MESMERIZING LANDSCAPES to MEANINGFUL JOURNEYS to MAKING DREAMS HAPPEN ... Right Here!
In my dual role as Weber State University’s interim president and vice president for Administrative Services, I am often on campus late in the evening for projects and performances, planning and presentations, playoffs and paperwork. When I put down my pen, shake the last person’s hand, turn off my PowerPoint or chant my final “Weber State, Weber State, great-GREAT-GREAT,” I rush outside in the hopes that I’m in time to see the sky, because the most stunning sunsets happen …

Right Here.

As the deep purple hues begin to fall across campus, I can’t help but stop and think of how we’ve created a university that is not only beautiful but dynamic. From new facilities like Lindquist Hall and the Ezekiel R. Dumke Jr. & Katherine W. Dumke Center for Interprofessional Education in Healthcare, to new degrees in engineering and outdoor recreation, to new initiatives aimed at recruiting, retaining and graduating students, Weber State University is always progressing, always asking, “What more can we do for our students?”

So, while we claim the most striking sunsets, we see opportunity in the dawn of each new day, and, it just so happens that the most remarkable sunrises also happen …

Right Here.

Norm Tarbox
Interim President,
Weber State University

ENJOY EVERY Sunset; LOOK FORWARD TO EVERY Sunrise.
Broadway Buzz

How did musical theater and anthropology double major Kalyn West BA ’13 go from performing at the Val A. Browning Center to making her Broadway debut in a theater some claim is cursed because the man who built it sold Babe Ruth’s contract to the Yankees? West has been cast in The Prom, set to open Nov. 15, 2018, in the historic Longacre Theatre. Not only will West be directed by Casey Nicholaw, the creative force behind hits like Mean Girls and The Book of Mormon, she’ll also share the stage with a slew of Tony Award-winning or nominated Broadway luminaries.

Whether playing Shakespeare’s doomed Juliet at Weber State or a stuck-up cheerleader in 2015’s off-Broadway rock musical Gigantic, West has never doubted the inevitability of her career in professional theater — the homepage of her website features a telling quote from writer Ayn Rand: “The question isn’t who is going to let me; it’s who is going to stop me.”

A Bite of the Big Apple

Jessica Greenberg, assistant professor of lighting, sound and production, has designed numerous theater, dance and opera productions in New York. In April 2018, she designed lighting and sound for You/Emma, a new play inspired by Gustave Flaubert’s Madame Bovary, at IRT Theater in Greenwich Village. In July 2018, she lent her lighting design expertise to an off-off-Broadway production of The Beyoncé, based on Anton Chekhov’s story The Fiancée, at the renowned La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club. East Coast critics hailed her supernatural lighting and sound effects in the 2017 world premiere of The Briefly Dead at 59E59 Theaters.

Greenberg was a featured speaker at the second annual TEDxOgden event in July 2018. Her presentation explored how colored lighting shapes the way audiences experience a performance.

In the past five years, Greenberg has successfully written or co-written more than $300,000 worth of grants from university and private sources for research, travel and new technology for her design programs.
An Evening with Cornel West

Philosopher and political activist Cornel West addressed a record-breaking, sold-out crowd during his visit to the Val A. Browning Center’s Austad Auditorium on Jan. 12, 2018, the Friday prior to Martin Luther King Jr. Day. West spoke on civility in modern times and how to keep King’s legacy of love and justice alive through contemplation and conversation.

Weber Incorpora un Nuevo Título

Translation: Weber gets a new degree

The increase in the Hispanic population in Davis and Weber counties has created a need for Spanish-speaking professionals, including translators and interpreters. In the fall of 2018, Weber State students can begin earning a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Translation, a degree that not only will satisfy labor market demands, but also student demands. “WSU students requested this degree,” said Craig Bergeson BA ’91, chair of the Department of Foreign Languages. “It will help them acquire the communication, cultural and linguistic skills necessary to be translation professionals.”
From Ogden to D.C.

WSU graduate Madelaine Tesori BS ’18 conducted 1½ years of research on the barriers to healthcare for African-Americans. She then took her findings directly to those most capable of implementing change — Congress.

Tesori traveled to Washington, D.C., in April 2018 to present her work during Posters on the Hill, a program that gives students the opportunity to meet with legislators. She spoke individually with nearly all of Utah’s representatives. Her goal was to convey the importance of using research to inform policy decisions.

Posters on the Hill typically selects just one student per state, and Tesori said she will always be grateful for the opportunity to present her work.

“This is the kind of thing researchers dream of,” she said. “I understand the impact that policy has on people’s lives, especially when it comes to healthcare; it can literally be a matter of life or death.”

Tesori conducted her research with WSU’s Center for Community Engaged Learning Community Research Team. She also collaborated with Project Success Coalition, a nonprofit organization that works with African-American communities in Utah, to conduct focus groups with residents.

“I had a unique opportunity that I truly wish more people could experience,” Tesori said. “I got to listen to people’s experiences and hear about all the things that prevent them from accessing a human need we all share — healthcare. That was a powerful and raw experience I will never forget.”

