Student Affairs Annual Report 2014

Weber State University
Student Affairs Annual Report 2013-14

Weber State University

CORE THEME I: ACCESS

Graduates have next step success

- Through a collaborative effort between Student Affairs, college deans, and the Alumni Association, a graduate survey is administered each semester. Findings from the 2013-14 survey revealed that 73 percent of bachelor’s degree recipients seeking full-time employment were employed at the time of graduation with an average salary of $40,770.
- The first Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Fair was held to promote the university and legislature’s priority to support the needs of students and employers in the STEM field. In partnership with the College of Applied Science in Technology, this fair hosted 50 employers with over 800 students in attendance.

Outreach Grants

- The Education Access and Outreach Department was awarded $32,000 in the form of four separate grants to complement its programs and services. These included a $5000 Golden West Credit Union sponsorship to assist with the Multicultural Youth Conference; an Alan Hall Grant to fund the June 2014 Summer Summit; a USHE ImPACT grant in the form of $10,000 to assess and develop an academic outreach plan; and an $8000 Citi Foundation sponsorship for the Student to Student program.

Outreach and Demographic Diversity

- During the past year, 2200 students were contacted through educational outreach programs in Student Affairs including 1186 high school seniors. Of those seniors, 776 are part of the final year of the six-year long GEAR UP "Own Your Future" Partnership Grant with Ogden School District. The students served by this grant have been preparing for college since they were in the 7th grade, and the entire cohort graduated from the Ogden area high schools in May.
- The Veteran Services Program served 797 student veterans and families through 2287 sessions.
- Weber State University’s State GEAR UP student, Jesus Garcia was selected as one of 20 students in the nation to participate in the prestigious national GEAR UP Alumni Leadership Academy (GUALA). Jesus will serve in this year-long mentoring and leadership program that encourages students to pursue post-secondary education.
This past year, a new collaborative effort was formed with the International Programs effort led by Dr. Cliff Nowell. This effort brings the International Student and Scholars Center, Study Abroad, and LEAP under one initiative. During the past academic year, 375 international students were enrolled.

The Veterans Upward Bound program worked with 137 veteran students over the past year to assist them in developing academic skills and pursuing their educational goals. This included 81 first generation, low income students in the Weber and Davis School Districts.

Four Transition Nights were held to assist approximately 40 first generation, low income, minority students and those with GPAs below 2.5 in their transition to college. This collaboration between Academic Support Centers and Programs, Education Access and Outreach, and Assessment and Research was designed to prepare students to attend orientation and to get involved on campus during their first semester. Student were assigned a peer mentor who will work with students throughout their first semester.

Weber State University partnered with the Utah Office of Multicultural Affairs to hold the Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit on October 30, 2013. Over 800 multicultural students in 7th-12th grades attended along with over 50 campus volunteers and additional staff from the schools and state office.

WSU Outreach, the Multicultural Student Center and other campus diversity areas partnered with USHE to support Expect the Great in November 2013.

Weber State University partnered with Latinos in Action to host its Northern Utah Conference on March 13 for almost 1300 Latino students, 8th through 12th grades. Nearly 90 volunteers and more than 100 faculty and staff members from the schools collaborated to support this successful event. Student Support Services provided support to close to 300 students who were either low-income, first-generation or students with a disability. Services included academic support advising, tutoring, book loans, grant aid, participant-only study space, computer lab and free printing. Also this year, SSS implemented an in-house imaging system and is currently in the process of converting student files from paper to digital format.

Weber State University sponsored a successful FAFSA February to help students and parents submit their financial aid applications before the priority April 1 deadline. Over 300 participants were assisted by Student Affairs staff as well as college outreach staff within local partnership high schools.

A statewide initiative with the Utah System of Higher Education and various high schools was held in November 2013, College Application Week, to encourage more students to apply to college early in their senior year to meet university priority deadlines. During the course of the week, (GEAR UP) Ogden and Ben Lomond high school students submitted a total of 378 applications. Approximately 50% of this cohort completed at least one application to an accredited university. Of those completing applications, a vast majority applied to Weber State University.

