



The NEW Virtual Lab has Increased Capabilities!

The Virtual Lab provides students with the technology applications needed for multiple courses. Allowing access anywhere in the world from any computer having a browser and internet connection (24/7, 365 days a year). Before the Virtual Lab was created, students had to access these applications by physically going to campus computer labs. Currently the Virtual Lab includes the following applications:

- Access (for CHP students)
- ArcMap/ArcGIS/Envi
- CHP Coding and Reimbursement System
- IBM SPSS
- Knime
- Mathematica
- Matlab
- Minitab
- R (this is not a typo)
- RStudio
- MySQL Workbench
- SDL Trados Studio
- Stata
- Tableau
- Tableau Prep
- UltraTax

Departments were struggling with providing students access to campus computer labs during the pandemic. There was a greater need to have virtual lab environments since more classes were being moved to a hybrid or online model.

CARES Funding

Provided new servers with high-power video cards to expand capabilities with 3D software, extra memory, faster processors, and upgraded disk space (to handle more robust applications to run on any standard computer).

The Virtual Lab upgrade also included the latest version of Citrix and provided the Northern Utah Academy for Math, Engineering, and Science (NUAMES) with its own set of desktop labs.

Direct Connection: virtuallab.weber.edu
Information Site: weber.edu/virtuallab



Did you know?

WSU Cloud Services

Did you know the Information Technology Division at Weber State University has its very own version of Cloud Services? We can host your servers, applications, and databases right here on campus. The prices below are for a basic server configuration with an Operating System, two CPUs, 4GB of RAM, and 50GB of SSD storage (including backups of your data). Database instances are extra. They also include backup and can have standby instances. Please have a look below to compare our prices.

Windows Server

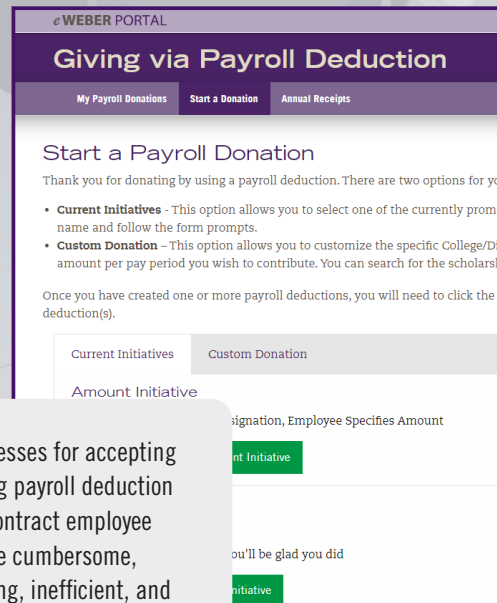
Provider	Their Cost	WSU Cost	WSU Advantage
AWS	\$1,711.44	\$718.03	58.05%
Azure	\$1,952.16	\$730.27	62.59%
Google	\$1,424.88	\$711.58	50.06%
Digital Ocean	\$720.00	\$673.00	6.53%

Linux Server

Provider	Their Cost	WSU Cost	WSU Advantage
AWS	\$903.36	\$783.89	13.23%
Azure	\$1,146.24	\$796.13	30.54%
Google	\$724.08	\$777.45	-7.37%
Digital Ocean	\$720.00	\$673.00	6.53%

Giving Via Payroll Deductions

The previous paper process and verification process hindered an employee from making a donation (adding extra layers to making a gift to WSU). By creating an on-line process, the automation of steps allowed for minimal interaction with the system and only required audits. Additionally, this project provides increased access for an employee to their giving history and will likely increase giving by employees during future campaigns.



Currently processes for accepting and processing payroll deduction requests for contract employee donations were cumbersome, time-consuming, inefficient, and often paper-oriented. We wanted our payroll deduction form to be available online in the WSU Portal.



Carol Ruden
Executive Director of
Advancement Services

ABOVE & BEYOND

Wildcat Collaboration Award

The NCAA Compliance project consisted of two (2) parts. The Synchronization of Student-Athlete information in Banner and the NCAA Compliance Database.