Brick by Brick

Lindquist Hall continues to take shape and is expected to open in January 2019, providing a completely modernized building for College of Social & Behavioral Sciences students, faculty and staff. The renovations will transform the old Social Science building into a state-of-the-art facility with updated classrooms, laboratories, offices, a testing center and computer lab, and collaboration spaces.
Four Professors, 176 Years of Teaching

176 years = 64,283 days = 1,542,784 hours:
That’s how much (combined) time WSU professors Rosemary Conover, LaRae Larkin, T.R. Reddy and Richard Sadler have spent inspiring curious young minds in the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences. The four said bittersweet goodbyes to Weber State in the spring of 2018, when they officially retired from the university.

Conover, an anthropology professor, joined the faculty in 1970; Larkin, an associate professor of history, began in 1991; Reddy, a political science professor, started in 1966; and Sadler, a history professor, joined Weber State in 1969. Their influence and impact as trailblazers, leaders and teachers will continue to be felt throughout the university.

“All four of our retirees helped shape the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences into what it is today, and for that, we are grateful,” said Frank Harrold, dean of the college.

A Stop on the Campaign Trail

U.S. Senate Republican candidate and 2012 presidential candidate Mitt Romney visited Weber State in March 2018 for an event co-sponsored by the Ogden-Weber Chamber of Commerce and WSU’s Olene S. Walker Institute of Politics & Public Service. Romney was a guest lecturer for two political science classes, where he discussed national policies and Utah-specific challenges. He later met and posed for photos with students, faculty and staff.

Democratic candidate Jenny Wilson is expected to visit campus in the fall of 2018.

Sparking Ethics Discussions in Kuwait

Transparency International’s 2017 Corruption Perception Index ranks Kuwait 85 out of 180 countries, but Weber State philosophy professors Richard Greene and Rachel Robison-Greene BA ’07 know passionate people are working to end corruption in the country — they met them while presenting at Kuwait’s first practical and professional ethics forum in December 2017. Greene directs WSU’s Richard Richards Institute for Ethics. Both he and Robison-Greene coach Weber State’s Ethics Bowl team.

“During the conference, we discussed ethics in governmental policies but also went beyond regulations and talked about how people can work out their differences in a civil way by getting to the heart of the matter,” Greene said.

The proceedings were presented to the Kuwaiti parliament, along with a demand for harsher penalties for those who violate the principles of ethics.

Ethics Bowl team members debate complex ethical issues through rational, respectful and civil discourse.
The number of students who were accepted into the nurse practitioner program for fall 2018: 20.

The number of individuals who applied for the program for fall 2018: 85.

Full Circle

The story of Weber State University’s acclaimed nursing program is intertwined with the family history of Thomas D. Dee and his wife, Annie Taylor Dee. After losing her 20-year-old son, Thomas Reese, in 1894 to a ruptured appendix, and her husband 11 years later to pneumonia, Annie resolved to build a hospital for the Ogden community.

In 1910, Annie formally presented the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital to the people of Ogden. The facility became a training ground for nurses, and in 1932, aligned its course work with Weber College.

More than 8½ decades later, Weber State University’s School of Nursing officially became the Annie Taylor Dee School of Nursing. The renaming symbolically brings to full circle Annie’s passionate commitment to nursing education and her family’s time-honored association with the university.

WSU Nurse Practitioners Will See You Now

Shelby Pitts AS ’12, BS ’13, MSNP ’18 has worked in healthcare since she was 14. “My dad was a local physician. He said I had an ‘attitude’ and insisted I get a job,” she said, laughing. “No one would hire me, of course, because I was 14, so he said, ‘You’ll just have to come work for me.’” Little did she know that a job she “had to do” would become a job she “loved to do.”

When Pitts enrolled at Weber State as an undergraduate, her goal was to become a nurse. She earned an associate’s, then a bachelor’s a year later. It didn’t take long to realize she wanted more. “I wanted more authority — authority that would allow me to do more for my patients,” she said.

As Pitts began to look at nurse practitioner programs, she knew she wanted a hands-on experience, which ruled out many online programs, and she didn’t want to drive to the University of Utah, the closest program that offered what she wanted. When she discovered that Weber was going to offer a nurse practitioner degree, it was a natural fit.

“It was an honor to get into the program,” said Pitts, who was one of 23 students accepted into the program out of 100+ applicants.

The first cohort of nurse practitioners graduated in April 2018. Pitts is now a family nurse practitioner at the Ogden Clinic Skyline office.

“I love people, and I love medicine. I have the best of both worlds,” she said. “My professors, my providers, my family have pushed me further than I ever knew I could go. I know I’m not alone in this.”

“Collaboration to Clinicals to Caring for Others.” Health Professions.
The number of students in the Pre-Physician Assistant Program (pre-PA), which prepares students for studies in the growing field.

From now until 2026, employment of physician assistants is projected to grow 37 percent, much faster than the average for all occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. “We are excited about the future of this program, and the opportunity to possibly expand it, because we know how much it will impact the university and the community,” said Kenton Cummins AS ’12, BS ’13, MHA ’18, advisor for the pre-PA program and medical laboratory sciences assistant professor.

Military Collaboration

A new partnership makes it easier for enlisted medical personnel to apply their military training toward a Weber State degree.

