Keep Campus Safe

Training teaches appropriate responses to sexual assault

“Safe @ Weber” is more than a slogan to Chief of Police Dane LeBlanc. It’s his profession and his passion to ensure the safety of the campus community.

What that requires is for all members of the Wildcat family to watch out for each other, particularly when it concerns sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking and sexual harassment.

“It’s proven. Old training practices weren’t working because they were placing the burden on the individual not to be a victim instead of changing the culture,” LeBlanc explained. “Bystander intervention is a huge component of violence prevention. You have to train everybody: faculty, staff and community.”

A new 20-minute training program developed by EverFi Haven is now available in the eWeber portal. University leadership would like all employees to take the training to learn how to respond appropriately and report quickly when they note something of concern.

WSU has many resources to help individuals in need, including the police, Women’s Center, Counseling & Psychological Services, Student Health Center, Dean of Students Jeff Hurst and Title IX coordinator Barry Gomberg.

“The power of a women’s center creates tangible change on campus.”

New Director Invites All to Women’s Center

“‘We ask justice, we ask equality, we ask that all the civil and political rights that belong to citizens of the United States be guaranteed to us and our daughters forever.’ Such was the dream of Susan B. Anthony, a social reformer of the 1800s.

The new director of WSU’s Women’s Center, Stephanie McClure, said it is a dream that has yet to be fully realized. “I’ve only been here four months, but no matter where you are in this country, there’s work to be done on these issues,” McClure said. “I don’t think Weber State is an exception.” Since her arrival, McClure has helped establish and launch three initiatives: women’s empowerment and retention, violence prevention training, and social justice education.

“One thing that has amazed me to hear from our students over and over is how excited they are to have these conversations taking place on campus,” she said.

As an undergraduate at Oregon State University, McClure discovered the women’s training teaches appropriate responses to sexual assault.

ONE assault is too many.

Most sexual assaults don’t make the news,” LeBlanc said. “When people don’t hear about them in the community, they ask, ‘Why should I worry about it?’ But when you see how traumatized victims are, one assault is too many.”

LeBlanc knows changing the culture can make significant, lasting improvement. Twelve years ago the university had 13 sexual assaults reported in one year.

Police investigated and found all of them involved alcohol or drugs at some level, and most occurred in campus housing. At that time, the university had a “three-strikes-and-you’re-out policy” regarding alcohol infractions.

“That’s just not good at all,” LeBlanc said. “Alcohol should not be accepted here at all — no tolerance.” He helped craft a zero-tolerance policy and a training program for Resident Assistants.

“Alcohol arrests spiked a little bit the next year, but then dropped dramatically,” LeBlanc said. “You have to be involved, proactive, and out in front, or you’re reacting to stuff you could have prevented in the first place.”

EverFi Haven training is a chance for faculty and staff to learn what to do to make sure everyone is Safe @ Weber. Look for the EverFi Haven logo in your eWeber portal.

continued on page 3
The Chronicle of Higher Education honored Weber State University as a “2015 Great College to Work For.”

The Chronicle surveyed employees at 281 colleges and universities nationwide. Just 86 of the institutions were awarded the “Great College to Work For” distinction.

The survey is one of the largest workplace recognition programs in the country. Winners were announced in July in The Chronicle’s eighth annual report on The Academic Workplace.

WSU received honors in three of 12 possible categories: job satisfaction and support, work/life balance, and facilities/workspace security.

“During the first couple of years of my presidency, I’ve come to know that Weber State is a great university to work for, and this survey makes my observations official,” said Charles A. Wight, WSU president. “We will use the survey results to celebrate our strengths and look at opportunities for improvement.”

The Great Colleges survey included a two-part assessment process. Faculty, administrators and salaried staff participated in the survey, and an institutional audit provided demographics and workplace policies and practices. Employee feedback was used as the primary factor in deciding if an institution received recognition.

“I’m proud faculty and staff members recognize WSU’s policies and practices give them flexibility to manage their lives, also that they find their work meaningful to themselves and the institution,” said Cherrie Nelson, WSU Human Resources assistant vice president.

“Additionally, many individuals have worked hard to provide a beautiful campus and great facilities in a safe, secure environment, which is noticed and appreciated by faculty and staff.”

It’s Official: Weber State Great, Great, Great
“It was a transformative experience,” she said. Through the support of the center, she got involved in activism, working on violence and social justice issues, such as stalking, sexual and domestic violence, sexism, racism, classism and homophobia.

“I learned the power of a women’s center and other cultural centers do create tangible change on campus,” McClure said.

Change often requires challenging conversations. McClure said faculty and staff can use the Women’s Center as a resource. “If they have a student dealing with sexual assault, violence or stalking, we provide support and advocacy training as well as a guide to all the support systems available on campus,” McClure said. “We can create a community where we stay safe and hold each other accountable.”

