



Student Support with CARES & UETN Funding

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act assigned to the Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) to provide much-needed funding for education has been instrumental to Weber State University (WSU) in providing students with the tools necessary to meet course requirements during the pandemic. The technological funding that has enhanced student learning is captured within this newsletter and demonstrates the ongoing commitment the IT Division has to student learning.

Wireless Upgrades:

The Val A. Browning Center for the Performing Arts, Austad Auditorium, Allred Theatre, and Eccles Theatre gained new wireless coverage allowing students to use it as a space to work between classes while being socially distanced.

The Dee Events Center - Wireless was added to the upper concourse to allow students to use the space for social distanced work space between online and in-person classes. It now allows Weber-Morgan Health to have network access while they use the facility to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.

General Upgrades - Replacement of approximately two-hundred and three (203) older generation access points on campus allowing for faster speeds. Similarly, some housing areas were upgraded with access points and with new switches allowing for greater speeds and stability as students remotely attended classes from the dorms.

New wireless on-boarding software was purchased allowing for easier access to the network.



Ogden Campus
wifi map



Davis Campus and
other locations
wifi map



David Rodriguez (above) and Briana Scroggins (foreground) were part of the production.



Amanda Sowerby

Associate Dean of the
Telitha E. Lindquist College
of Arts & Humanities

Without a doubt—and we discuss this often—we are building skills that will serve our students and our audiences in a post-COVID world.



Stewart Library

Online Resources for Students Moving to Online Classes

The additional seventy-eight (78) laptops and twenty-five (25) WiFi Hotspots have allowed the Stewart Library to better meet the technology needs of students to support remote coursework.

Virtual Dance Concerts

The funding for technology has been great for live streaming dance classes and performances.

The microphones, cameras, and additional audio/visual equipment purchased has been instrumental in both the dance studios and the theaters.

In the studios, the technology allows for connection, instruction, providing feedback, and building community in-real-time with students dancing in the studio and at home—simultaneously.

For dance performances, a combination of pre-recorded and live streaming events. Multi-camera shoots, enhanced audio, and pre/real-time performance editing have all given faculty and students a new world of options for presenting their creative work.

More people are watching and accessing on-line performances than were able to purchase tickets pre-COVID. The audience reach has been inspiring and something that will be pursued by the department post-COVID.

Lastly, the access to the enhanced technology has supported collaboration with both CATS (Creative Academic Technology Solutions) and the Department of Communications Digital Media Program making for a wonderfully creative and informative interdisciplinary research for the students.

CARES Funding in the DCHP

Eric Bennick, CTC for the Dumke College of Health Professions

The Dumke College of Health Professions (DCHP) received twenty-four (24) wireless mics for checkout to faculty and staff to improve audio quality of streaming and recordings. In addition, five (5) PTZ cameras were purchased to add streaming to classrooms and labs which didn't already have the capabilities. There were also five (5) ACV 5100 conferencing soundbars installed to facilitate remote learning between smaller groups of students and faculty. Equipment was purchased to upgrade the classroom used by the Paramedic program. This room enables streaming labs and instruction to be sent to remote locations and is a critical component in the education and continuing education of first responders around the nation.



The Dental Hygiene Department operates a public clinic where students provide cleaning and dental services to

members of the community. Twelve iPads were purchased with CARES money in order to implement a paperless system for patient forms and check-in. The iPads can be sanitized between uses, which reduces the potential spread of contagions when multiple parties handle and process large amounts of paper forms.



The Radiologic Sciences department received funding to purchase 10 Butterfly IQ Portable Ultrasound Probes. These probes connect to portable devices like a phone or iPads and allow students to practice their clinical skills. Labs can now be conducted with each student having access to their own equipment instead of all students sharing a couple of ultrasound machines. The Butterfly probes are also highly portable and enable remote instruction, allowing students to practice social distancing during labs.

Nursing purchased 48 wireless otoscopes, which is used to look at the outer ear canal and eardrum. The wireless otoscopes are distributed in lab kits to students and provide a valuable piece of equipment for students to practice clinical assessment of patients. Each student is issued their own device, this eliminates shared contact which can unintentionally spread pathogens like COVID.

Zoology at a Distance

As classes transitioned to a remote learning environment, many students found themselves learning in different ways.

The Zoology department purchased cameras to help facilitate distance learning. A Go-Pro has allowed for filming lessons of cadavers in an effort to provide a more immersive experience. The videos are used for quizzes and exams, as well as for teaching. Also, student instructors utilize the GoPro to record their dissections as a way to demonstrate how various anatomic structures are exposed.

Another camera was used to live-stream via Zoom from an "open lab" to accommodate social distancing and space constraints. During Fall semester 2020, thirty (30) instructors participated in the live stream in preparation to answer questions posed by students via Zoom chat (using the cadavers or anatomic models). Also, the camera was used to deliver lectures via Zoom, rather than a pre-recorded lecture. The same setup was used by the student instructors to deliver each lab lesson. The use of a tripod and microphone has greatly improved the production quality of these videos leading to better audience engagement.



UAV Policy at WSU

Operating a drone on campus is not as simple as you might think. Multiple groups are involved in order to be safe and legal.

One might think that it's an easy process to go to PawPlace, find a drone and punch out. That's where the easy part would end. In order to fly a drone, or UAV, one must have a RPIC (Remote Pilot in Command) license that is awarded after completion of the FAA Part 107 exam. This ensures that the RPIC has the understanding of the flight area and the potential hazards that could exist.

In addition to the FAA Part 107 certification, insurance must be obtained for the UAV and it must be registered with the FAA. The WSU Public Safety Office and dispatch must be notified and then contact must be made with McKay Dee Hospital for LifeFlight to be aware of the UAV in the area.

The CATS team is one of only a few groups on campus with authorized and insured UAVs. They have the RPIC license and the experience to help get practically any footage you need. Please contact cats@weber.edu for more information.



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