Student Affairs Division E-Update

September 2021

Student Affairs HR Updates

Welcome to those who have recently joined Student Affairs!

- Kirsti Fox, Learning Support
- Cydney Eden, Student Health Center
- Kayla Griffin, Student Involvement & Leadership
- Josh Brooks, Campus Recreation
- George Valdez, Counseling – Psychological Services
- Sheilagh Fox – Counseling – Psychological Services
- Jaeger Schuelke – Testing Services

Goodbye & Good Luck to Those Leaving Weber State!

- Amy Blunck, Counseling & Psychological Services
- Avery Lytle, Women’s Center
- Mikayla Anderson, Academic Support Centers – Programs
- Kali Winn – Testing Services

On the Move:

- Sara Seefried, Career Services

Student Affairs Information

Ask Waldo

Ask Waldo, our chat and text bot is up and running. Ask Waldo is currently housed on over 50 websites across the University, including Financial Aid, Tutoring, Career Services, and the English Department just to name a few. Since its soft launch in April, more than 2500 individual users have asked over 9000 questions of “Waldo” through chat.
Throughout the summer months, several groups of students were reached out to through the text bot. Students received specific messaging around topics such as getting enrolled in classes, completing New Student Orientation, and participating in the African American Heritage Initiative, among other messages. At the start of the fall semester, all enrolled degree-seeking undergraduate students were loaded into the system and will be receiving text messages from Waldo with just-in-time messages to help them be successful. Since the first text was sent at the end of May, more than 18,000 students have been reached with engagement rates for interactive campaigns averaging 34%.

**Weber Dining**

- **The Wildcat Room is back!** The Wildcat Room is back and open for business. Located in the Shepherd Union, this is more than just a lunch spot, it's an experience. Open Monday - Friday 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. And every Friday is Fancy again. Open to all Wildcats!
- **It's A Wrap is open!** Our new dining location opens on September 7th in Wildcat Village in Stewart Wasatch Hall. Choose a menu item and have it wrapped up or over greens. Also featuring grill classics and favorites. Open Monday - Friday 6 -9 p.m.

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**WSU News**

**Wildcat Advantage**

This is a new program promoting High Impact Educational Experiences (HIEEs) & Students can earn up to $500. A new program, **Wildcat Advantage**, was developed over the summer and designed to increase the number of WSU students participating in high-impact educational experiences (HIEEs). We began accepting applications from students on September 3rd.

**Here’s how it works:** Students participating in the program must complete at least two HIEEs before they graduate from WSU. They can choose their own adventure as long as they have at least two different kinds of HIEEs on record in GivePulse, (the software platform we are using to track HIEE participation).

**What counts as HIEEs?** There are seven different types of experiences that currently count as HIEEs in Wildcat Advantage:

- Community Engaged Learning;
- Undergraduate Research;
- Internship & Career Exploration;
- Global Learning Experiences;
- Leadership;
- Peer Mentor/Tutor; and
- Capstone projects.
For Fall 2021 - Students can earn up to $500 for participating. For the Fall 2021 semester only, students participating in Wildcat Advantage can earn up to $500 for registering in the program and completing one HIEE during the fall semester. This funding counts as a wage earned at WSU and does not count against the scholarship cap.

Please don’t hesitate to contact Dr. Brenda Kowalewski (bkowalewski@weber.edu) if you have any questions about Wildcat Advantage. We are excited to start registering your students in the program as soon as possible.

Facilities/Construction Updates

The Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) work on the south side of the Shepherd Union is wrapping up, but the BRT project is 11 months from completion. The project will continue throughout the year moving south and connecting the line to the Dee Events Center and heading west to connect to Harrison Blvd.

2021 Annual WSU Diversity Conference (Virtual)

- Thursday, September 30, 6 – 8 p.m. – Welcome and Opening
- Friday, October 1, Sessions at 9:30, 10:30 & 11:30 a.m./ Key Note at 12:30 p.m.
- Topic: Exploring Free Speech
- weber.edu/diversity/diversityconference.html

Student Affairs Resources:

- Division Staff Webpage
- Student Affairs Website
- Student Affairs on Facebook
- Student Affairs on Instagram

Campus Info:

- Monthly Events Calendar
- WSU News
- WSU Announcements
- WSU Calendars