Stephanie Bossenberger cut her teeth in the early days of WSU’s dental hygiene program.

“You learn the science,” she said. “At the same time, you’re learning to treat patients.”

After graduating in 1978, she started teaching for the Department of Dental Hygiene, while working in the industry. Now, as the department chair, she says much has changed since she was a student.

To keep abreast of all the changes and celebrate the department’s 40th anniversary, dental hygiene recently completed a $500,000 upgrade of facilities and equipment.

Students now have access to cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), providing three-dimensional X-ray images of a patient’s neck and head.

“We’ve partnered in an interdisciplinary manner with the radiologic sciences department for students to learn this specialty X-ray,” Bossenberger said.

The department also boasts an updated clinic with 18 new dental chairs that have trays for a student’s dental instruments and computer.

In addition, new interactive whiteboards allow instructors to easily conduct demonstrations. Renovations also include new sinks, freshly painted walls and updated décor.

Funding for the two-year project was made possible with support from the Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke Foundation, philanthropic sources, the College of Health Professions Office of the Dean and other university funding.

In October, the department held an open house to celebrate its anniversary and show off the updates. Kathleen Lukken, the department’s first chair and former WSU associate provost, was honored.

Lukken, who was department chair for 18 years, credits doctors Reed Stringham, Robert Soderberg and Michael Bott for laying the groundwork for the department when she arrived in 1975.

She is impressed with the direction the department is headed. “The dental hygiene department is much more advanced than it was when I served as the first chair,” Lukken said. “It’s a cutting-edge, state-of-the-art facility for dental hygiene students.”

Visit weber.edu/DentalHygiene for services and prices.

Call 801-626-6131 to schedule your appointment.

English Chair Hal Crimmel conducted a fellowship at the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, Germany, January-July. The Rachel Carson Center is the leading global center for the environmental humanities and is co-sponsored by the Deutsches Museum and Ludwigs-Maximilians University Munich.

Music professor David Feller gave a presentation at the International Clarinet Convention in Madrid, Spain, titled “Performance, Examination and Analysis of the Music of Spanish Clarinetist Antonio Romero (1815-1886) from a Spanish and American Perspective.”


Assistant professor of theatre design Jessica Greenberg made a panel presentation at the Prague Quadrennial Theatre Design Festival in the Czech Republic, regarding best practices for designing on devised work. She co-presented with Jenny Kokai, performing arts assistant professor, at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education in Montreal, Canada.

Communication chair Shereen Josephson published the article “Just state the facts on Twitter: eye tracking shows that readers may ignore questions posted by news organizations on Twitter but not on Facebook” in *Visual Communication Quarterly*, Vol. 22, Issue 2. Josephson co-authored the article with alumna Jennifer Schreifels Miller, a reporter for The Salt Lake Tribune who graduated recently from WSU’s Master of Professional Communication (MPC) program. Also, Josephson co-presented a paper titled “How reader comments on news websites influence user behavior” with Jennifer Toomer-Cook, a 2015 MPC graduate, at the 29th annual Visual Communication Conference.


Matthew Ondrus, associate professor of mathematics, was awarded the Mathematical Association of America Intermountain Section Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, given in recognition of those who are extraordinarily successful and whose teaching effectiveness has been shown to have had influence beyond their own institutions.

Brett Perozzi, associate vice president for Student Affairs, received the Robert H. Shaffer Alumni Award from Indiana University for exemplifying outstanding service to the student affairs profession. Also, he had an article published in the *Journal of the Australia and New Zealand Student Services Association* on the challenges and issues facing student affairs professionals in Commonwealth countries.

Thomas Priest, professor of music, performed his composition “Running the Green for Bassoon and Piano” with Japanese pianist Mayumi Yamagishi of Tokyo, Japan, at the Annual Conference of the International Double Reed Society.

Enrique Romo, Access & Diversity executive director, published a book chapter in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Texas at Austin and Missouri State University. The chapter, The Dream of Higher Education in Mexico, Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa, was published in *O Sonho da Educação Superior nos MBRICS*, an online resource by Editora Universitária da PUCRS.

Educational technology assistant professor Gina Shelley presented a three-day workshop at the Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy, to elementary and secondary teachers from all over Italy about cloud technology, using Google Drive and Google software to design curriculum, provide assessment and work collaboratively.

Dean of the Ezekiel R. Dumble College of Health Professions Yasmyn Simoneian has been named as the president of the Board of Directors of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. She has served on the board since 2008.

Tracey Smith, Testing Services director, received the National College Testing Association award for Outstanding Contribution.

Vicki Ramirez, English professor, recently published “Conversations with Michael Chabon,” edited by Brandon Costello, University Press of Mississippi.

Randy Wilson, Veterans Upward Bound director, received the Lifetime Service award from the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound organization.

English professors Michael Wutz and Hal Crimmel co-edited “Conversations with W.S. Merwin,” published by the University Press of Mississippi.