The Medical Education & Training Campus (METC), located at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, educates 16,500 troops yearly. Enlisted personnel from every military branch study in 50 different medical specialties.

Weber State is one of only a handful of schools in the western United States certified with a degree bridging program. METC students can transition military training into one of 21 programs in the Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions.

A New Addition

Weber State is adding a new facility for healthcare education in 2018 — the Ezekiel R. Dumke Jr. & Katherine W. Dumke Center for Interprofessional Education in Healthcare. The 15,000-square-foot, $5 million structure will have four classrooms, 19 offices and two seminar rooms where students can collaborate with faculty and other healthcare professionals, and see how care is delivered in a medical setting.

Set Apart

If you live in Utah and have ever had a CT scan, an MRI, an ultrasound or other medical imaging test, chances are you’ve been seen by a Weber State radiologic sciences alumnus or student.

The program is one of Weber State’s most popular, graduating close to 1,300 students in the past five years, many of whom work in Utah communities but many who also work across the U.S., even for NASA.

To better represent the large number of students enrolled in the program, the Department of Radiologic Sciences became the School of Radiologic Sciences in 2017, a change that, according to Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Inaugural University Endowed Chair Robert Walker BS ’82, “improves students’ professional identities and better defines their education to potential employers.”
Students Invent/Market Nosebleed Device

Imagine waking up in the wee hours of the morning to your child standing beside your bed with a bloody nose, or leaving a movie early because your nose is bleeding, or even heading to the emergency room to have your child’s nose cauterized.

Nosebleeds are startling, messy and time-consuming, but they’re not just an inconvenience, they’re expensive. Currently, one in every 200 emergency room visits is for a nosebleed, with an estimated 700,000 cases annually.

Jacob Hess BS ’18, Kortney James and Dalton Facer BS ’17 have a solution. Together, the three created and marketed Rhinostasis, an innovative, cost-effective product to stop out-of-control nosebleeds. Hess, a biochemistry and pre-medical graduate; James, who is pursuing a post-bachelor’s degree enhancement in microbiology; and Facer, an economics and entrepreneurship graduate, have already secured one patent for the product and are working toward Food and Drug Administration approval before going commercial.

“Rhinostasis will pre-treat cotton inserts with a safe medicine that helps clot blood and prevent future bleeding,” Hess said. “The inserts could be used by medical professionals or people at home.”

The product has earned several kudos already, winning WSU’s 2018 Opportunity Quest and an annual business plan competition between WSU and Shanghai Normal University (SHNU) in China. For more on the WSU/SHNU partnership, see page 22.

When Jacob Hess BS ’18 and Kortney James apply to medical school, the odds of getting in are in their favor. Fifty-five percent of the WSU students who applied to medical school for the 2018-19 academic year were accepted. The national average is 34.5 percent for Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) schools and 41.3 for Doctor of Medicine (MD) schools.
Introducing Andrea Easter-Pilcher

The new dean of the College of Science helped reintroduce beavers to a Russian nature reserve, snare-trapped grizzly bears for research in Montana, and spent her most recent nine years as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at St. George’s University in Grenada.

“My career has been so exciting; I’ve done research all over the world, and I’ve worked with great faculty and administration at many universities,” said Andrea Easter-Pilcher. “It’s been inspirational and exciting, and I really look forward to continuing that at Weber State University.”

Easter-Pilcher was awarded a postdoctoral research appointment in wildlife ecology from Purdue University. She earned a Ph.D. in biological sciences at Montana State University, a master’s in wildlife biology at the University of Montana and a bachelor’s in cultural anthropology at Bowdoin College in Maine.

Crowning Math Champions

In March 2018, Weber State hosted over 1,100 seventh- to 12th-grade students for the State of Utah Mathematics Contest. The young math whizzes visited the Ogden campus to compete in a 2.5-hour, 40-question math test, and the top five performers from each grade earned awards. WSU is slated to host the contest through 2020.

Grooving to Math

“It’s too hard,” “It’s boring,” “It’s frustrating,” “I hate it,” students have been known to say about mathematics. But, what if a different instructional approach made the subject more relatable, more understandable, more … fun?

In June 2018, WSU’s Center for Science & Mathematics Education presented the weeklong workshop Math + Dance: Physical Problem Solving Methods to a group of secondary educators. Dance professor Erik Stern and mathematics assistant professor Rachel Bachman taught participants how to teach mathematics through dance, integrating kinesthetic, creative and interpersonal concepts.

23: The number of secondary math teachers who participated in Math + Dance

9: The number of school districts represented at the workshop

Planting Seeds of Knowledge

For 54 years, professor Stephen Clark BS ’64 introduced the wonders of botany to students like Mary Carver Hall BS ’85, who changed her major to botany after falling in love with the subject. She returned her thanks with a donation to name the Mary Carver Hall Herbarium in the Tracy Hall Science Center. The herbarium now houses Clark’s collection of 28,000 plant specimens gathered in the area surrounding the university, as well as plants from the first president of Weber Stake Academy, Louis F. Moench, who was an avid collector.

