

UNews

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

NEWS AND EVENTS

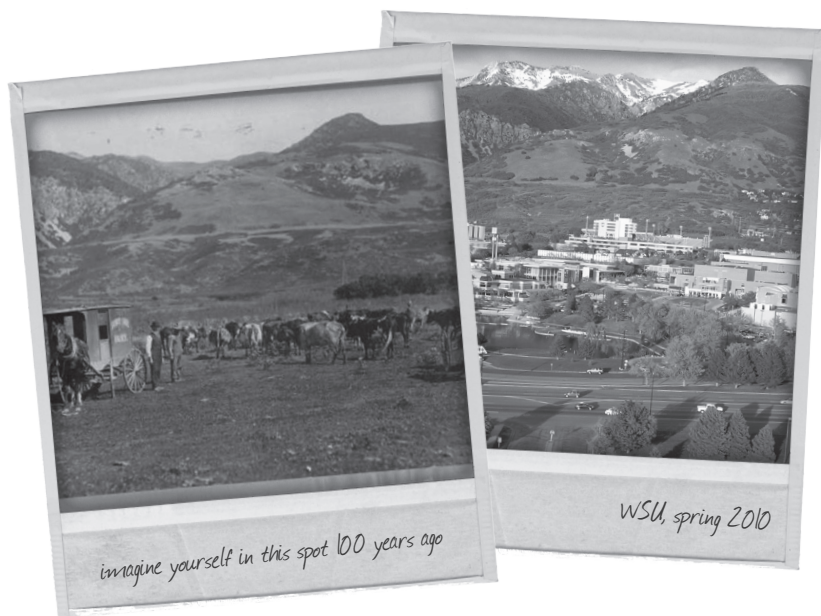
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The Way We Were

University archivist preserves Weber's past

Today, as you walk the sidewalks of Weber State University, stop for a moment, and imagine yourself in that exact spot 100 years ago.

Rather than hearing the Stewart Bell Tower chime, you might hear cattle bells clang. Rather than students passing by, you might see ranchers. And if you're not careful, you might find yourself standing in a cattail marsh.

More than a century ago, the land where WSU now sits was part of a dairy ranch. Photographs of Harrison Boulevard, pre-Weber State, can be found in the university's Archives, as can an assortment of materials dating back to 1889, when the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints established Weber Stake Academy.

John Sillito oversees the university's Archives, which documents the history of the institution, and Special Collections, which documents the history of Weber and Davis counties.

Sillito has been Weber State's archivist for close to 33 years and is full of information — and interesting tidbits. But, when asked about some of the more unique materials in the Archives, he had to think for a minute. "There are many," he said, before deciding to tell the story of Charlotte Wetzel, a typewriting instructor hired at Weber Academy in 1909.

(continued on page 2)



Weber State Day at the Capitol

Plenty of purple pride was on display when Weber State University students, faculty mentors and alumni went to the state Capitol in Salt Lake City on Feb. 11 to raise awareness about the university and its accomplishments.

More than 25 students from a variety of disciplines presented their undergraduate research and community outreach efforts during a poster session in the rotunda.

Lawmakers had a chance to learn about some of the research and projects WSU students and faculty have undertaken to support and assist state and local agencies. The 28 projects on display covered a wide array of topics, including mathematical interventions for schoolchildren, dance as a form of non-verbal language between the deaf and hearing communities, the contingency value of the Great Salt Lake, and dental care in long-term care facilities.





Purchasing Tip

The current state contract car rental agencies are Enterprise, Hertz and National. The Weber State University ID number for each agency is:

- Enterprise: **XZ47075** (PIN is "STA")
- Hertz: **CDP 0198552**
- National: **XZ47075**.

Enterprise and National contracts allow WSU students who are 18 years and older to drive for official university business and events.

If you rent a vehicle outside the United States, insurance is only included in the contract rate with National. Deductibles apply; please contact State Travel for details.

Car rentals not on state contract are not covered through State Risk Management and are subject to a \$10,000 deductible payable by the traveler, department or WSU.

Visit weber.edu/purchasing for more details.



(The Way We Were, continued from page 1)

"Awhile back, I was able to collect a series of Charlotte's letters to her friend and colleague at the University of Utah. At one point, in assessing the academy, she said, 'There are more dances than I approve of and way too many meetings,'" Sillito laughed.

And years ago, there was Sillito's interview with one of the oldest living Weber alums, Joseph Anderson, who was a student at Weber Academy in 1904-05. After Weber, Anderson became secretary to the First Presidency of the LDS Church, a job he held for many years, even serving under President David O. McKay in the 1950s.

