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TRUSTEES APPROVE WSU'S STRATEGIC PLAN: A Message from President Mortensen

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce, at its March meeting, the Board of Trustees approved Weber State University's new strategic plan for the next five years. Their approval capped more than a year's worth of work and discussions.

The plan represents the contributions and dedication of so many of you who, as part of our Wildcat Family, attended in-person focus groups and virtual town-hall meetings, offered feedback to early drafts, served on subcommittees and task-force groups, and didn't let a global pandemic deter you.

Building on the strong foundation we have established over the past 132 years, this strategic plan provides a blueprint for what we will prioritize as an institution in the coming years.

While this document plots a bold course for our future, you will see that it also draws on many of the fundamental elements of the

Weber State experience, including our long-standing core themes of **access, learning and community**.

In addition to updating our mission, vision and values, the plan addresses our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, establishes metrics for

enrollment growth, and outlines five areas of emphasis with stated goals, desired outcomes and supporting strategies.

I encourage all of you to review our strategic plan, envision the institution we are striving to become and reflect on your role in helping us achieve these goals and unleashing our collective creative potential.

You can find the plan online at weber.edu/strategic-plan.

This is a living document, and one I anticipate we will revisit frequently in the coming years. The plan will help us prioritize projects and resources, assess and report on the progress we are making, and unify all of our efforts across our campuses.

As we approach the end of spring semester, I hope all of you celebrate the work and collective contributions that helped shape and refine this strategic plan. For those of you who will take time away from WSU this summer, I hope the coming months are rejuvenating and restorative.

In late August, when we are (*hopefully*) back on campus for fall semester, I look forward to working with you as we take the initial steps to implement our strategies and pursue these shared goals to build an even greater Weber State.

Wishing us all health, happiness and fortitude.

Best,



Weber State Celebrates Commencement

WSU will honor a record number of graduates from fall 2020 and spring and summer 2021 on April 29, 30 and May 1. After successfully hosting an in-person graduation at Stewart Stadium last August, the university felt confident planning a similar event for this year's graduates.

Under the direction of events director **Becky Thompson**, the ceremonies will follow current COVID-19 guidelines, while also honoring WSU commencement traditions. **Crystal Taylor**, Event Facilities & Parking director; **Mark Livingston**, Sports and Event Facilities assistant director and **Roxy Jorgensen**, Dee Events Center Ticket Office manager and their teams helped coordinate logistics and set up for three days of celebration.

"It takes a true team effort to plan an event with so many moving parts, especially during a pandemic," Thompson said. "This came together through the hard work of our campus community who were dedicated to giving students a graduation to remember."

On April 29, events will begin with a virtual ceremony for all colleges. Ta'u Pupu'a, a former Weber State and NFL football star, turned professional opera singer, will deliver the commencement address. Individual college convocations will be held April 30 and May 1 at Stewart Stadium. More information can be found at weber.edu/commencement.

Inaugural DNP Class Set to Graduate

The first cohort of Doctorate of Nursing Practice students will graduate this spring with the class of 2021. The 12 students graduating are part of the post masters to DNP-Leadership program.

The DNP program, housed in the Dumke College of Health Professions, is now in its third year. The program currently has 25 students enrolled in the post master's to DNP program and 42 in the post bachelor's of nursing to DNP-family nurse practitioner program.

"The Doctor of Nursing Practice graduates are prepared leaders who are capable of guiding change in the healthcare system," said **Sally Cantwell**, Annie Taylor Dee School of Nursing chair and professor. "With the support of exceptional graduate nursing faculty and a curriculum that prepares students for organizational and systems leadership, I am confident that our graduating DNP students have the knowledge, skills and experience to lead healthcare organizations."



John A. Lindquist Award Jennifer Bodine



For more than a decade, Weber State's Facilities Management sustainability manager Jennifer Bodine has helped the campus community catch her vision of affordable, sustainable environmental practices.

For her exemplary accomplishments, Bodine was selected as this year's Lindquist recipient, given in honor of John A. Lindquist, a long-time philanthropist and Weber State advocate.