23:

The number of secondary math teachers who participated in Math + Dance

9:

The number of school districts represented at the workshop
Outdoor Weber: Outstanding Results

Within three weeks of Weber State announcing its inaugural outdoor recreation business pitch competition, more than 80 college students from across North America had submitted ideas to the Outdoor Weber contest.

The ultimate opportunity for hopeful entrepreneurs, Outdoor Weber offered a $30,000 prize and chances for students to advance their own products or concepts, be mentored by industry experts and get startup tips from the star of CNBC’s The Profit Marcus Lemonis.

WSU’s Hall Global Entrepreneurship Center hosted the competition, and Camping World sponsored the event. Online voters determined 25 semifinalists after watching video pitches on the contest webpage. Industry experts selected 10 finalists from that group. Judges chose the winner — a Grand Valley State University team that developed a mask to warm up air in cold weather.

“Their inaugural year, Outdoor Weber was a phenomenal success, proving there are many entrepreneurial trails still to blaze,” said Brandon Stoddard, Hall Global Entrepreneurship Center director.

The large public response was due partly to Ogden Peak Communications, WSU’s student-run public relations firm that provided communication and marketing support throughout the contest. Ogden Peak’s efforts contributed to the 200,000+ webpage views on the contest site.

83: The number of ideas pitched in the Outdoor Weber contest
101,300: The number of votes the ideas received online
The number of students from the John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics who attended a prestigious cybersecurity summer fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University.

Goddard students filled nearly half of the estimated 20 spots available in the program.

 Charity for All

Everyone deserves a dignified place to die. That’s what prompted a group of MBA students to donate $1,000 to The Inn Between, which provides end-of-life hospice care to Salt Lake’s homeless men and women.

Business education usually focuses on how to make money, but students in Weber State’s MBA leadership course learn how to give money away — effectively and for impact.

Michael Vaughan, economics professor, donated money for three teams of students in the course to identify, select and contribute $1,000 each to a nonprofit organization.

“As we went through the process of interviewing these charities, I was able to see all the good things they do,” said MBA student Shawn Bell BS ’99.

“I learned how much more we could all be doing to help and realized, ‘Wow! I haven’t been thinking about others enough.’”

Students also gave to the Ogden Rescue Mission’s Seager Memorial Clinic and Ogden’s YCC Family Crisis Center.

5:
WSU’s ranking in Best College Reviews’ 2018 list of 50 best value business economics bachelor’s degree programs.

7:
The John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics who attended a prestigious cybersecurity summer fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University.

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Goddard: A Global Player

In 1998, WSU’s John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics and Shanghai Normal University (SHNU) entered into a partnership to share expertise and teaching strategies across cultures. Twenty years later, the partnership is bigger and stronger than ever. Weber State professors teach regularly in China; a 2+2 program allows SHNU students to complete two of their undergraduate years in Ogden and two in China; and a study abroad program gives WSU students opportunities to learn in Shanghai.

The partnership with SHNU is one of several international programs offered by the Goddard School. “Business is global,” said Dean Jeff Steagall, “and the only way to understand globalization is to experience it abroad directly.”

Shihao Li, a 2+2 alumnus, says this about the program: “It is of vital importance for young people like us to see a different world. Knowledge from other perspectives prevents people from being arrogant. I believe the 2+2 program offers us an opportunity to discover the world under different cultures and teaches us to be humble to knowledge.”
WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY RANKED AMONG:

- The Princeton Review’s Best West Colleges
- Forbes’ Best Value Colleges
- The Student Loan Report’s Top 10 Universities in the nation for lowest student loan debt for parents

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY NAMED TO:

- The Sierra Club’s 2017 Cool Schools list
- The Arbor Day Foundation’s Tree Campus USA list

**Fall 2017 Enrollment**

- 27,949

**Fall 2017 Enrollment by COUNTY OF ORIGIN**

- Salt Lake: 41.7%
- Davis: 31.2%
- Weber: 17.6%
- Other Utah: 7.8%
- International: 0.8%
- Unknown: 0.9%

**Distribution of DEGREES & AWARDS for 2017-18**

- Bachelor’s: 41.2%
- Master’s: 31.2%
- Doctor’s: 2.2%
- Associate’s: 18.4%
- Certificates: 8.9%

**WEBSER STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Ranked among The Princeton Review’s Best West Colleges
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- The Student Loan Report’s Top 10 Universities in the nation for lowest student loan debt for parents

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**Fall 2017 Enrollment**

- The amount WSU SAVED on its electric, natural gas and water bills in fiscal year 2017

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**Top 10 Degree Programs 5-year total**

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- $51,600

**Student to Faculty Ratio:**

- 21:1

**Gifts to WSU in fiscal year 2018 totaled**

- $18,668,101

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Engineered for the Future

The College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology boasts the fastest-growing computer science and engineering programs in the state. New degree and building will further that growth.

Students can now enroll in two new master’s programs — computer science and electrical engineering — as well as two bachelor’s programs — mechanical engineering and manufacturing systems engineering.

"Engineering is one of the largest and fastest-growing disciplines in the United States." said Kirk Hagen BS ’77, WSU engineering chair. "The Northern Utah region is industrially rich, with medical, aerospace and recreational-related companies. As Weber State begins offering additional engineering degrees, these local industries can be more fully served by qualified college graduates produced in their own backyard."