"Ironically, McKay had been Anderson's principal and English instructor at Weber Academy. The two of them would often joke about Anderson's grammar," Sillito said.

Wetzel's letters and Anderson's interview are what Sillito calls "icing on the cake of history." "It's that kind of information that fills in the gaps, that brings the past to life," he said.

Sillito will retire in April. Through the years, he has seen — and documented — many changes at the institution. But he believes one thing has remained the same: the community's commitment to Weber State.

"There have been a couple of times in this school's history when things could've turned out differently," Sillito said. "One was during the Great Depression. Another was in the 1950s when there was talk of the school being transferred back to the LDS Church. The community didn't have anything against the church, but they wanted a state school. It gave their children a place to go to school. It gave them employment. It gave them athletics and cultural activities. Weber ultimately survived, even in hard times, because the community was dedicated to seeing it survive."

Today, Sillito tries to repay that loyalty by capturing the history of Weber State, Ogden city and Weber and Davis counties. "We make it available for everyone," he said, pointing out that a number of collections have been digitized, making it easier for the general public to access. "But most importantly, we celebrate our history and our relationship with the community."

On his impending retirement, Sillito had this to say: "Weber's been good to me, and I hope I've been good to it."

AMY HENDRICKS, UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

getintoweber

March 11: WSU will host "Weber Reads: Adolescence in the 19th and 21st Centuries – Huck Finn, Then and Now" featuring WSU psychology professor Eric Amsel, 7 p.m., Weber County Library North Branch (475 E. 2600 N., North Ogden), free, 801-337-2632 or weber.edu/weberreads.

March 12: WSU will host a special screening and reception for "Pimp This Bum," a documentary by award-winning filmmaker and WSU student Issac Goeckeritz, 7:30 p.m., Peery's Egyptian Theater (2415 Washington Blvd., Ogden), \$12, 801-698-5784.

March 12: Weber State University will host a "St. Patrick's Dance," 8 p.m., Shepherd Union Ballroom, free, jgrandi@weber.edu or 801-395-3443.

March 13: WSU's Department of Performing Arts will present two performances of the musical "The Light in the Piazza" written by Adam Guettel and Craig Lucas, directed by Jim Christian, 2 p.m. (matinee) and 7:30 p.m., Val A. Browning Center Allred Theater, \$10/\$7, 1-800-WSU-TIKS, 801-626-6431 or weber.edu/performingarts.

March 15-20: WSU's Wilderness Recreation will sponsor an 80-hour Wilderness First Responder Course offered through Wilderness Medicine of Utah, Shepherd Union Wildcat Room, \$390/\$312, 801-626-6373 or weber.edu/outdoor.

March 15: WSU's Nontraditional Student Center will sponsor "Spring Break Family Bowling Night," 5-8 p.m., Shepherd Union Wildcat Lanes, free, 801-626-7794.

March 24: WSU's Community Involvement Center will host the John A. Lindquist Award Lecture featuring 2009 Lindquist Award recipient and associate professor of communication Colleen Garside speaking on "From the Towers to the Trenches: Voices of Community-Based Learning," 1 p.m., Stewart Library Hetzel-Hoellein Room, free, 801-626-7893.

March 25: WSU's Department of Performing Arts will present two sessions of "Victoria Ramirez: Love Among the Yearlings" showcasing poetry and songs from her recent published collection, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., Stewart Library Hetzel-Hoellein Room, free, 801-626-6431.

March 29: WSU's Office of Undergraduate Research will present the seventh annual Undergraduate Research Symposium featuring undergraduate student research projects, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Shepherd Union Building, free, 801-626-8541 or weber.edu/OUR.



Welcome to WSU

Monica Linford, Zoology; Ryan Rees, Bookstore; Ludwig Possie, Library; Cecil Thomas, Athletics; Terrell Taggart, University Communications; Lloyd Bishop, University Advancement; Christine Demko, Development.

On the Move

James Owens, Supervisor, Facilities Management; Brad Budge, Coordinator, Purchasing; Bruce Daley, Manager, Facilities Management; Richard Sirken, Manager, Facilities Management.

Source: Board of Trustees report, February 2010



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CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

HARBOR Team Receives NASA Grant

A group of Weber State University students has received a grant from NASA to do some light dusting — of the stratosphere.

WSU's High Altitude Reconnaissance Balloon for Outreach and Research (HARBOR) team recently received a \$25,000 grant from NASA to monitor atmospheric dust over the Wasatch Front. In particular, the researchers are trying to learn more about stratospheric aerosols, an important but poorly understood aspect of Earth's climate.