By the numbers, the accomplishments are impressive. WSU has cut its carbon footprint by more than 30%, while simultaneously saving more than \$15 million in avoided utility costs.

However, numbers don't fully reflect Bodine's impact. As Environmental Ambassadors club adviser, she has supported students in such efforts as installing bottle refill stations campuswide. They also initiated the Green Department Certification Program, which boasts 84 campus Green Teams committed to sustainability. The ambassadors also collect fresh, unused food from WSU events and deliver it to Weber Cares Food & Resources Pantry and Ogden's Lantern House.

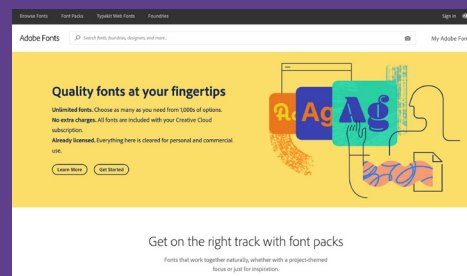
Bodine has collaborated on four community sustainability programs, including Susie Hulet Community Solar, and Empower Northern Utah Light Bulb Exchange. They are now working with HEAT to provide LED bulbs and smart thermostats to low-income households.

"As sustainability manager, I have learned that everyone at the university, including those in Facilities Management, can be educators," Bodine wrote. "I have also learned that mentoring students, while simultaneously solving wicked community problems, is the most rewarding work I will ever do."

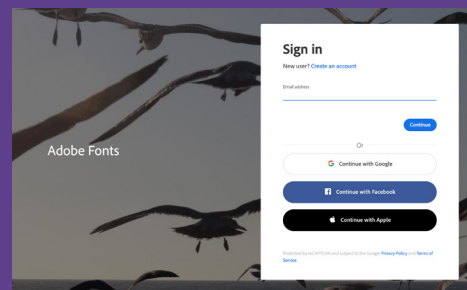
Activating WSU Fonts in Creative Cloud

To get the look of your message just right, Weber State has selected two main fonts: Trade Gothic and Caecilia. These are our two brand fonts that should be used to unify your messages as part of WSU's brand. Activating them is quick and easy, and you can use them in both Adobe and Microsoft applications.

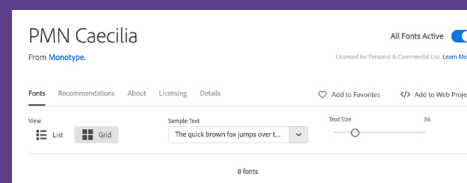
1 Go to fonts.adobe.com/fonts



2 Sign in with your Weber email address



3 Search for the fonts "Trade Gothic" and "PMN Caecilia." Toggle the "activate" switch to the "on" position.



4 Restart your computer, and proudly use WSU fonts in your materials.

We also have two fonts that are for use with the Ever Upward campaign: Honest and YWFT. For access to these, please email ucomm@weber.edu

DIXON AWARD

Since 1970, the WSU Alumni Association has presented the H. Aldous Dixon Award to outstanding faculty and staff. The award is given in memory of former President Dixon who served as the school's chief administrator in 1919-20 and from 1937 to 1953.



*Faculty Awardee:
Yasmen Simonian*

How does someone inspire students to remember the morphology of blood-forming cells eternally to help diagnose a disease? Does it resemble a pepperoni or mortadella? Is it a whole potato or a potato chip? Using food analogies is what Yas Simonian has been doing to teach hematology (blood disorders) for years.

Simonian graduated from three different colleges at the University of Utah: health, pharmacy and medicine. She joined the WSU faculty in 1981. After chairing the Medical Laboratory Sciences department for 12 years, she was appointed dean of the College of Health Professions. Professional achievements include serving as president of the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science. She has authored numerous articles and, with her students, presents regularly at professional conferences.

Honored with WSU's John S. Hinckley Award and the Brady Presidential Distinguished Professor award, she received the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Utah Professor of the Year and the Kendall Award for Professional Achievement in Hematology/Hemostasis and Education awards.

