows statistics of how many pieces of trash are collected in a day,

areas that need cleaning around Utah, and provides challenges to inspire friendly competition to collect more trash.

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.

Alumni Achievements

MPC graduate assistant director for Utah High School Activities Association

Jonathan C. Oglesby, who earned a Master of Professional Communication degree in 2016, is an assistant director for the Utah High School Activities Association. He also works as a sports broadcaster, providing play-by-play coverage of the Big Sky Conference for television and radio.

Announcements

Apply for Graduation by March 16 to get your name in the program

It may not be too late to get your name in the Spring 2020 Graduation program if you apply for graduation by March 16. If you miss this deadline, you can still celebrate Graduation. Just make sure you get your cap and gown and show up on Graduation to have your name read.

Applications open for Studio 76 staff positions

Applications for the 2020-2021 Studio 76 staff are open. If you have questions, email faculty advisor Andrea Baltazar at andreabaltazar@weber.edu. The link to apply is <https://forms.gle/NVNSp5RNawg8nbmm9>.

Weber State Debate accepting scholarship applications for team

Weber State Debate is accepting scholarship applications. You can be part of the team and help pay for school. Email Ryan Wash, the policy debate coach, at ryanwash@weber.edu for more information.

Wildcat Film Festival will be April 3; deadline to submit is March 20

The Wildcat Film Festival will be April 3 at 6 p.m. at the Wildcat Theater. The deadline for WSU student submissions is March 20. Outside submissions for high schools and colleges/universities are on Film Freeway at <https://filmfreeway.com/WildcatFilmFestival>.

Former '60 Minutes' producer to speak to public on March 30

Journalist Mary Mapes, former producer for CBS's "60 Minutes," will speak March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Browning Center. Mapes is famous for two major stories in 2004: prisoner abuse at the Abu Ghraib prison in Afghanistan, which won her a Peabody Award, and President George W. Bush's spotty National Guard record during the Vietnam War, which got her fired and led to the retirement of CBS anchor Dan Rather. Tickets for all students are \$5. In addition, the movie about her career, "Truth," starring Cate Blanchett and Robert Redford, will be screened March 16 at 7 p.m. in the Wildcat Theater. The screening is free.

SPJ to sponsor screening of journalism movie 'The Paper' at Brewvies

The Utah Headliners chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will hold a public screening of a Michael Keaton journalism classic "The Paper" at 7 p.m. March 26 at Brewvies in Salt Lake City. It is free, but attendees must be 21 or older to attend.

Students invited to SPJ's regional conference on March 27-28 in Salt Lake City

The Society of Professional Journalists is holding its regional conference March 27-28 at Impact Hub, 150 S. State St., Salt Lake City, featuring some powerful keynote speakers. Salt Lake Tribune Editor-in-Chief Jennifer Napier Pearce will speak on the first-in-the-nation nonprofit status of a newspaper, which the Tribune received in the fall, on Friday at 6 p.m. Networking will start at 5 p.m. On Saturday, Dave Cawley, host of the COLD Podcast, will provide an inside look at podcasting, followed by a panel of lawyers analyzing disinformation in this election year. The cost for students is \$35. For information on registration, email Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.

Investigative Reporters and Editors Watchdog Workshop will be March 20

The Investigative Reporters and Editors will bring its Watchdog Workshop training to Salt Lake City Friday, March 20. It's cheap for students, only \$25, and it comes with a year's membership to the organization, which is the premier group for investigative journalism. Speakers include Andrew Becker of KUER public radio, Howard Berkes, formerly of NPR, Nate Carlisle of the Salt Lake Tribune, Patti DiVincenzo of IRE, Debbie Dujanovic of KSL News Radio, Gillian Friedman of the Deseret News, Judy Fahys of InsideClimate News, Anita Hassan of NBC News and David Reymann of Parr Brown Gee & Loveless. It will be held in the BYU Salt Lake Center in downtown SLC. To register, go to <https://ire.org/events-and-training/event/4787>

Faculty Accomplishments

Five Communication faculty members nominated for Crystal Crest Master Teacher Award

Four full-time faculty members and one adjunct faculty member in the Department of Communication were nominated by a student for the Crystal Crest Master Teacher Award. Nominees include Dr. Jean Norman, advisor to The Signpost; Mark Galaviz, the director of WSU's Speech Team; Dr. Anne Bialowas, an associate professor and advisor for Civic Advocacy; and Dr. Mike Ault, an assistant professor in Organizational Communication. Kayla Griffin, a new adjunct faculty member, also received a nomination.

Assistant professor publishes article on workplace romance

Dr. Hailey Gillen Hoke, an assistant professor in the Department of Communication, is the co-author of a new publication in the *International Journal of Business Communication* titled "Coworkers' perceptions of, and communication with, workplace romance participants: Proposing and testing a model."

Adjunct named president of board of directors for Friends of Snow Canyon

Dr. Kathy Edwards, an adjunct instructor of Communication, has been named the president of the board of directors for Friends of Snow Canyon. Dr. Edwards was a full-time professor and former department chair before retiring. Friends of Snow Canyon is a nonprofit organization that provides funds and volunteer hours to support Snow Canyon State Park.

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.