NEW HIRE BRINGS WSU STEP CLOSER TO EHSI GOAL

Yudi Lewis, Director of HSI Initiatives, came to Weber State from Utah Valley University, where she earned two bachelor’s degrees before going on to earn a master’s in business administration. She’s nearing completion of her doctorate in educational leadership and policy from the University of Utah.

She said she’s excited to join Weber State and sees her role as more than getting students into classes – it’s about increasing access and equitable opportunities for Latinos, the largest underrepresented student population in Utah.

“Weber State made a bold statement in creating this position to not only do the work that is needed to meet that population’s needs, but also to send a
“Utah Transit Authority is excited to see the OGX Wildcat Shuttle opening fall semester,” Larson said. “We are at the halfway point on this project, and the entire OGX line will open late 2023.”

When finished, the full OGX line will include stops at the Ogden Intermodal Transit Center, The Junction, downtown Ogden, along 25th Street and Harrison Boulevard, and McKay-Dee Hospital.

The $120 million bus rapid transit project aims to combine the capacity and speed of light rail with the low-cost construction of a bus route.

For more information, visit weber.edu/shuttle.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Campus-inspired art created by Weber State staff will be on display at each stop along the Wildcat Shuttle route, giving commuters a taste of university life and Ogden culture. The murals are expected to be installed early in the fall semester.

Admissions coordinator Alicia Hall created “Liminal Tranquility,” which will adorn the station at center campus just south of Shepherd Union.

Hillary Wallace, Wildcat Marketing creative director, created “Dreams Happen Here” for the Dee Events Center station.

On display at the Wildcat Village station is “We Are Weber,” a collection of photos by Ben Zack, Marketing & Communications photographer.
Weber State opens MARS CENTER

On Aug. 24, Weber State University opened the Miller Advanced Research and Solutions Center thanks to a generous donation of $3.5 million from the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation.

Located at the Falcon Hill Aerospace Research Park near Hill Air Force Base, the MARS Center will create opportunities for WSU students and faculty to research and apply innovative solutions to real-world problems in the realm of national defense.

“With the opening of the MARS Center, we’re bringing the university to the forefront of our aerospace ecosystem in northern Utah,” said Brad Mortensen, WSU president.

“Thanks to a substantial gift from the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation, this center has the potential to transform our economy and set us up for success in the future.”

The facility will bring students, faculty, university partners and the community together.

“This center will give our students and faculty the opportunity to work alongside the Department of Defense, Department of Energy and other industry partners to find high-tech solutions to some of the toughest challenges our government is facing,” Mortensen said.

Dan Hemmert, executive director of Go Utah, said he believes the work happening at the MARS Center will help boost Utah’s economic growth.

“Go Utah looks forward to the opening of the MARS Center and the many significant contributions it will make to Utah’s robust economy,” Hemmert said. “We are proud of the many advances the state continues to make in the aerospace and defense industry, especially that which is taking place in northern Utah.”

With this donation, WSU will provide hands-on learning experiences and prepare students for careers in advanced manufacturing in the aerospace and defense field.

“Our family continually works to increase access to education and endeavors to support programs that enrich the lives of students as well as build stronger communities,” said Gail Miller, chair of the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation. “This center and its programs will play an important role in protecting our nation’s freedoms, creating a better world for future generations and inspiring students to solve real-world problems.”

WEWEBER STATE RAMPS UP INCLUSIVE TEACHING

Associate provost Brenda Kowalewski and Teaching & Learning Forum director Nicola Corbin are spearheading a new endeavor to help improve inclusive teaching practices at Weber State University.

Through the Association of College and University Educators, WSU is providing two training opportunities for faculty to learn more about inclusive teaching techniques: Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning and Effective Teaching Practices.

“I think our faculty are interested in becoming inclusive teachers, but they need more confidence to do that,” Corbin said. “It’s a fraught world, so doing this work can be scary. But I think we have great teachers, so hopefully this provides them with more confidence to bring this important work into the classroom.”

The ITEL course was offered to two cohorts of faculty in summer 2022, with a third cohort made up of new faculty starting in fall 2022. Faculty who teach influential lower-division courses will participate in the 25-week ETP course beginning in fall 2022.
Welcome back!

Engaging with several of our faculty and staff in the last few weeks at various events such as the new faculty retreat, college opening meetings, back-to-school breakfast, staff picnic and the dean and chairs retreat has been a tremendously fulfilling experience. As we get back to campus, I cannot help but think about how different this transition has been from the last two years. To be clear, we are not out of the woods yet given the uncertainty that comes with new variants of COVID-19 and will need to continue to be vigilant in ensuring the safety of our students, staff and faculty.