The Financial Aid system needed to comply with the NCAA creation, modification, and cancellation of Athlete Awards.

Part 1, the Registrar's office had a manual process consisting of full-time work to keep both Banner and the NCAA in sync. Previously all changes had to be entered manually. End-of-term processes also meant a lot of data to be updated one by one for each student-athlete. The system needed to keep Banner and the Compliance DB in sync. There are nightly updates of student-athlete changes with no manual input required. This system frees up several weeks for the

"Jacob, Marty, and Roy have done a lot of work behind the scenes that have improved the operations of our department. Because of their work, we now have a bridge that automatically imports data from WSU's student information system to our NCAA compliance tool, which saved countless hours of manual data entry. We are also now available to process all of our athletes scholarships electronically, which improves the efficiency and reduces the use of paper. We thank them for all their work in getting these projects completed."

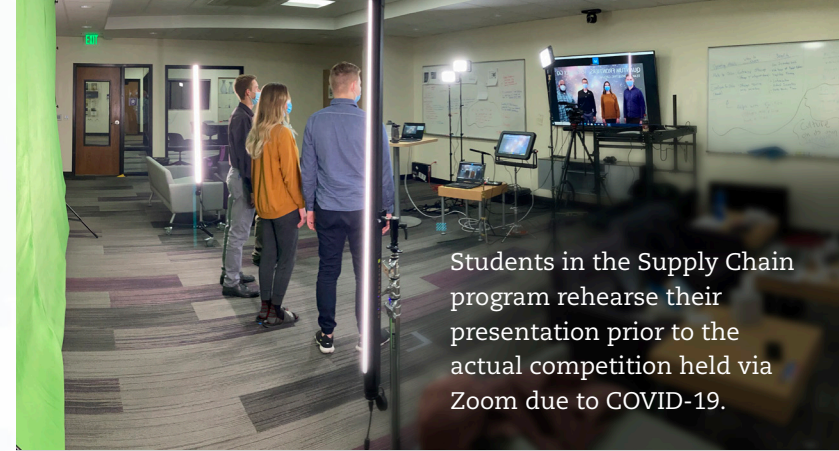
Will Pridemore — Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Support Services

Registrar's office to focus on helping student-athletes meet and maintain NCAA Compliance.

Part 2 focused on the Financial Aid aspect of student-athletes. Again this was a manual process to load data into the NCAA Compliance Assistant Software. Automation of the system created a nightly file transmitted to the NCAA Compliance Assistant Software. In conjunction with a .net form for creating, modifying, or canceling Financial Aid awards. Also, an email system notified students, coaches, Athletic Compliance Officers, Financial Aid Officers, Athletic Financial Coordinators, and the Director of Athletics. Again this part of the project saved Financial Aid personnel time.

"Quin is instrumental in ensuring things run smoothly in our study hall facilities he helps take care of our technology needs and is always quick to respond and willing to help in anyway that he can. His tireless efforts play an important role in the academic success our student athletes achieve. "

Ryan McGinn — Director of Student-Athlete Academic Success



Students in the Supply Chain program rehearse their presentation prior to the actual competition held via Zoom due to COVID-19.

Business Students Zoom Past Competition

In the spirit of all things related to COVID, the Weber State business students in the Supply Chain program leveled up their game.

Robert Longoria, Marcie Kenner, Colton Tucker, and Benjamin Evans reached out to CATS at the recommendation of Niki Tonks, Marketing Manager of the Goddard School of Business & Economics. The CATS team leveraged their expertise and video gear to create a simple yet effective green-screen key to overlay their video on their slides in a way that produced much better results than Zoom could produce alone.

The team was well-prepared with their content and presentation. The CATS team provided a little technical boost pushing their presentation over the top and helped them win first place.

Robert shared, "While every other team was presenting with laptop cameras, Weber State was presenting with professional lighting, camera, mics and a green screen. We blew away the competition. Many said that Weber State permanently raised the bar for virtual case competitions forever."