Along with her colleagues, Simonian pioneered the development of the nation's first online clinical laboratory sciences programs. As dean, the college has gone from one master's degree programs to five. This year, they will graduate the first cohort of the Doctor of Nursing Practice, the first doctorate degree at WSU.



*Staff Awardee:
Kelly Stackaruk*

Kelly Stackaruk arrived at Weber State as a student on a vocal scholarship. She loved performing with the jazz group Choralition and studying abroad in England.

Stackaruk returned to work at WSU to assist the Wildcat Club. She hosted many out-of-state booster trips, handled annual giving campaigns and increased attendance and fundraising at the annual Cat Bash dinner and auction. Her success and enthusiasm eventually led to the position as development director for COAST — now the College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology (EAST).

Stackaruk established a successful Pacific Northwest Alumni event and increased privately funded scholarships by 70%. During Weber State's Dream 125 Comprehensive Campaign, Stackaruk oversaw fundraising efforts that exceeded the college goal by over 200%. Her collaborative and successful approach to fundraising has resulted in two new buildings for the university: Computer & Automotive Engineering Building, and Noorda Engineering, Applied Science & Technology Building. The fundraising efforts also produced the Ardell Brown Automotive Wing and three centers: Alan E. Hall Center for Sales Excellence, Wadman Center for Excellence in Construction & Building Sciences, and the Center for Technology Outreach.

Stackaruk developed the EAST Explorer Initiative, where WSU students conduct strategic outreach to EAST alumni. A favorite aspect of her job is hearing alumni tell stories about their time at WSU and their life after graduation.

Weber State Rolls Out New Digital District, Becomes Adobe Creative Campus

Faculty, staff and students now have access to a suite of cutting-edge technology through the university's ongoing Digital District project. A wide array of tools are now available for faculty in Lampros Hall on the Ogden campus, including a podcast studio, mobile SMART Board TVs, technology-enhanced collaboration spaces, and an active-learning classroom. This classroom can quickly shift from accommodating a lecture to fostering group work in high-tech pods.

There are also individual workspaces where faculty can develop online, virtual and technologically enhanced face-to-face courses, with instructional designers and teaching experts nearby to provide assistance. (Take a virtual tour [here](#).)

"It's meant to be a very efficient use of time and space, so faculty can come in, do what they need to do to develop a course and have all the experts right there to help them do it," said **Brenda Kowalewski**, associate provost for high-impact educational experiences and faculty excellence at Weber State.

At an event in March, the campus community learned more about these new resources. Leaders of Adobe also announced Weber State as their newest Adobe Creative Campus, a designation given to a select group of colleges and universities around the world driving the future of digital literacy.

The Digital District expands existing resources, such as Creative Academic Technology Solutions in Lampros Hall, which supports faculty in recording lectures or creating technology-enhanced teaching tools for their courses, Kowalewski said.

Resources for students are located at Stewart Library, where students can check out laptops and hot spots. They can also access an enhanced computer lab with double monitors and high-powered processors. Staff are located nearby, available to provide assistance to students when they need it. This lab opened during fall 2019, just prior to the pandemic, and it quickly became the most used computer lab on campus.

"The use of that lab just went through the roof," Kowalewski said. "We were really pleased because it was clearly something that students wanted to keep coming back to — not just because of the nice technology in the space but because of the support services that were available for them there."



DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

Economics professor and former WSU provost Michael Vaughan, and English professor Mikel Vause have been named Weber State University's 2021 Brady Presidential Distinguished Professors.

The honor was established in 2006 to recognize WSU faculty members who have demonstrated the highest quality teaching, scholarship, research and community service. A generous gift from Rodney and Carolyn "Mitzi" Brady made recognition funding possible. The late Rodney Brady served as WSU president from 1978 to 1985.



Michael Vaughan

The beginning of Michael Vaughan's gratifying career at Weber State was something of an accident. An economics doctoral student at the University of Nebraska, Vaughan heard about WSU from a friend, who had applied for a job and praised the school's focus and breathtaking setting. Although his friend didn't receive the offer, Vaughan was hired as an economics faculty member.

