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When Dr. Brooke Arkush applied for a position at Weber State College in the spring of 1990, he didn't know he'd spend the next 31 years at this institution. Dr. Arkush was the first tenure-track archaeology professor hired at Weber State and has since taught thousands of students and led numerous field trips, archaeological field schools, and research projects.

"Dr. Arkush gave me the opportunity not only to move my career forward out of the academic world, but he also taught me skills that have helped me succeed in doing a job that I love."
-Sandy Chynoweth Pagano, Class of 1996

The key reasons Dr. Arkush remained at Weber State are the support from administration, his fellow faculty, and the bright, motivated students.

"It's nice to be surrounded by really dedicated faculty. We take teaching very seriously, which is our primary responsibility. But then, most of us are pretty active in doing research, publishing, and presenting at professional conferences and community groups. It's refreshing to be around those kind of people."

The key reasons Dr. Arkush remained at Weber State are the support from administration, his fellow faculty, and the bright, motivated students.

"I'm definitely not the only student who would say this - I probably owe my entire career to Dr. Arkush!"
-Jaynie Hirschi, Class of 1995

As an elementary school student, Dr. Arkush was drawn to history and geography, which eventually led him to the study of anthropology and archaeology. Dr. Arkush enjoys the field work and the laboratory analysis and report production process.

"Each archaeological site is unique in terms of its contents. I find it fascinating—what we can learn about the past—how people got along every day, the foods they harvested, and the kinds of tools they made and maintained."

"I enjoyed all the courses I took from Dr. Arkush, but the Field School was my favorite. It was a great learning experience and seeing Dr. Arkush in his element was very educational. I learned many techniques that I still use professionally."
-Sandy Chynoweth Pagano, Class of 1996

Dr. Arkush fondly remembers field trips to Mesa Verde, Chaco Canyon, and Hovenweep National Monument in addition to the summers he worked with students in the Archaeological Field School.
Dr. Frank Harrold started his journey in at Weber State as the Dean of the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences where he served until 2019. During his deanship, Dr. Harrold was involved in the adoption of a new strategic plan, the hiring of many new faculty, the founding of the Walker Institute for Politics & Public Service, and the renovation and construction of the Social Science Building. 

"Being a dean was a rewarding experience. The college is filled with faculty who care about students, and as a dean, you feel you can make a contribution in leading the college."

One of Dr. Harrold's favorite experiences during his time as dean was the design and construction of Lindquist Hall. The process took several years and involved working with a large team of architects, designers, and CSBS faculty members.

"Frank guided the college for eight years as our dean—we all were very appreciative of his steady hand on the helm of the CSBS ship"
-Dr. Julie Rich, Interim Dean

After serving as a dean for eight years at Weber State and 11 years elsewhere, Dr. Harrold decided to return to his first love—teaching archaeology. One of Dr. Harrold's favorite courses to teach is Introduction to Anthropology because he is able to teach students who may have never even heard the word 'anthropology' before.

"By the end of the semester, I think they have a greater appreciation for human variability in the physical and cultural sense. Then, they are able to incorporate that broader cultural understanding to everything from their activities as a citizen to their everyday life."

"Dr. Harrold shared a passion for history and cultures with me, which has greatly impacted my academic journey. He is never short of patience or compassion for his students and repeatedly demonstrates that he genuinely cares about their learning and success."
-Parker Goss, Class of 2021
Dr. Kathryn MacKay was among the first female historians to be hired on as tenure-track faculty at Weber State University. Dr. MacKay has influenced thousands of students over the years with her passion for history and her love of teaching.

"Weber State is a teaching university, and I like to teach. I'm much more a teacher than I am a scholar."

Dr. MacKay has taught courses in the History Department, the Women & Gender Studies program, and the Honors program and has enjoyed taking students on field trips to experience course material in person.