**CORE THEME II: LEARNING**

- Housing & Residence Life opened phase three of Wildcat Village with a ribbon cutting and celebration. Nearly 75 activities were provided for residents through the year.
Housing and Residence Life also implemented a new Community Engaged Living Learning Community for 75 residents.

- In conjunction with a student-developed program entitled Creating Achievement Through Transition (CATT), which was funded with a Hall Foundation Grant, Disability Services identified approximately 15 students from local high schools and provided ongoing support to increase self-advocacy, self-esteem, and the acquisition of basic skills for success on the college level. As a result of this peer-guided support program, nine students have successfully completed one semester at WSU (2.0 GPA or higher) and have enrolled for a second.

- The Writing Center published its first hard-bound edition of the *Verbal Equinox* in spring 2014. This publication includes student writing and art as well as pieces on how to write literature reviews and the elements of effective argument.

- This year, the Writing Center added a real-time/synchronous, online tutoring option for students, and its use is increasing as students become aware of the service. The Writing Center and DELC now make full use of Google applications, conducting online tutoring sessions through Google Hangout, which allows tutor and student to see each other, view and mark the student's paper in Google Docs, and converse easily about student writing concerns throughout.

- Supplemental Instruction study groups served over 2000 students on both the Ogden and Davis Campus. Supplemental instruction was offered for 27 courses in 13 different departments.

- This year, the development of the LGBT Resource Center went from an idea to reality with Trustee and Regent approval. A strategic planning team has been working diligently to lay the groundwork for the center, which will open this fall in new space in the Student Services Center. On February 20 and 21, apparently 80 faculty and staff participated in a two day retreat to discuss the development of the new LGBT Center.

- The 50/50 Student Employment Program, created through a collaboration between Academic and Student Affairs, has created approximately 140 new student positions. Through a fund created by these two divisions, new positions are matched at 50%, which has led to the program being called the "50/50 Student Employment Funding Program." The program incorporates a supervisor training component and two trainings for the student employees focusing on intentional learning outcomes.

- Student Affairs Technology implemented mobile printing stations at any computer lab or at kiosk stations in the Shepherd Union Building.

- The Student Wellness Office supported the National Great American Smoke Out on November 13, 2013 and combined it with efforts to educate students on the expanded tobacco free zones on campus. The event included a poster competition where the winning signage regarding the campus tobacco zones and smoking policy was posted on campus.

- Weber State University partnered with Sonora Grill to host the annual fundraising event “Dining for Dollars,” which raised approximately $26,000 including matching funds from an anonymous donor for scholarships to support underrepresented students at Weber State University.

- Jennifer Grandi, Assistant Dean for Davis Student Services, directed the Student Affairs mentoring program’s first year by setting up a structure and framework, coordinating a collaborative student training, and facilitating six on-going training workshops.
Counseling and Psychological Services Center (CPSC) observed Mental Health Awareness Month with a variety of activities open to the entire campus community. CPSC offered 11 presentations on mental health topics ranging from self-esteem, to distress tolerance, to setting goals. CPSC also invited the campus community to join its regularly offered Meditation-Relaxation Group and launched a Coping Skills Workshop series that will continue throughout the year.

On October 17 and 18, Student Involvement and Leadership sponsored Project LEAD for 375 participants. This conference is held every fall to cultivate student leaders.

The Fourth Annual Clubs and Organizations Club Carnival was held on April 9 with a total of 122 clubs participating.

This year, WSUSA Arts and Lectures and the Convocations Series welcomed a wide array of speakers and leaders over the past year with the highlight being Giancarlo Esposito.

In order to better serve and support our veteran students and those receiving GI benefits, Veteran Services relocated to Annex 5 to allow for the creation of a true center including a veterans’ lounge, more privacy to process education entitlements, and space for Veteran Affairs counselors.

The Student Affairs Technology computer lab aides raised $380 towards school and sports equipment for the, Mae Hood School & Orphanage in rural Chiang Mai district in Thailand. The orphanage was also in need of a dining area and toilets. Since last year, WSU Open student computer labs in collaboration with Center for Community Engaged Learning, College of Business & Economics, Construction Management and the Geography department, have worked to develop a credited Service Trip Abroad program that is scheduled to visit Thailand on May 2015.

