



# WSU NEWS

Weber State University News & Events Vol. 18 | No. 2 | November 2014

## Get Fit, Get a Bonus

In an effort to encourage employees to build good habits and live healthier lifestyles, WSU is introducing Wellness Saves, a new incentive bonus program administered through Employee Wellness.

"The idea began from a discussion in a Medical Benefits Committee meeting about how we can get employees involved in their own health," said **Travis Hampshire**, WSU's benefits, compensations and wellness manager. "Medical insurance premiums continue to rise, and we were trying to find a way to help offset the cost to employees."

The first phase of Wellness Saves, called "Know Your Numbers," begins in January 2015 and runs through the year. Employees on WSU's PEHP insurance plan can qualify for a \$30 monthly bonus by completing a wellness assessment and an online wellness questionnaire. In addition, spouses who are on the same insurance plan can participate, earning another \$20 per month on the employee's paycheck.

Later phases of the program will require employees to reach or be progressing toward certain health benchmarks in order to receive the bonus. "This initial phase encourages employees to get an idea of where they are, health-wise," said Employee Wellness coordinator **Raeanna Johnson**. "That knowledge is a good first step toward making healthy choices."

Johnson is hoping for about 50 percent participation among the 1,400 eligible employees and spouses. "Our program is very simple," she said, and a primary reason for that is to help as many people as possible take part.

Johnson expects to hire additional personnel to assist with on-campus wellness assessments. "The beginning of 2015 will probably be pretty busy," she said, expecting employees who already participate in other wellness programs to be motivated to collect the bonus as soon as possible. "But you can join phase one at any time during the year; no matter when you start, your bonus for that phase continues for a full year."

Employees can begin scheduling their 2015 wellness assessments Nov. 14. For more information about the program, visit [weber.edu/employeehealth/WellnessSaves.html](http://weber.edu/employeehealth/WellnessSaves.html).



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## WEBER STATE *Great Great Great!*

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) accreditation evaluation committee just finished its review and reported preliminary findings: Weber State great, great, great...great great.

In a public forum the committee chairman announced that WSU received commendations for exemplary performance in five specific areas:

- For the people comprising the university committing to a complex mission that includes not just open access, but also the attainment of a diploma
- For the offices of Institutional Effectiveness and Institutional Research, in regard to their development and distribution of timely data in support of the university's mission, objectives and core themes
- For providing exceptional opportunities and enhanced access through the institution's Dream Weber program and Weber State's partnership with the Northern Utah Academy for Math, Engineering and Science (NUAMES)
- For the university's fulfillment of its mission to provide public service and community-based learning through entities such as the

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Center for Community Engaged Learning, the Student Involvement and Leadership program, and collaborating partners

- For the degree to which curricula, faculty and staff responsibilities, and support services — such as academic, library, student and infrastructure support — are integrated across the university's dual mission and multiple locations

The chairman reported that most institutions receive only two or three commendations. As additional welcome news, the committee offered no official recommendations, defined as areas for improvement.

"The review team's preliminary report is a great testament to Weber State's dedication to our mission," said President **Chuck Wight**. "I am grateful to Associate Provost Ryan Thomas and the entire WSU accreditation committee for their preparation for the evaluation. The remarkable achievements of this university are the result of the hard work of our faculty, staff and students. I congratulate them all for their commitment to excellence."



# PROTECTION from Viral Infections

THE SEASON FOR VIRAL INFECTIONS IS HERE.  
HELP PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS.

- Get a flu shot. Flu-related deaths far outnumber deaths from other viral infections. The student health center still has a limited number of vaccinations available — as do most health-care providers. You can find locations at [www.immunize-utah.org](http://www.immunize-utah.org).
- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds several times a day.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze.
- Seek medical care if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms — fever, body aches, cough, nausea or vomiting
- Avoid touching your nose or eyes.
- **Stay home if you are ill.** Do not return to school or work until your fever has been gone for 24 hours — without fever-reduction medication.