"Dr. MacKay was a huge influence on my academic career. Not only did she inspire me to major in History, but she pushed me to reach goals I never thought I could achieve."
-Mason Lytle, Class of 2019

Team teaching is one of Dr. MacKay's favorite experiences during her time at Weber State. She has created courses with professors within the college and across the university including The City and Text, Women & the Western World, and Manhood in America. Dr. MacKay also created the Public History program, the Arts in the Parks program, and The American Democracy Project team.

One reason Dr. MacKay loves living in Ogden is many of the graduates stay in the area, so she consistently finds herself running into students and talking with them about their experience at Weber State.

"Weber State has been a good place for me to be. I've been able to create several programs, teach experimental classes, and work with wonderful colleagues and incredible students. I've been very lucky to be here and be part of this community."

"Dr. MacKay significantly enriched my undergraduate experience. She is an incredibly generous woman and was always very supportive. Even today, Dr. MacKay keeps in touch and encourages me to publish my research."
-Amber Bell, Class of 2020
Dr. Sessions started his study of history because he knew he wanted to be a universally educated person, and he felt that history was the place to go for that.

"History is the mother of all the disciplines. Almost every discipline emerged from history, including the sciences. History encompasses any subject. You name it, we can deal with it as historians."

What makes Weber State so special? According to Dr. Sessions, one part of Weber State's secret sauce is the hands-on experience students gain while attending. Undergraduate seniors are treated like graduate students; they gain lab experience, work heavily in research, and walk away from Weber State way ahead of graduates from other institutions.

"I have great faith in this institution. All of my children have graduated from Weber State and have been very successful in their careers. One of which has been accepted for graduate work at Oxford from little old Weber State."

Another part of Weber State's secret sauce is faculty that care deeply about students, and Dr. Sessions is a perfect example of that.

"I've had the most brilliant, the most amazing students at this institution. To know that, when you didn't even know it, you were influencing somebody's life for the better. That really is exciting."
Russ Dean graduated from Weber State with a B.S. in Criminal Justice before starting his career in law enforcement. Russ was heavily involved in the founding of the first crime scene investigation unit in Weber County, Weber Metro CSI, which trains CSI technicians in photography, forensic image enhancement, and latent fingerprinting among other areas of expertise.

Russ was a natural mentor and teacher, which, along with his field experience, made him an excellent addition to the CSBS team. His favorite courses to teach were Criminal Investigation and Crime Scene Investigation.

"Russ loved working with students in the classroom and the lab. He relished interacting with students after they had graduated."
- Brent Horn, Criminal Justice Department Chair

Faye was known as the criminal justice department's administrative superwoman. She worked hard to make sure everything ran smoothly in the department for 19 years. One of Faye's main talents was her ability to talk and connect with students.

"Faye was a tremendous asset for the college. She was the fiery glue that kept the criminal justice department together. Students knew they could rely on her, and she was diligent about keeping everything in order. She will be missed."
- Julie Rich, Interim Dean

"Faye had a way of connecting with the students. Often, I would see students talking to her about their successes and challenges because she was so good at listening."
- Brent Horn, Criminal Justice Department Chair
When the Master of Criminal Justice program launched in 2000, it was, and still is, the only MCJ program in the state of Utah. The program's 100% online coursework makes it appealing to students across the state. Students with diverse majors are accepted into the program, meaning an undergraduate degree in criminal justice is not required.

Students in the program receive an in-depth education about criminal justice as a social science, which involves understanding how the criminal justice system works (policing, courts, and corrections), criminology, victimology, and more.

Dr. Bradford Reyns, who graduated from the MCJ program in 2004, has been a professor in the Criminal Justice Department since 2011 and has been the MCJ program director for the past two years. Dr. Reyns has published numerous journal articles and is an active scholar, with research interests such as, victimology, crime prevention, criminal justice theory, and cybercrime. He enjoys teaching various CJ courses and interacting with and advising students in the MCJ program.

"MCJ students take core classes like Theories of Crime & Delinquency, CJ Statistics, and Research Methods in CJ, but then, they get to choose from a large selection of elective courses and determine which will be most useful for them in their professional and academic career."