As a teacher, Vaughan created impactful learning experiences. For years, he taught the Executive Lectures course, bringing business people, community leaders and authors to campus. He led trips to corporate annual meetings and established the Wall Street Fellows program where students networked with alumni in New York's investment-banking industry. He donated funds to student teams and challenged them to select nonprofits where the donations would have great impact. Recently, he collaborated with art professor K Stevenson to allow Honors Program students to explore economics through visual arts.

Vaughan served as Department of Economics chair, associate dean and subsequently dean of the John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics. As dean, with the assistance of Mr. Goddard, Vaughan launched WSU's MBA program.

From 2004-2015, Vaughan served as provost. Under his leadership, WSU created the Center for Community Engaged Learning, was granted approval and accreditation for the first undergraduate and graduate engineering programs, earned a coveted All-Steinway School designation for the Piano Program and established the LGBT Center.

In 2008, he helped create Dream Weber, which covers tuition and fees for qualifying WSU students with an annual household income of less than \$40,000. Retiring this year, Vaughan said he appreciates the serendipitous turn of events that led him to WSU. "I am grateful to have spent 40 years at an institution that makes learning its No.1 priority."



Mikel Vause

Former students and colleagues describe English professor Mikel Vause BS '82 as an author, poet, scholar, environmentalist, adventurer, mentor and friend. Vause is the quintessential storyteller. His graduate work culminated in a dual Master of Arts in American literature and American studies, and a Ph.D. in British literature from Bowling Green State University.

Vause began teaching in 1982. To give undergraduate students an opportunity to present their writing to peers throughout the country, in 1985, Vause and a colleague organized the annual National Undergraduate Literature Conference, which attracts hundreds of student writers and some of the world's eminent literary figures.

Vause established "The Dead Poets Tour" to England, Scotland and Wales, and as Honors Program director, organized a service expedition to Langtang Himal. His teaching is recognized with numerous honors, including the Crystal Crest Master Teacher and the H. Aldous Dixon Award. Vause also received the first Annual Distinguished Literary Arts Advocate Award and the Distinguished Service Award from the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters.

He authored 10 collections of poems and is author and editor of six books. His poem "What Said the Thunder" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and his book of poems, "The Scent of Juniper" for the Boardman-Tasker Mountain Literature Award.

He served as editor for "The Journal of the Utah Academy," and is the only non-British chair of judges for the Boardman-Tasker Award for Mountain Literature. Vause has climbed, lectured and participated in numerous international conferences. He was a member of the 2011 British Expedition to the Northside of Mount Everest in search of the body of 1924 British Everest climber Andrew Irvine.

Vause has earned his moniker "Master of the mountain and classroom."

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

#LouderandProuder

Goddard School of Business and Economics faculty **Clinton Amos**, **Lixuan Zhang**, **Sky King** and **Tony Allred** published “Aristotle’s modes of persuasion and valence effects on online review trustworthiness and usefulness” in the *Journal of Marketing Communications*.

Goddard faculty **Clinton Amos**, **Jesse King** and **Sky King** published “The Health Halo of Morality-and Purity-signifying Brand Names” in the *Journal of Product & Brand Management*.

Microbiology adjunct professor **Evan Call** received the 2021 Charles Lachenbruch Award presented by The National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel for his role in co-authoring a poster that demonstrates a contribution to the science of pressure injury prevention and treatment.

Geography professor **Bryan Dorsey** published “Refocusing on Sustainability: Promoting Straw Bale Building for Government-Assisted, Self-Help Housing Programs in Utah and Abroad” in the journal *Sustainability*.

Marketing & Communications creative director **Stevie Emerson**, videographer **Rachel Badali**, and web developer **Dave Brogan** earned gold in the Collegiate Advertising Awards for their Virtual Campus Tour Videos that introduce prospective students to Weber State buildings, grounds and amenities.

While the graphic designer of Admissions, **Stevie Emerson** and Marketing & Communications web developer **Dave Brogan** launched an updated admissions website in fall 2020, making it easier for students to find resources and apply. WSU won a gold award for the site in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) 2021 District VII Awards of Excellence.