Symptoms of illness may last for a week or more, and you are contagious while you have these symptoms. As much as possible, avoid contact with others, except to seek medical care.

Some viral infections are contagious only while symptomatic. With seasonal flu, people may be contagious from one day before developing symptoms up to seven days after symptoms begin. Children, especially younger children, might be contagious for longer periods.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VIRAL INFECTIONS**  
including things you can do and tips you  
can share, visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).





# Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

**Teri Bladen**, Campus Recreation director, is serving as the 2012-14 Utah director of NIRSA: Leaders in Collegiate Recreation. The organization advocates for the advancement of recreation, sport and wellness by providing educational and developmental opportunities.

Zoology professor **Jonathan Clark** gave a peer-reviewed oral presentation of his paper "Genetic Analysis of Invertebrates from Great Salt Lake, Utah," at the 12th International Conference on Salt Lake Research, which is the world's premier conference on the biology, geology and chemistry of saline lakes. Scientists from more than 30 countries attended the conference in Beijing in July. The paper's co-author was WSU zoology major Son Nguyen.

Department of Communication Chair **Sheree Josephson** presented "How Audio Cues Shift Visual Attention in a Second-Screen Environment" at VisCom 28, a national conference for visual communication scholars held in West Greenwich, Rhode Island, in June. Josephson will be the site planner when VisCom returns to Alta Ski Lodge in 2016 to celebrate its 30th anniversary.

**Brenda Kowalewski**, Center for Community Engaged Learning director, served on the selection committee for the Thomas Ehrlich Award through the New England Resource Center for Higher Education. She was also WSU's representative in the Lead Initiative for Civic and Democratic Engagement sponsored by NASPA: student affairs administrators in higher education. This summer, she presented internationally at a press conference in Peru on fostering community partnerships.

Center for Community Engaged Learning assistant director **Mike Moon** presented two sessions at the 17th Annual Continuums of

Service Conference: "How to institutionally support community research as part of community engaged learning" and "Student service leadership layers: create a natural pathway to high-impact opportunities."

**Leah Murray**, political science associate professor, served as faculty advisor to the American Democracy Project National Student Advisory Board. She was selected as chair of the Western Political Science Association Charles Redd Center Award Committee. Also, she presented "Community Engaged Learning in an Online Environment: It Can Be Done Well" at the Continuums of Service Conference in Honolulu and "Stewards of Place: The Role of Dialogue and Deliberation in Strengthening our Universities and Colleges" at the American Democracy Project national convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Brett Perozzi**, associate vice president for Student Affairs, serves as chair of the NASPA International Advisory Board. He was a featured speaker at the National Association of Student Development Practitioners conference in South Africa in May and published the article "Student Engagement and College Unions" in the journal *New Directions* for Student Services. He also participated with a team out of Toronto that published the first research report for the International Association of Student Affairs and Services.

**Betty Sawyer**, director of WSU's GEAR UP partnership, received the Ogden NAACP President's Service Award and the YWCA Outstanding Achievement Award for Racial Justice.

**Ruth Patino Stubbs**, Education Access and Outreach director, was elected to serve as the co-chair for the College Access Network of Utah at the Utah System of Higher Education.