Graduates of the program go on to be accepted to Ph.D. programs and law schools across the country, receive promotions in their law enforcement or corrections career, and teach as an adjunct instructors at the college level. With students graduating in as little as three semesters, the MCJ program is a perfect fit for individuals directly out of their undergraduate program or for those recently returning to academia.
Weston Anderson, upcoming graduate of the MCJ program, was attracted to the MCJ program because of its affordability and 100% online coursework. Being able to complete his coursework on his own time and from the comfort of his home in Logan, UT was a great benefit of online schooling, especially when he had to quarantine after becoming infected with coronavirus in 2020. 

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Weber State in the online MCJ program. The professors cared about the topics, and more importantly, the students. My cohorts were in a variety of stages in their lives and it was a blast to see all the different perspectives they had to offer."

Weston has been accepted to the PhD program at the University of Louisville and will begin his studies in fall 2021. He is looking forward to pursuing a career in higher education.

"If anyone is teetering on the fence of whether or not to apply to the MCJ program or Weber State, just do it! It was no easy task, but it was certainly well worth it. I have learned so much, and although it may seem overwhelming, it is attainable and one of the best things I have done!"

Students in the MCJ program are taught by award-winning faculty with decades of field experience in policing, corrections, law, and forensics including Dr. Bruce Bayley, Dr. Mark Denniston, Jean Kapenda, Dr. Brad Reyns Dr. Molly Sween, Dr. Monica Williams, Dr. Heeuk Lee, Dr. McKenzie Wood, and Dr. R.C. Morris.

The deadline to apply for the fall 2021 semester is June 25 and only requires an online application, three letters of recommendation, and a personal statement. The GRE is not required to apply. Get more information or apply for our Master of Criminal Justice program at [weber.edu/mcj](http://weber.edu/mcj).
Sustainability is incredibly important to us here in the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences. That is why we’re proud to announce that Lindquist Hall has recently received LEED Gold certification by USGBC! LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a "globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership." There is a lot that goes into becoming LEED certified, from monitoring the building’s construction to interior design and maintenance.

“Buildings that achieve LEED certification are lowering carbon emissions, reducing operating costs and conserving resources while prioritizing sustainable practices and human health,” said Mahesh Ramanujam, president and CEO, USGBC.

Read more about the economic, health, and environmental benefits of LEED certified buildings on the USGBC website.
We are excited to welcome and introduce 13 new faculty and staff members to the CSBS family!

**DR. TIMOTHY BLACK  Assistant Professor of Biological Psychology**

I earned my Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, with a focus on Comparative and Neurological psychology. During this time, I was able to pursue my research at leading institutes of agricultural science throughout the world, including the University of Puerto Rico, and France’s National Agricultural and Environmental Research Institute. My research focus is on behavioral genetics as it pertains to learning and physiological stress. In my non-research time, my wife and I enjoy hiking, kayaking, and backpacking. I enjoy teaching a wide range of classes.

**PATTY BURTON  Administrative Specialist II, Political Science & Philosophy**

I have lived in Utah most of my life having moved from Kansas with my family for my father’s job. I always say Kansas is a great place to be "from," but I immediately fell in love with the mountains. I enjoy spending my free time in nature and traveling to other areas to discover the hidden beauty by getting off the beaten path, especially the Oregon coast! My husband and I have been married for 35 years, have two children, and three beautiful grandsons.
NEW CSBS FACULTY & STAFF

MICHELLE JEFFS, JD  Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
Michelle Jeffs graduated from BYU Law School in 2014 with her Juris Doctorate and from Weber State University in 2009 with a B.S. in English and Political Science. After clerking for a judge in the Fourth District, Michelle has spent the last 6 years working as a Deputy County Attorney at the Weber County Attorney’s Office. She has participated with SWAP-LAC during the legislative sessions, focusing on juvenile law issues. Having enjoyed teaching adjunct classes at Eagle Gate College and Weber State, Michelle is thrilled to be joining the faculty at Weber State. Michelle loves to camp and hike with her husband and three little boys.