In addition, plans are underway for the Computer & Automotive Engineering Building at WSU Davis, conveniently located near Hill Air Force Base and a number of engineering and aerospace businesses. The anticipated 50,000-square-foot space will support majors that are in high demand from industry. Donor gifts will provide 100 percent of the funding.

"We will have the full complement of theory, science and math needed for an engineer combined with extensive labs and hands-on experience," said David Ferro, College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology dean. "Our students will be prepared for industry and will be ready out of the gate."

273 DECLARED MAJORS IN ENGINEERING

$73,700: AVERAGE STARTING SALARY FOR GRADUATES WITH AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEGREE

$87,570: NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR STEM SALARIES

4 NEW ENGINEERING DEGREES

WSU computer science major Tammy Platero is shaping the future of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) while developing her own computing career.

The Women Tech Council recognized Platero, who served as a program coordinator for WSU’s Center for Technology Outreach, with the 2017 Student Pathway award for her impact in the community.

"The time I was able to spend at the WSU outreach office taught me how small actions can create a vast difference in the community," she said.

Platero’s extensive community work included helping organize the FIRST® LEGO® League for over 3,000 children, leading WSU’s all-girls welding camp, hosting Hour of Code events to encourage children to pursue STEM, organizing a "Painting with Robots" event — mixing technology and art — at The Leonardo Museum in Salt Lake City, and helping organize SheTech, an STEM conference for girls held at Weber State.

She accepted the award, along with a $500 scholarship, at the Women Tech Awards in October 2017. "It was an incredible experience to be recognized by 2,000 people for community outreach," she said.

While she no longer works in the Center for Technology Outreach, Platero continues her work with STEM from the inside, she presented at the FSTA STEM convention, and she took a position as programming manager to make right-hand links in a particular pattern.

Platero, who recently opened an internship with software company Ivanti and joined other WSU students on a study abroad trip to Finland, plans to graduate with her bachelor’s degree in computer science in 2018.

Women in Tech

Scaffolds to Structures to Shaping Technology...
Building Community

When associate professor of design engineering technology Jeremy Farmer BS ’03 talks about building community, he means it literally.

He’s helped build schools, homes and orphanages from Ogden to Africa.

For his exemplary accomplishments, Farmer was honored with WSU’s 2018 Lindquist Award. Since Farmer joined the Weber State faculty in 2008, he has taken students around the world to improve lives and opportunities through improved facilities.

He has worked with teams to build a women’s training center, two classrooms and a library in Mozambique, Africa; a dining hall and kitchen for an orphanage in Thaton, Thailand; and a training center, communal water spigots and preschool in Chiclayo, Peru. In the late summer of 2018, he and the Global Community Engaged Learning team spent three weeks constructing a library and teacher housing in Uganda, Africa.

“I am definitely addicted to the rush I get after working with other WSU faculty and staff for an entire year on these projects and seeing the appreciation of those we have given a hand up to,” Farmer said. “We have a motto that we give a hand up, not out. We stimulate the local economy and morale of the communities wherever we complete our projects.”

To see the award-winning documentary that highlights the university’s volunteer work in Mozambique, visit weber.edu/annualreport.

A Green Hotel for the Win

Prior to graduating in April 2018, interior design student Keely Lange was awarded the national 2018 NEWH Sustainable Design scholarship for her interior design project, “Hotel Carver,” earning $7,500 for herself and another $7,500 for WSU’s interior design program.

Inspired by the famous Wynwood Walls street art in Miami, Lange digitally converted an abandoned theater into a boutique hotel with sustainable features, such as guest rooms made from shipping containers.

“The use of shipping containers in place of traditional building materials, like brick and cement, reduces carbon dioxide emissions. Also, reusing one container helps save about 3,500 kilograms of steel,” explained Lange, who now works for an interior design firm in Kaysville, Utah.

Habitat Home for Vet

Associate professor of design engineering technology Jeremy Farmer BS ’03 and his students designed and donated countless hours to build three Habitat for Humanity Homes in Ogden.

Travis Parsons is the happy owner of one. After his military service, Parsons ended up living alone in a camp trailer. His life turned around when he returned to Weber State to study electrical engineering.

“I just cannot believe that this is true,” Parsons said. “Sometimes dreams do happen.”

Engineering Freedom

Eight-year-old Torsten Lambert loves to buckle on his helmet, strap in his feet and take off on his custom-made trike.

Torsten has cerebral palsy, which affects his balance and motor skills. It’s nearly impossible for him to ride a two-wheeled bike, so five mechanical engineering technology (MET) students designed and built something he can ride as part of MET professor Dan Magda’s senior capstone course.

The idea for the trike was born through a collaboration between the engineering department and WSU’s Children’s Adaptive Physical Education Society, known as CAPES! The program, for kids with physical and developmental disabilities, provides skill-building activities during fall and spring semesters.

Torsten’s mom, Jennifer Lambert, uses one word to describe what the trike offers Torsten — ‘Freedom.’

To see a video of Torsten riding his bike, visit weber.edu/annualreport.