## Welcome To WSU

**Roy Allen**, Facilities Management

**Sarah Bateman**, Continuing Education

**Jennifer Bodine**, Facilities Management

**Kayleb Boyko**, Facilities Management

**Braden Braegger**, Facilities Management

**Samantha Burroughs**, Admissions Office

**Carol Campbell**, Chemistry

**Jake Childress**, Parking

**Jennifer Claesgens**, College of Science

**Mary Condra**, Facilities Management

**Marie Deamer**, Purchasing

**Alan Gniot**, Facilities Management

**Kevin Goodrich**, Enterprise Business Computing

**John Harrold**, Development

**Ashley Hilton**, University Marketing & Communications

**Amy Huntington**, Education Access and Outreach

**Aaron Jeffrey**, Psychological Services

**Shelbie Malan**, Admissions Office

**Calan Moore**, Facilities Management

**Trena Roueche**, Moyes College of Education

**Andrea Slager**, Nursing

**Stephen Smiley**, Athletics Admin and Support

**Brenda Smith**, Development

**Justice Smith**, Athletics Admin and Support

**James Touma**, Development

**Tina Van Riper**, Enterprise Business Computing

**Eric Waterfall**, Facilities Management

**Dana Woodland**, Dumke College of Health Professions

## Promoted/Transferred

**Eric Bennick**, Dumke College of Health Professions

**Hailey Gillen**, Communication

**Stephanie Jaramillo**, Internal Audit

**Cindi Kranek**, Medical Lab Sciences

**Jean Norman**, Communication

**Brady Yamashita**, Facilities Management

## Retired

**John Bizzell**, Performing Arts

**Lawrence Helmbrecht**, Psychological Services

**Louise Tate**, Health Sciences

**David Trujillo**, Upward Bound



## COLLABORATION CREATES CULTURAL CENTER

What started with a little curiosity has become a collaborative, multi-departmental project to help a struggling Native American tribe.

Associate professor of geography **Julie Rich** was on a trip with her students in Death Valley National Park when she saw a sign that read, "The Timbisha Tribe." Rich took the initiative to meet with tribal leaders who told her they were challenged financially and wanted to build a cultural center to attract visitors and revenue. Rich brought the idea to associate construction management technology professor **Chris Soelberg** who then involved assistant design engineering technology (DET) professor **Jeremy Farner**. He in turn connected with assistant interior design professor **Kristen Arnold**. Each one added ideas and expertise.

The cultural center became the basis of a student design competition called a "charrette." Teams from DET and interior design participated in the two-day event to come up with the building's plans.

"The charrette, which we hold annually, was a great opportunity for students to collaborate and use their skills to create a sustainable solution while keeping with the traditions and culture of the Timbisha Tribe," Arnold said. "Students really connected with this challenge, which was evident in their design solutions and the speed with which they completed their projects and accompanying videos and presentation boards."

The cultural center will include an energy-efficient cooling tower with a sustainable, passive solar-design, meaning it does not use mechanical or electrical devices. Timbisha leaders embraced the ideas because they are energy-efficient and have minimal effects on the land.

"They really liked the idea of working with the natural processes of the land," Rich said. "They have been and continue to be the stewards of the land. They like the aspect of making the building passively cooled. It will also have solar panels for lighting, so it will be an energy-efficient building."

A design engineering technology student will combine the best ideas from all of the charrette competitors and complete the building design for a senior project. Construction on the center will begin after May 2016.

"The opportunities that I have been given to work on local, national and international projects by collaborating with other professors on campus are invaluable," Farner said. "It is great to hear feedback from students who have gained an appreciation for others who are studying related disciplines. It is time to get out of our silos and look for opportunities to collaborate more across campus. Together we can accomplish more than we can accomplish individually."

## PURCHASING TIP

Effective Nov. 1, 2014, Weber State instituted a new process to request and reimburse individual business travel. Instead of using the paper, travel-log envelope to record and reimburse expenses, travelers will use a new application found on the eWeber portal. Use of the online application will provide increased efficiency and accuracy for individual business travel information and reimbursements.

### What to Expect

- Expenses, mileage and per diem will be calculated automatically, eliminating common math errors.
- Images of trip receipts will be uploaded to the application, allowing original receipts to be attached to your p-card statement.
- Reimbursements will be deposited directly to your bank account.
- Group travel will continue to use the paper, travel-log envelope.

For questions contact Brad Budge at [bbudge1@weber.edu](mailto:bbudge1@weber.edu) ext. 7113 or Sheila Carrion at [sheilacarrion@weber.edu](mailto:sheilacarrion@weber.edu) ext. 6011