Assistant Professor of Social Work  DR. JUSTIN LEE
Dr. Justin Lee earned a master’s of social work at Eastern Washington University then earned a PhD in social work from Virginia Commonwealth University. Justin has been a passionate teacher and researcher for the past 10 years in North Carolina and Idaho. His research interests include immigrant and refugee integration, health disparities, and clinical interventions during faith transitions. Justin has four daughters and enjoys spending his time outdoors, hiking, camping, and skiing.

DR. MADELINE MACKIE  Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Madeline Mackie is an archaeologist who specializes in western North American hunter-gatherers with an emphasis on diet, big game hunting, spatial analysis, and the early inhabitants of North America. She received her PhD from the University of Wyoming and her current projects include the La Prele Mammoth site and the compilation of a radiocarbon database for North America.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy  DR. PAUL NEIMAN
I earned BAs in Philosophy and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and a PhD from Marquette University. From 2007-2020, I worked at St. Cloud State University, where I taught 22 different classes (I love teaching new things!). In 2020, I received a Minnesota State Educator of the Year award, was retrenched (terminated) along with 7 other tenured and promoted faculty to cover a budget deficit, and was then happy to be hired at Weber!
After completing an A.B. in Cognitive Science at the University of Georgia, Joel worked in several research labs and as a therapist for children with autism before starting his PhD in Neuroscience at Utah State University. Joel is currently a PhD Candidate in Neuroscience at Utah State University. Additionally, Joel has taught several courses as an Adjunct Professor at Weber State University and Salt Lake Community College. In his spare time, Joel enjoys practicing yoga, snowboarding, climbing, mountain biking, cooking, and spending time with his partner, Nicole, his dog, and his two tuxedo cats.

LTC ANGELIQUE PIFER  
ROTC Commander  
Lieutenant Colonel Angelique Pifer is an Army Strategic Intelligence Officer (FA 34) who graduated from California State University, Sacramento and earned her commission from the University of California, Davis ROTC program. Prior to earning her commission she began her service in the United States Army Reserve as a Psychological Operations Specialist. She is married to her college sweetheart, Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Pifer, and together they have four children.

New CSBS Faculty & Staff

Dr. Leah LaGrone Ochoa  
Assistant Professor of History  
Dr. Leah LaGrone Ochoa will graduate from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, in May 2021 with a PhD in History. She recently defended her dissertation titled “A Woman’s Worth: Wages, Race, And Respectability in 20th Century Texas.” Leah taught high school and college courses for twelve years before going back to graduate school. Leah has never been skiing and looks forward to learning while living in Ogden.

Administrative Specialist II, Social Work  
Taryn Pearce  
Taryn is a lifetime Ogdenite and Wildcat. Before she joined the CSBS staff she worked for the non-profit, Nurture the Creative Mind, for which she still volunteers. She played a key role in community events such as the Ogden Arts Festival & The Downtown Ogden Piano Project. She is an unpublished author, an artist, and a die-hard gardener (even in the winter). She is thrilled to be back in an academic environment where her commitment to life-long learning is encouraged and attainable.

Lecturer of Psychology and Neuroscience  
Joel Skaria, ABD  
After completing an A.B. in Cognitive Science at the University of Georgia, Joel worked in several research labs and as a therapist for children with autism before starting his PhD in Neuroscience at Utah State University. Joel is currently a PhD Candidate in Neuroscience at Utah State University. Additionally, Joel has taught several courses as an Adjunct Professor at Weber State University and Salt Lake Community College. In his spare time, Joel enjoys practicing yoga, snowboarding, climbing, mountain biking, cooking, and spending time with his partner, Nicole, his dog, and his two tuxedo cats.
McKenzie Wood graduated from Weber State University with a B.S. in Sociology, and M.S. in Criminal Justice. Following her education at Weber State she completed a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at North Dakota State University. Her research interests include the victimization of women, survivor help-seeking behaviors, and violent crime prevention. She is the mother of three children and loves to hike, write, and try new flavors of herbal tea.