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The ABCs of WSU’s NAEYC Accreditation

Earthworms work wonders for gardens, and classrooms. Preschoolers in Sherrie West’s A5 78, BS ’83 class at the Melba S. Lehner Children’s School learned about all things earthworms last spring — discovering how earthworms eat, crafting a 22-foot paper worm (modeled after the longest on record) and finding the creepy creatures on the playground.

Hands-on activities, like the worm project, are common in the school’s five classrooms that serve children 2 to 6 years old. “Our curriculum really focuses on each individual child, and we’re teaching to meet the needs and interests of those children,” said Camie Bearden BS ’98, M.Ed ’11, the children’s school director.

The school’s curriculum also benefits university students, who fill student-teaching roles. Recently, the children’s school, along with the Jerry & Vickie Moyes College of Education’s academic programs in early childhood and early childhood education, earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Weber State now offers Utah’s only NAEYC-accredited degree programs, including one of a handful of bachelor’s degrees in the country accredited by the organization. NAEYC assesses academic programs on standards such as offering field experience, like the children’s school, building family and community relationships, and offering meaningful curriculum.

“It’s great for the young children that attend an accredited school and university students who come through an accredited program,” Bearden said.
Weber has strengthened ties to the community and the great outdoors.

In the fall of 2017, the Jerry & Vickie Moyes College of Education launched its Bachelor of Science in Outdoor & Community Recreation Education.

Majors focus their studies on administration in either community or outdoor recreation, which preps students for booming industries.

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, Utah's outdoor recreation economy supports 110,000 jobs and generates $12.3 billion in annual consumer spending.

"Obviously, in the state of Utah, much of our economy is based on outdoor recreation," said Cass Morgan, program director. "It’s an economic powerhouse. I am optimistic that this new degree program at Weber State, being so close to several recreation agencies, ski resorts and public lands, will be very successful."

Graduates will go on to careers in the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, campus recreation, youth development agencies, travel and tourism, outdoor education programs and schools, commercial guiding and instruction, and outdoor retail.

The number of employees that support Utah’s outdoor recreation industry, which covers 54 million acres of public land, five national parks, 43 state parks and 14 ski resorts: 110,000.

Out to Play

Power Position

More than 300 student-athletes powered their way to Ogden from across the country to compete in the 2018 University National Weightlifting Championships, but it was Weber State University doing much of the heavy lifting as host of the three-day event. Attracted by WSU’s world-class facilities, USA Weightlifting selected the university to host the championship for the second time since 2015. Weber State’s weightlifting club competed in the championship with a team of four females and two males. Team member Sadie LaMay placed second in two categories: snatch, and clean and jerk. She also scored enough points to give her a second-place total finish. Her results allow her to compete for a spot on the 2019 University World Championship team.

The ‘Art’ of Storytelling

Long ago, during the nation’s bicentennial, a local lawyer, who happened to be a Weber State alumnus, had a grand idea. “I will commission 24 of Utah’s finest artists to do 65 historical paintings that will tell the history of Northern Utah like nothing else,” declared the philanthropic William “Bill” Critchlow AS ‘50.

Alas, following the bicentennial, the artwork was put into storage, until 2017, when WSU’s Storytelling Festival board members had a wonderful idea. “Let’s restore the paintings for the Storytelling Festival!” they proclaimed.

The restoration project continued into 2018. Today, the paintings are living happily ever after displayed in the McKay Education Building.
COMMITMENT to CONFIDENCE to COMPETING ON THE NEXT LEVEL ... Athletics

Best Football Season Ever

In 2017, head coach Jay Hill set a new standard for the Weber State football program with a historic 11-win season. The Wildcats earned a share of the Big Sky Conference title, won two FCS playoff games — including WSU’s first-ever home playoff game — and finished fifth in the national rankings, the highest in school history.

The Wildcats set countless records along the way, including school-bests with a seven-game winning streak and a nation-leading six road wins. During their playoff run, the Wildcats avenged a regular-season loss to rival Southern Utah in a blowout victory before falling to No. 1 James Madison in the final minutes of the FCS quarterfinals.

A whopping eight Wildcats earned first-team Big Sky All-Conference honors, and 17 earned All-Academic honors. Led by Big Sky Defensive MVP Taron Johnson, seven WSU players were tabbed as All-Americans, the most since 2008. Johnson capped his Weber State career in style, participating in the Senior Bowl and NFL Scouting Combine, and he was drafted in the fourth round of the 2018 NFL Draft by the Buffalo Bills. Wildcats Andrew Vollert and McKay Murphy also signed free-agent NFL contracts with the Arizona Cardinals and Los Angeles Rams, respectively.

To put icing on the cake for WSU’s dream season, the Utah Sports Commission named Hill the 2017 Utah Coach of the Year at the Governor’s State of Sport Awards ceremony.
Success x 3

The Weber State cheer team, dance team and Waldo all won national titles at the 2018 NCA and NDA Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Another Season, Another Title

Weber State softball collected more hardware for its growing trophy case in 2018, earning a share of the Big Sky Conference regular-season title for the third straight year. Despite falling in the Big Sky Tournament, the Wildcats made their second consecutive appearance in the NISC Tournament. Seven WSU players picked up All-Conference honors, including first-team nods for Kirtlyn Bohling BS ’18, Molly Horne, Takesha Saltern and Ashlyn Visser.