Associate professor of performing arts **Francisco de Galvez** composed *Checkmate* which was performed at the College Orchestra Director Association’s 2021 Virtual Symposium; Weber State’s Symphony Orchestra performed the piece

as one of nine orchestras chosen from among more than 350 U.S. entries.

Beverley Taylor Sorenson Endowed Chair for Arts Learning **Tamara Goldbogen** was recognized with the 2020 Mayor’s Awards for Arts in Education and the 2020 Sorenson Legacy Award for Excellence in Arts Education for Exemplary Arts Program for her work with the Arts Learning Collaborative. She also co-facilitated a virtual, drama-based-pedagogy, three-day workshop, with partners in Taiwan and Texas.

The Ambrose Amos Shaw Assistant Professor of Localization and Translation, **Youn Soo Kim Goldstein**, authored “Reading and translating towards decoloniality: critique of the Korean ethnonation in Kwŏn Chŏng-saeng’s Mongsil ŏnni,” for the journal *Asia Pacific Translation and Intercultural Studies*.

Kirk Hagen, mechanical engineering professor, has published a fifth edition revision of his text *Introduction to Engineering Analysis* published by Pearson Education. The text was first published in 1999 and is now available in a fully colorized, electronic format as well as the traditional print version.

Brady Presidential Distinguished Professor of Zoology **Chris Hoagstrom** collaboratively published “Under the radar: genetic assessment of Rio Grande Shiner (*Notropis jemezianus*) and Speckled Chub (*Macrhybopsis aestivalis*), two Rio Grande basin endemic cyprinids that have experienced recent range contractions” in *Conservation Genetics*; and “A watershed moment: Analysis of sub-basins refocuses the geography of turtle conservation across the globe” in *Biological Conservation*.

Joe Horvat, psychology professor, completed his sixth year with SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services) on a \$10,000,000 federal grant, working with ethnic minority populations in overcoming opioid addiction.

The staff of Special Collections and University Archives received the Gwen

Williams Prize for their exhibit “Beyond Suffrage: A Century of Northern Utah Women Making History”; the prize, established by the Hemingway trustees, is selected from the Hemingway Excellence and Collaborative Grants received during the previous two years and includes a \$5,000 award. Collaborators included **Sarah Langsdon**, **Jamie Weeks**, **Melissa Johnson**, **Lorrie Rands**, **Erika Sisneros-Wood**, **Kandice Harris**, **Michael Thompson**, **Marina Kenner**, **Alexis Stokes**, **Alexandra Park**; Marketing & Communications designer **Emily Caraballo** and writer **Karin Hurst**, who contributed marketing materials for the exhibit, were also honored with a national gold place from the Collegiate Advertising Awards.

History professor **Branden Little** authored the chapter “Useful Allies: Theodore Roosevelt’s Secretaries of the Navy and America’s Naval Ascendancy” in the book *Forging the Trident* published by the Naval Institute Press.

Foreign language professor **Tom Mathews** was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award, by the Utah Foreign Language Association.

The Utah Council for Exceptional Children honored teacher education professor **Jack Mayhew** with the Ben Bruse Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of special education; he also received the Eagle Award for Leadership from the American Council on Rural Special Education.

R.C. Morris, assistant professor of sociology, co-authored “Enforcement Officers’ Knowledge, Attitudes, Self-Efficacy, and Use of Suicide Intervention Behaviors” in the *Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research*.

Paul Neiman, philosophy assistant professor, authored “Albert Camus’ Philosophy of Love,” in the journal of *Philosophical Investigations*.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

#LouderandProuder

Associate professor of English **Julia Panko** wrote the chapter “Auratic Facsimile: The Print Novel in the Age of Digital Reproduction,” in *The Novel As Network: Forms, Ideas, Commodities*, published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Teacher education assistant professor **Katarina Pantic** co-authored “Making Apps: An Approach to Recruiting Youth to Computer Science” in *ACM Transactions on Computing Education*.