Two cross-divisional committees, the Student Assistance and Intervention Team (SAIT) and the Strategic Threat Assessment and Response (STAR) Team, worked actively during the year to provide students, faculty, and staff a valuable resource for addressing safety issues on campus. SAIT, chaired by the Dean of Students, focuses on students of concern who are engaging in troubling or problematic behavior. The STAR Team, co-chaired by the Dean of Students and the AVP of Human Resources, provides advice and makes recommendations on the overall university violence prevention programs and policies.

Usage and Satisfaction

During the 2013-14 academic year, 18,291 unique WSU students were served through Student Affairs programs and services. There were a total of 756,936 interactions with these students. Satisfaction was measured through 35 separate survey questions regarding services, and the mean satisfaction score was 4.6 on a 5-point Likert scale.

When aggregating student satisfaction data with events and department support across the division, the 14,911 students who used our programs and services consistently reported that they were satisfied, with an overall rating of 4.6 on a five-point scale.
CORE THEME III: COMMUNITY

- The Center for Community Engaged Learning had a very successful year under its new name and refined organizational structure. CCEL hosted the second year of the Engaged Learning Series which focused on air quality (called On Air.) Overall, 6,396 WSU students engaged in 176,922 hours of service to the community and registered their hours through CCEL.
- The Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) created the Community Research Extension adjacent to the Community Education Center in the American Red Cross building on the corner of Harrison and 30th street. CCEL’s community research efforts will primarily be facilitated at this new location.
- The CCEL secured four grants during 2013-14 totaling $22,313 to support volunteer management training, a Martin Luther King Jr grant, a community needs assessment for the Ogden United Promise Neighborhood, and a faculty professional development stipend.
- Weber State University has been named as one of 73 lead institutions for NASPA's (National Association of Student Affairs Administrators) Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement initiative. This is the second year in a row that WSU has been named. WSU's Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) is representing WSU in this NASPA initiative.
- Deliberative Democracy Day was held on March 19 for over 300 participants discussing the topic of the funding of college sports. This event was co-sponsored by Student Involvement and Leadership and the Center for Community Engaged Learning.
- On October 10 and 11 the Center for Diversity and Unity held the Annual Diversity Conference for over 1000 participants over two days. The theme for this year’s conference was Immigration: Whose American Dream?
- The Center for Diversity & Unity produced the 14th Annual WSU Gospel Music Festival on Friday, January 10, 2014. This free campus and community event engaged more than 1000 participants.
- In the past year, Weber State hosted 52 conferences. One significant new conference is the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, which we hosted for the first time this summer as part of a three-year commitment. In addition, the Utah Legislature has made an allotment of $50,000 to Weber State to support the Boys and Girls State program.
- Campus Recreation’s Outdoor Programs sponsored the 7th Annual Ogden Climbing Festival which had 936 participants.
- During the 2013-14 academic year, 76 WSU students successfully completed the AmeriCorps program.
- The annual Community Engagement Symposium was held Wednesday, April 16, 2014 in the Shepherd Union Gallery and Fireplace Lounge. Keynote speaker Rye Barcott, a former Marine and author, addressed 135 participants in the Wildcat Theater. More than 98 student participants expounded upon 30 posters prepared with 10 faculty or staff mentors. This year's symposium represented various departments and disciplines such as Political Science, Geography, Women's Studies, Sociology, Communication and Foreign Language.
- Weber State's Center for Community Engaged Learning received the Higher Education Leader in Civic and Character Education Award on October 18, 2013 from The Utah Commission on Civic and Character Education.
A total of $65,782 was granted to support 18 community engagement projects during 2013-14. These involved six student projects, two staff projects, and 10 faculty projects.

The Women’s Center participated in a collaborative Women’s Empowerment Conference on September 24, 2014 with Ogden-Weber Chamber of Commerce Women in Business. There were 138 attendees.

The Nontraditional Student Center held its first annual “Nontraditional Student Week.” Students were able to network and get connected with resources on campus.

The Davis Learning Center created new positions for test proctors as well as a Writing Tutor Supervisor position.