All-Time Leader in Wins

No coach in Big Sky men’s basketball history has won more games than Randy Rahe, thanks to his record-breaking 247th win in 2018. Rahe coached the Wildcats to their 11th winning season in 12 years and a third-place finish in the conference standings. He got help from star sophomore Jerrick Harding, who led the Big Sky in scoring for most of the season, shattered the WSU record for most points scored in a single game with 46 against Montana State and netted a selection to the Mid-Major All-America Team.

Order on the Court

Weber State women’s basketball earned 20+ wins for the second time in three seasons, including a trip to the WBI tournament, where the Wildcats advanced to the quarterfinals. In addition, four Wildcats were also named to the Big Sky’s All-Academic Team.

Sellers Takes Second in Boston Marathon

In only her second career marathon, former Weber State track and field standout Sarah Callister Sellers AS ’12, BS ’13 finished second in the 2018 Boston Marathon in extremely windy and rainy conditions. Her finish is the best ever by a Utahn, which qualified her for the 2020 U.S. Olympic Trials.

Sellers was a nine-time Big Sky Conference champion and a 4.0 GPA student during her career at WSU. She earned national spotlight with her surprising finish in the Boston Marathon, a race usually dominated by full-time professional athletes who have the benefit of agents and sponsors. Working as a nurse anesthetist in Arizona, she is still coached by current Weber State women’s track and field coach Paul Pilkington BS ’81.

For more on Welch-Coleman, visit weber.edu/annualreport.
Three professors, acclaimed for contributions to their disciplines of geography, economics and communication, were named Weber State University’s 2018 Brady Presidential Distinguished Professors.

**Dan Bedford**, geography professor and director of the Honors Program, is an expert in climate change education. He co-authored the book *Climate Change: Examining the Facts*, to refute falsehoods and misinformation as well as confirm the validity of other scientific assertions.

Bedford shared insights from his book as part of a collaborative massive open online course (MOOC) that hosted 23,000 students from 165 countries.

Working with Weber State students, Bedford also led a National Science Foundation-funded effort focused on a sustainable water future for the state.

**Economics professor Therese Grijalva** makes discovery and research a central part of a student’s college education. She sets a great example with 23 peer-reviewed journal articles, 900 research citations, four book chapters and presentations at more than 30 conferences.

Grijalva has mentored more than 70 undergraduate research projects that students have presented at national and international conferences.

Along with colleagues from other institutions, Grijalva conducted a comprehensive analysis for the Governor’s Office regarding the cost/benefits of state and federal public lands in Utah.

Communication professor and department chair **Sheree Josephson** has been a pioneer in applying eye-tracking research to visual communication.

Josephson published the book *Visualizing the Web: Evaluating Online Design from a Visual Communication Perspective*, as well as more than 20 scholarly book chapters and journal articles. According to Google Scholar, her work has been cited in almost 500 published articles.

In her 25 years at Weber State, Josephson advised the student newspaper, *The Signpost*, for six years and helped establish and direct the successful Master of Professional Communication program.

Retention efforts are ‘Thriving’

Within a few weeks of starting her new job as retention advisor for the Jerry & Vickie Moyes College of Education, **Natalie Struhs BS ’07**, noticed that a professor had raised an attendance flag for a student in Starfish, a technology tool that supports student success by facilitating communication between faculty, students, advisors and support services.

Struhs followed up. “When I called, the student said, ‘I mostly moved to Utah for the snow. It hadn’t snowed all winter, so when it finally did, I went to the mountains instead of class,’” Struhs said. “The student laughed, and admittedly, so did I, but by the end of our conversation the student said, ‘Thanks for calling. I’ll prioritize class over snow. I guess professors really do miss me when I’m not there.’"

The addition of retention advisors like Struhs and the implementation of new technology like Starfish is part of the Weber Thrives endeavor, which is aimed at growing enrollment and support, retaining students and, ultimately, seeing students graduate.

In addition to addressing concerns like attendance, advisors reach out to students to assist with registration and academic advising, and to offer resources for financial aid, counseling, tutoring and more.

“Students are glad to know we care so much,” Struhs said, “and, as for me, I’m glad to know that I can make a difference.”

Retention advisors contact students who are in danger of not registering for classes for the upcoming semester. As of mid-August 2018, advisors had contacted 81.6 percent of the students who had taken classes in spring 2018 but had not registered for fall 2018. Advisors record reasons why students haven’t registered for classes and help students overcome registration hurdles.
WSU Online Celebrates 20 Years of Learning

In 1998, while most internet users were still getting a dial-up connection, Weber State faculty were leading out in online education. Twenty years later, WSU Online has helped thousands and thousands of students reach their educational goals.

What has made the program so successful? Faculty.

“It really comes down to demonstrating that faculty care,” said RC Callahan, senior instructional designer and training specialist of the WSU Online eLearning Team. “Faculty who personalize instruction and help students apply content report the most success in online courses.”