Vice president of Student Affairs **Brett Perozzi** published “College unions, university centres, and student centres,” in the third edition of *Student affairs and services in higher education: Global foundations, issues, and best practices*; and co-authored “The impossibility of separating learning and development,” in *University World News*. He was also honored with the 2021 Excellence in International Research Award, from ACPA: College Student Educators International, for his work with three colleagues from Germany, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates.

Assistant professor of English **Emily January Petersen** co-authored two articles, “Speaking So that We Are Heard:” A Zulu Comic Book as Women’s Social Action in 1990s South Africa,” and “The profession of technical communication through the lens of the STC India chapter: Understanding current perspectives and future momentum”; in *Technical Communication Quarterly*; and authored “Women’s lived experience as authority: Antenarratives and interactional power as tools for engagement in *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*.”

Physics faculty **Kristin Rabosky**, **Colin Inglefield** and **Kiley Spirito** co-authored “Interference and Diffraction in Modern Technology: A New Approach for an Introductory Physics Laboratory Experiment” in *The Physics Teacher*.

Associate professor of history **Matt Romaniello** authored the chapter “‘This whole business should be kept very secret’: The English tobacco workhouses in Moscow” in the book *Commercial Cosmopolitanism? Cross-Cultural Objects, Spaces, and Institutions in the Early Modern World*, published by Routledge.

Katharina Schramm, professor of botany and plant ecology, and **Michelle Skopec**, zoology professor, co-authored “Strategies in herbivory by mammals revisited: the role of liver metabolism in a juniper specialist (*Neotoma stephensi*) and a generalist (*Neotoma albigula*)” in *Molecular Ecology*.

T. H. Steele, mathematics professor, published “The dynamics of a typical measurable function are determined on a set of measure zero” in the journal *Real Analysis Exchange*.

Automotive technology administrative specialist **Jennifer Vesper** is one of a team of three contestants on the second season of Food Network Canada’s *The Big Bake*; she baked and decorated “a grand-scale cake creation based on a particular theme.” Her episode airs in Canada in May.

Linnette Wong, assistant professor and health promotion program director of the health, physical education and recreation department, published “The Most Widely Viewed YouTube Videos Associated with Alcohol Consumption” in the *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education*.

English professor **Michael Wutz** co-edited and translated the volume of essays by media theorist Friedrich Kittler “Operation Valhalla. Writings on War, Weapons, and Media,” published by Duke University Press. He also gave the opening presentation, “The Harlem Renaissance Reconsidered,” at the virtual American Studies lecture series at the University of Munich, Germany.

Welcome to WSU

Jason Biggs, *Academic Support Centers & Programs*

Daniel Chamberlain, *Facilities Management*

Maria Chambers, *Human Resources*

Noah John Erb, *Student Success Center*

Alexandria Favela, *Payroll*

Bojay Filimoeatu, *Athletics Admin & Support*

Sebastian Garcia, *Facilities Management*

Jeffrey Godwin, *Facilities Management*

Felipe Gonzalez, *Financial Aid Office*

Karen Jensen, *Financial Aid Office*

Sydney Knowlton, *Academic Technology Services*

Marrisela Lopez, *Exercise & Nutrition Sciences*

Heidee Miller, *Social Work*

Sean Musil, *Facilities Management*

Caden Nichols, *Facilities Management*

Samantha Steffan, *Academic Support Centers & Programs*

Magan Tea, *Facilities Management*

Lorena Thornburg, *Veterans Services*

Sherri Wilde, *Financial Aid Office*

On the Move/ Promoted

Megan Batchelor, *Financial Aid Office*

Kirsti Fox, *Admissions Office*

Alicia Hall, *Admissions Office*

Ashley Hendrickson, *Payroll*

Cheryl Hyatt, *Academic Support Centers & Programs*

Kathryn Langlitz, *Provost’s Office*

Brooke Lindgren, *Provost’s Office*

Justin Owen, *Facilities Management*

Mackenzie Peck, *Facilities Management*

Kelani Purvis, *Admissions Office*

Jodi Shupp, *Student Affairs*

Brittni Strickland, *Health Physical Education & Recreation*

Conor Ward, *Performing Arts*

Retired

Forrest Crawford,
Teacher Education



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