**OTHER MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS & EVENTS WITHIN THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

- The Division of Student Affairs has raised $7,110,100 towards our $11 million campaign goal. During the 2014 fiscal year, the University as a whole raised over $10 million with 3,196 total donors. Student Affairs raised almost $1.45 million of that total with 284 donors. The most significant gifts were $1 million for the completion of Wildcat Village. Other significant gifts supported scholarships, leadership programs, as well as specific areas such as Upward Bound, the Center for Community Engaged Learning, the Center for Diversity and Unity, Veteran Services, and Services for Students with Disabilities.
- The division also had a very successful year with our Student Affairs Advancement Council, which assisted with fundraising efforts and events such as the Student Leader Reunion, the first Student Affairs Donor Scholarship Luncheon, a Faculty/Staff Donor Recognition Event, Opening the third residence hall in Wildcat Village, Opening of the Wildcat Center for Health, Education & Wellness, the Allen Holmes Diversity Symposium, and the Forrest Crawford Recognition event.
- On July 17, 2013, the Counseling and Psychological Services Center was awarded full accreditation by the International Association of Counseling Services. This status confirms that CPSC meets the highest established standards of practice in the field.
- A total of 6,374 individuals used Counseling and Psychological Services in some capacity last year. 1,043 unduplicated clients used individual, couples/family, or group counseling, psychiatric services, or crisis intervention. On average, these individuals received 5.52 sessions. A total of 5,331 students, faculty/staff, and community members benefitted from outreach/consultation services.
- Student Involvement and Leadership provided over 400 events with approximately 86,000 student interactions. Engagement opportunities include Convocations, Deliberative Democracy Day, clubs and organizations, diversity events, and leadership trainings.
- Weber State University hosted the annual Crystal Crest Awards Ceremony on April 19 to recognize and celebrate outstanding individuals and organizations in the areas of scholarship, talent, leadership, achievement and instruction. The Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) received the President’s Award.
- The grand opening of the new Wildcat Center for Health, Education and Wellness was held on September 25 to celebrate the 20,000 square-foot expansion, which connects to the Stromberg Complex. This facility, which houses Campus Recreation, includes state-of-the-art equipment, exercise studios and wellness space.
• The Outdoor Program formulated a partnership with Hill Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation Department to provide supplemental programming for active service men and base employees.
• Approximately 2500 students visited the Health Center 5000 times over the past year.
• The Testing Center provided over 386,000 tests during 2014-15 while providing services for 67% of WSU faculty. This represents a 56% increase from last year, which is largely accounted for through the addition of testing services provided through the HUB.
• Student Affairs Technology provided technology support to the NASPA Western Regional Conference in Salt Lake City in November 2014. The department had 14 students and four staff volunteers and provided both equipment and on-site support.
• The W.O.W. Awards Ceremony sponsored by the Women’s Center took place in March. This ceremony presents 22 awards to faculty, staff and students in honor of their incredible example to other women. Categories include Woman of ... Weber, the World, Wellness, Wages, Wonder, Wisdom, Worth, Warmth, and Wit.
• Weber State’s Women’s Center sponsored a creative program for Breast Cancer Awareness month, which received recognition by the Huntsman Cancer Foundation. Faculty, staff, students, and community partners joined together in decorating bras for the "Creative Curves for Cancer" campaign. The bras were donated to the Huntsman Cancer Foundation and will be auctioned as part of a fundraiser event.
• WSU hosted the Intermountain Testing Association Conference in October.
• A total of eight professional development meetings were held for staff members within the Division of Student Affairs on topics ranging from teamwork and veteran students to dealing with change. These meetings are designed to enhance skills, knowledge and competencies and help staff build community with colleagues. In addition, ten staff were recognized at the annual awards luncheon for their outstanding contributions to the division.
• The fifth bi-annual Student Affairs Academy was held in May, 2014. The 3 day conference provided intensive training to 29 student affairs staff on foundational topics such as risk management, student development theory, legal and financial foundations, history, current issues and academic integration. Training was provided by executive level student affairs professionals from WSU and University of Utah.