It’s a formula the medical laboratory sciences (MLS) department has perfected, offering online education to more than 400 students per year. MLS students attend lectures online and are affiliated with a mentor who reviews lab competencies at a laboratory or hospital. It’s an intricate relationship, but it provides unique training for students, many of whom are already employed, to become more advanced in their careers. It also allows the MLS program to reach rural areas where higher education is less accessible.

WSU students can earn a fully online bachelor’s degree in MLS, health information management, health administrative services, radiologic sciences, professional sales or integrated studies. Criminal justice offers an online master’s degree, and four associate’s degrees are also available online.

17,647: The number of online enrollments for fall 2017

As of fall 2017, WSU Online offered:

| 424 courses | 44 departments |

Providing Support for the Underserved

In December 2017, Veronica Alcocer and her husband, Jose, became the proud owners of Sazón Hispano. Located on Washington Boulevard in Ogden, Sazón is a full-service restaurant that serves traditional fare from Veronica’s birthplace, Estado de Morelos in Zacatepec de Hidalgo, Mexico. “This has been my dream for a very long time,” Veronica said, tearfully.

Veronica spent years working, learning, struggling and working even harder to fulfill her goals. A single mother for most of that time, she found the help she needed at Weber State University’s Community Education Center. There, she participated in Legacy of Learning, a program that helps families get the skills they need to run a household, find a career and pursue education.

Today, Veronica is proud of her business, but she’s more proud of her son and daughter, who are now pursuing higher education at Weber State. “I’m excited for them,” she said. “I thought, ‘If they could just see me do it, they’d think they could do it too.’”

In the fall of 2018, the Community Education Center will move from Harrison Boulevard to its new home at 26th Street and Monroe Boulevard in Ogden, a strategically selected location. “We want to go and meet the people in their communities,” said Luis Lopez, center director. “We want to remove barriers that have traditionally prevented people from accessing postsecondary education.”

In addition to Legacy of Learning, the center offers English as a Second Language and computer literacy courses, as well as other programs to help people advance their education. The new building will also house WSU’s Center for Community Engaged Learning, the Ogden Civic Action Network (OgdenCAN) and a preschool. For more on OgdenCAN, see page 45.

New Student Affairs VP

Following a national search, Brett Perozzi was selected as Student Affairs vice president. He first came to the university in 2007 as associate vice president of Student Affairs.

“I love the opportunities Weber State provides for our students,” Perozzi said. “I look forward to finding more ways to help them thrive and succeed.”
On a Quest for Kindness

Ogden local Mike McBride discovered one kind act makes a big difference.

Participating in Weber State’s Civility Quest Challenge, he received a card challenging him to clean up 10 pieces of trash in the community. While on a morning run, McBride followed the advice only to discover a neighbor’s lost tax documents, which he quickly returned to their relieved owner.

Last spring, Weber State teamed up with Ogden City and 25 local businesses for the challenge, where participants received one of many cards with instructions to perform a civility-based act before passing it on to others.

“Civility is the practice of giving of yourself to better the community,” said Teresa Martinez BS ’11, MHA ’14, WSU Center for Community Engaged Learning program coordinator.

Civility Quest, part of CCEL’s Community Engaged Learning Series, kicked off with events at WSU’s Stewart Bell Tower and Ogden’s Historic 25th Street on April 6 and culminated with a celebration at WSU Downtown on April 12.

13,000: The number of civility cards distributed over the course of the Civility Quest challenge

Weber State University
Keeping Weber Safe
For its work creating a dating violence prevention curriculum specific to the LGBTQ+ community, WSU’s Safe@Weber Violence Prevention Team won the 2018 Best Practice in Prevention Activities award from NASPA—Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. Safe@Weber is a campus-wide effort to support violence prevention and advocacy services for students, faculty and staff.

CCEL by the NUMBERS
137,991: The number of service hours contributed by WSU students
4,065: The number of students who logged community engagement hours
$3,406,998: Value of service hours*
103: The number of CCEL’s community partners

Good Neighbors

Former Ogden City Council executive director Bill Cook is now the executive director of a network that has been created to strengthen a 10-by-10 block area of Ogden known as the east central neighborhood, which runs from 20th to 30th streets and Washington to Harrison boulevards. Of the 15,037 residents who live there, an estimated 30 percent live in poverty and face challenges involving education, housing and access to healthcare.

Cook says he’s often been asked, “Who can address all of the most challenging social issues of a community at the same time?”

His answer: OgdenCAN.

OgdenCAN stands for the Ogden Civic Action Network. In 2016, WSU took the initiative and invited Ogden City to co-author a civic action plan. The master plan combines the strength of seven anchor institutions to revitalize the neighborhood and help lift residents out of the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

For its efforts in creating the civic action plan, OgdenCAN was honored with the 2018 International Town & Gown Association (ITGA) Presidential Excellence Award.

OgdenCAN consists of seven anchor institutions:
• Weber State University
• Ogden City
• Ogden Regional Medical Center
• Ogden-Weber Technical College
• Ogden School District
• Weber-Morgan Health Department
• Intermountain Healthcare’s McKay-Dee Hospital

*Calculated by Independent Sector