The grant will help fund seven part-time students involved with the project this semester. The project got underway in January and will continue into the flight season of 2010.

Initial work will take place on the ground, but eventually the project will include sending the HARBOR into the atmosphere to collect samples.

Accounting Programs' Accreditation Reaffirmed by AACSB



The School of Accountancy in the John B. Goddard School of Business and Economics at Weber State University earned a strong national endorsement when it received notice of continued accreditation of its bachelor's and master's degree programs from AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

WSU's Goddard School is one of only 170 institutions in the world to be AACSB-accredited in accounting for its undergraduate and graduate programs.

The Goddard School first achieved AACSB accreditation in business and accounting in 1998. It is the only four-year master's institution in the state to achieve this combined distinction.

Science Offers Community Educational Activities

With science students from the United States falling behind their international counterparts,* the Weber State University College of Science is reaching out to the community in hopes of making a difference locally.

"I really do believe we have a serious problem with science literacy in this country," said Sharon Ohlhorst, director of WSU's Museum of Natural Science and Center for Science and Math Education.

SCIENCE SATURDAYS

That problem has led Ohlhorst to join forces with the Ott Planetarium to open the Lind Lecture Hall's facilities free of charge to the public for five hours one Saturday each month.

The Science Saturdays program, which is made possible through funding from Weber County RAMP and the Utah Office of Museum Services, offers activities with lasers and magnets, basket-making from plants, a chance to see the museum's 15-foot python, and star shows geared toward children.

Ohlhorst believes the activities are especially beneficial for people without a science background. "I want to get the children and the parents to come who don't know anything about science, so they get a chance to play," she said. "So they find out science isn't just facts or just memorization; we consider it fun."

The program has seen an increasing number of visitors this year, from 100 in September to 660 in January. The museum

and planetarium have planned one more session this semester for April 24.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Another example of the many outreach efforts by the College of Science is the annual Ritchey Science & Engineering Fair. For nearly 50 years, Weber State has invited the top scientists from local school districts to compete for scholarships and the chance to advance to an international competition.

This year's fair is scheduled for March 22-25, with the first two days dedicated to students in grades 6-8 and the last two days set apart for grades 9-12. The week's festivities will bring approximately 600 students to campus.

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Botany professor Dawn Gatherum, who has organized the fair for 10 years, thinks the event is a good recruiting tool for WSU's science programs. "It's a great outreach opportunity for Weber State," he said. "The students come to campus and talk to the professors who judge their projects. They get a chance to see what it's like on the college

level, and they obviously learn a lot."

Physics professor John Sohl believes the college's efforts in the community are important. "I think science outreach is absolutely critical," he said. "If we don't do more science outreach, we're going to be running out of scientists. We need to get people excited and interested in science."

* Source: 2009 special analysis by the National Center for Education Statistics

FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Naseem Banerji, visual arts professor, presented a paper, "Visualizing the Divine: Sixteenth - Seventeenth Roman Catholic Church Retables in Goa, India," at the Eighth Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities in Honolulu in January.

Theater professor **Jim Christian** and Tom Edward Clark won the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Musical Theatre Award for their original production of *Sleepy Hollow*. Christian wrote the book (script) and lyrics, and Clark composed the music.

A History of American Nursing: Trends and Eras, authored by assistant professor of health sciences **Megan Davis** and associate professors of nursing **Deborah Judd** and **Kathleen Sitzman**, was chosen for the 2009 *American Journal of Nursing* Book of the Year award.

Health professions associate dean and professor **Kenneth L. Johnson** recently became a fellow of the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders, the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Communication professor **Sheree Josephson** will present a paper on eyewitness identification at the international eye-tracking conference in March in Austin, Texas. Her paper, "Have you seen any of these men? Looking at whether eyewitnesses use scanpaths to recognize suspects in photo lineups," was developed with Michael E. Holmes of Ball State University's Center for Media Design and will be published in the international conference proceedings.

Daniel J. Magda, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology, recently published and presented his paper, "Hands on Lab: Demonstration to Teach How Mechanical Properties Change Due to Cold Working and Recrystallization," at the American Society for Engineering and Education's annual conference in Austin, Texas.

Zoology professor **Jonathan Marshall** and WSU student Paul Buttars recently published an article, "In The Academic Job Market, Will You Be Competitive? A Case Study in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology," in the *Israel Journal of Ecology and Evolution*.