PRESENTATIONS, PUBLICATIONS, AWARDS

Presentations

• 2014 Abel, Dianna. Director of the Counseling and Psychological Services Center, joined local community leaders for two Suicide Prevention Town Hall Meetings in February. The meetings, held in Ogden and Layton, featured government and military representatives, mental health experts, and community resources focused on preventing the tragedy of suicide. Dr. Abel helped train approximately 350 individuals in the Question-Persuade-Refer (QPR) method of suicide prevention.


- 2014 Andrews, Adrienne Closing Session “Engaged Leadership: Pulling it All Together.” Campus Compact Faculty Retreat, Moab, UT. February 1, 2014.


- 2013 Brass, Jamie. Poster. “Graduate Student Loan Repayment and Forgiveness Options.” Utah University and College Counseling Centers Conference. Park City, UT. November 1, 2013

- 2013 Christensen, McKell and Davidson, Emily. “Optimizing Experiential Learning for Student Employees-The CREW Philosophy.” UT Parks and Recreation Conference and NIRSA.


- 2013 Evans, Ryan, Maughn, Crystal, and McLean, Angela. Services for Students with Disabilities. Utah, NASPA.


- 2013 Kowalewski, Brenda Marsteller. “Applying for the Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement: Weber State University’s Carnegie Classification Example.” presented as part of national webinar on how to apply for the Carnegie Classification. Sponsored by the National Education Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE).

- 2014 Lambert, Anthony, Testing Centers, presented a survey of the nation’s testing technology at the Intermountain Testing Association (IRTA) Conference in May of 2014.

- 2014 McCoy, Shaney. “Compassion Fatigue” A professional development workshop for the LGBTQ Affirmative Psychotherapists’ Guild of Utah in Salt Lake City. April 17, 2014


• 2013 Newman, Aaron. “Strengths for a Better Team”; Five-hour workshop facilitated for the Weber County Library System at their annual retreat.
• 2014 Perozzi, Brett, presented with colleagues from Canada, Germany, and Italy about the “Creation of the First Global Association for Student Affairs and Services.” NASPA, March.
• 2014 Perozzi, Brett presented with three colleagues about international college unions, and engagement of students in higher education. NASPA, March.
• 2014 Perozzi, Brett and two colleagues presented data on an international study of student affairs practitioners. NASPA, March.
• 2014 Perozzi, Brett and colleagues presented on international college unions, and engagement of students in higher education. ACUI, April.
• 2013 Sawyer, Betty. “Be the Great...Get In, Get Out, and Give Back” as the keynote speaker at the Expect the Great, African American College and Career Fair, University of UT.
• 2014 Sawyer, Betty and representatives from the Pride Center, Urban Indian Center, the Queen Center, and Centro Hispano. “Face of Utah Diversity.” Utah Department of Health Contractor’s Training.
• 2014 Sawyer, Betty and partners from the Pride Center, UT Department of Health Tobacco Prevention and Control Program and Urban Indian Center. “Community Assessment: Lessons Learned when collecting data and working with minority, racial, and ethnic populations in UT”, Utah Public Health Annual Conference. Provo, UT.
• 2013 Smith, Tracy, Testing Centers, presented on faculty and testing relations at the IRTA Conference in October of 2013.
2013 Steimel, Sarah. “Communicating Empowerment(s) With and To Clients in Mediating Organizations.” Paper presented at annual conference of the National Communication Association, Washington, DC. November 2013. [Received Top Paper Award in Organizational Communication Division]


2013 Winniford, Jan and Oyler, Jessica, “Implementing a Comprehensive Division Assessment Plan, NASPA Western Regional SSAO Institute, Salt Lake City, November 2013.


2013 Five writing tutors presented as a panel at the regional Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference at UVU in Provo, Utah in October 2013. They discussed the various roles that tutors fill within their jobs as peer tutors and how to maneuver situations that can arise in working with a wide variety of students and student needs.