Dr. Ashley Yaugher is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological Science. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Texas A&M University and is currently a licensed psychologist in the state of Utah. Dr. Yaugher’s professional and research interests include collaboration; rural mental health; and Opioid Use Disorder. She is passionate about teaching, mental health stigma reduction, and community outreach. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, snowboarding, and spending time with her family and their dog, Riley.

Shellie Weeks grew up in Cokeville, WY and currently lives near Weber State University with her husband and two children. Shellie attended Weber State University in the early 2000’s. Previously Shellie worked for the Ogden City School District for nine years. She enjoys gardening and camping with her family. Shellie is excited to work for the Criminal Justice Department as the Administrative Assistant.
It has been over a year since COVID-19 began shutting down the world and our individual lives. At the beginning of the pandemic we all experienced moments of fear, panic, frustration, plus other emotions tied to the uncertainty of this virus and the disruption. Now, over a year later, we have adapted and figured out how to operate classes and meetings in a virtual environment. Students have demonstrated they have the tenacity and ability to learn and seek after their education even when the world is turned upside-down.

This entire pandemic episode has demonstrated how resilient we can be, and how each of us has the ability to push through seemingly insurmountable obstacles. As the school year races to a close, I have such a deep sense of hope knowing that the people that I see each day, whether face to face or virtually, are resilient, tenacious, and gifted individuals who are trying to build a brighter future. That construction of a brighter future occurs each day in our university classes and with every graduate that leaves our college. Each is positively impacting the world and building the hope that is needed as we emerge from this pandemic.

Julie Rich

- DR. JULIE RICH, INTERIM DEAN
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
FACULTY/STAFF PROMOTIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TRACY HICKS
Previously: Administrative Assistant II
Currently: Administrative Assistant III

DR. THERESA KAY
Previously: Associate Professor
Currently: Full Professor of Psychology

DR. HEEUK "DENNIS" LEE
Previously: Assistant Professor
Currently: Associate Professor of Criminal Justice

DR. KRISTINA MOLENI
Previously: Lecturer
Currently: Assistant Professor of Social Work

SUCCESSFUL THIRD-YEAR REVIEWS
Dr. Aminda O'Hare
Dr. Melinda Russell-Stamp
Dr. Janicke Stramer-Smith
Dr. Joanna Gautney
**FACULTY/STAFF PROMOTIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

Kare McManama-Kearin- Published "In League with Nature: Striving for Comfort in Late Medieval Tower Houses in Ireland" in *Château Gaillard*, 29, 2020.

**GEOGRAPHY**


**HISTORY**

Abdulnaser Kaadan- Presented a lecture, Activities Related to Arabization of Medicine, organized by the Saudi Society for Medical Engineering, Feb. 2021.


Gene Sessions- Will be receiving an honorary degree from Weber State University at the Spring 2021 Commencement Ceremony for his many years of dedicated and honorable service to the institution.

**PHILOSOPHY**

Paul Neiman- Published "Albert Camus' Philosophy of Love" in *Philosophical Investigations*, March 2021.

POLITICAL SCIENCE


Stephanie Wolfe- Weber State has been officially approved to co-host the 2022 Model United Nations of the Far West Conference. Three students, Kayden Houser, Olivia Erickson, and Floricela Anguiano, will be working with Dr. Wolfe to prepare for the conference, and they will chair the MUNFW Third Committee Session.

PSYCHOLOGY

Joe Horvat- Finishing his sixth year working for SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services) on a $10 million federal grant working with ethnic minority populations in overcoming opioid addiction.
Sarah Herrmann- Elected for a three year term as editor of The Forward for The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.

SOCIAL WORK

Corina Segovia-Tadehara- Received the Presidential Teaching Excellence Award. Appointed as the program director for the new Master of Social Work program, launching Fall 2021.

SOCIOLOGY

Huiying Hill- Virtually presented two papers, "You Are a 'Model Minority' but Still Undeserving" and "Two-Faced Female Gender Images in American Culture" and served as a session presider for "Asian/Asian American Sociology: Experiences of Asian Americans" and "Gender: Studies in Gender Femininity, and Culture" at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, March 2021.