Publications


Professional Leadership Positions

• Allison Hayes, Housing and Residence Life, served as the State/Provincial Representative of the Association of Intermountain Housing Officers (AIMHO).
• Azenett Garza, Center for Community Engaged Learning, served on American Psychological Association’s Division 45 (Society for the Psychological Study of culture, Ethnicity, and Race) Third Biennial Research Conference planning committee to take place in Eugene, Oregon, June 19-21, 2014 and as the Director of Psi Alpha Omega, Honor Society.
• Betty Sawyer, Education Access and Outreach State GEAR UP Program, serves on the France Davis Scholarship Committee, Education Chair for the Greater Salt Lake Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Health Committee Chair, Ogden branch of the NAACP; Coordinator, Statewide Juneteenth Freedom and Heritage Festival; Coordinator, African American Health and Wellness Conference; and Project Success Coalition, Inc./Harambee Tobacco & Health Network.
• Brenda Marsteller Kowalewski, Center for Community Engaged Learning, served on selection committee for the Thomas Ehrlich Award through NERCHE and as the WSU representative in the NASPA Lead Institution Initiative for Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement.
• Brett Perozzi, Associate Vice President, is the Chair of the NASPA International Advisory Board, and a member of the ACUI Research Program Team.
• Casey Wilkerson, a student worker in Campus Recreation, serves as the 2013-14 NIRSA Student State Representative for Utah.
• Clayton Oyler, served on the local arrangements planning committee of the NASPA Western Regional Conference.
• Dan Czech, Veterans Upward Bound, served on the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound conference committee.
• Jessica Oyler, Student Affairs Assessment and Research, served as the chair of the Utah NASPA Conference and as the registration chair for the NASPA Western Regional Conference.
• Leah Murray, Center for Community Engaged Learning, served on American Democracy Project Advisory Committee, as Faculty Advisor to the American Democracy Project National Student Advisory Board, on the Utah Campus Compact Faculty Development
Network, the Utah Campus Compact Utah Intercollegiate Legislature Planning Committee. She also served as chair of the Western Political Science Association Charles Redd Center Award Committee, as a Utah Council on Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor, and as a National Council on Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor.

- Mike Moon, Center for Community Engaged Learning, served on the Utah NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) Planning Committee.
- Randy Wilson, Director for Veterans Upward Bound, was elected to the Board of Directors for the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound.
- Rebecca Tierney, TRiO Talent Search, was elected as President for Utah ASPIRE (TRiO) for the upcoming 2014-15 year.
- Ruth Patino Stubbs, Education Access and Outreach, was elected to serve as the co-chair for the College Access Network of Utah at the Utah System of Higher Education.
- Teri Bladen, Campus Recreation, serves as the 2012-14 NIRSA State Director for Utah.
- Winn Stanger, Career Services, served as President of the Utah Association of Colleges and Employers in 2013. He is currently serving in the role as past president.
- Charlie Chandler was selected to serve on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Veterans Program Administrators (NAVPA)
- Jan Winniford served on the NASPA Foundation Board of Directors through March 2014.

Awards

- Adrienne Andrews, Center for Diversity and Unity, received the Marshall White/Ogden Community Action Program Partnership 2014 Community Advocate Award.
- Aubrey Morrison, PsyD with Counseling and Psychological Services, successfully completed the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology. Preparing for this exam involves an extensive and comprehensive study program; passing it represents the most significant hurdle in the licensure process. May 2014.
- Betty Sawyer, Education Access and Outreach State GEAR Up Program, received the President’s Service Award at the Ogden NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet.
- Brett Perozzi, Associate Vice President, was invited to speak at the annual conference of the South African Association of Student Development practitioners in East London, South Africa in May, 2014.
- Charlie Chandler, Veterans Services, received outstanding recognition as the conference chairman for the October, 2013 National Association of Veteran Program Administrators conference in Park City, UT.
- Jamie Brass, PsyD with Counseling and Psychological Services, was selected by the Utah Psychological Association (UPA) as an Early Career Psychologist delegate. UPA sponsored Dr. Brass to attend the American Psychological Association State Leadership conference in Washington, DC, which focuses on promoting leadership and advocacy in the field of psychology. March 2014.
- Joe Pfleegor, Campus Recreation, was named Coach of the Year by Utah Amateur Hockey Club Association.