The summer has also been a good time to step back and take stock after completing one year since the launch of Amplified, our university strategic plan, and the implementation of our student success playbook. Our data folks have compiled a nice summary of strategic performance indicators which can be found here. As you can see, we have work to do in various categories and will have to successfully navigate the challenge of transition from ambition to execution.

At Weber State, our faculty and staff are doing a lot of great work. A few academic departments have managed to meet or exceed some of our strategic goals. At our recent dean and chairs retreat, I recognized these accomplishments and am reproducing the list below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGIC GOAL</th>
<th>WSU BEST PRACTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSISTENCE</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering, Microbiology, Social Work &amp; Gerontology, Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST-YEAR RETENTION</td>
<td>Professional Sales, Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONCURRENT MATRICULATION</td>
<td>Earth &amp; Environmental Science, Teaching &amp; Information Services, Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEGREE COMPLETION</td>
<td>BIPOC students: Exercise &amp; Nutrition Sciences, Health Administrative Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Developmental English/Developmental Math students: Microbiology, Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overall: Economics, Physics &amp; Astronomy, Dental Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIEE STUDENT PARTICIPITION</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIEE FACULTY PARTICIPITION</td>
<td>Radiologic Sciences; Geography, Environment &amp; Sustainability; Dental Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLETION RATE OF 90+ CREDIT HOUR STUDENTS</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGNATURE ASSIGNMENT COMPLETION RATE</td>
<td>Exercise &amp; Nutrition Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXEMPLARY BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT</td>
<td>Exercise &amp; Sport Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STARFISH PROGRESS REPORT COMPLETION RATE</td>
<td>Health Administrative Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTNERSHIPS AND ARTICULATIONS</td>
<td>Automotive Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>EQUITY AUDIT</td>
<td>Stewart Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE ADOPTION</td>
<td>Health Sciences, Foreign Languages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is important to understand that circumstances vary across departments and disciplines. Nonetheless, I am grateful for what these faculty and staff have accomplished. Continuing our campus conversations and learning as an organization about what works and what does not is an essential step for meeting our strategic goals. Best wishes for a wonderful fall semester!
Q&A WITH THE NEW ‘PR GUY’

This summer, Weber State University welcomed a new director of public relations: Bryan Magaña is a product of WSU, earning a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in English. Before returning to his alma mater as PR director, he served for 17 years at Hill Air Force Base, where he told the story of Utah’s Airmen and helped shape public opinion of the F-35 fighter jet.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO AS THE NEW PR DIRECTOR?
I’ve only ever done public relations within a military environment, so I look forward to the challenge of applying my talents in a new setting. Weber State offers so many opportunities to meet new people and tell their stories. I’m also excited to be here at a time when we’re focused on serving more Hispanic and Latino students, and I hope to play a meaningful part in that.

WHAT’S YOUR PR PHILOSOPHY?
My top three priorities are storytelling, truth-telling and looking at the bright side. These are qualities in my “real life” that have served me well in the realm of public relations. First, searching for stories that captivate us. Second, telling stories grounded in facts. Third, striving to find the happy aspects of any circumstance. If I can do all three of these things in creative ways, that’s a bonus.

WHAT’S SOMETHING YOU’VE LISTENED TO RECENTLY THAT YOU’D RECOMMEND?
I’m a huge fan of the radio show A Way with Words, which I listen to on Spotify. The way they marvel at the beauty and history and quirkiness of the English language – that speaks to me. It’s also a good reminder, especially to someone in my field, that sometimes it’s OK to break the rules. That is, we can appreciate language for how people actually use it and not how it “ought” to be used.

Code Purple APP GOES LIVE

Weber State University is proud to present the new Code Purple app, which launched Sept. 2 and is available for free on app stores everywhere.

The WSU community can use the app to stay informed when there’s an emergency on campus. Code Purple also offers features to keep users safe, including texting with a dispatcher, reporting tips straight to campus police and campus emergency plans.

Students, faculty and staff will still receive Code Purple text messages, phone calls and email alerts without the app, but using the app unlocks helpful safety features, such as Friend Walk, which allows a trusted friend to track a user’s walk home. The Virtual Walk Home feature enables campus police to track app users via GPS until they arrive safely at their destination.

The Code Purple app is an easy and convenient way to learn what’s happening at any WSU campus location. Download it and stay in the know today.
FACULTY & STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
#LouderandProuder

Rocky Mountain Power Foundation presented a $2,000 grant to Brandon Burnett, chemistry and biochemistry department chair, which allows undergraduate students to work with faculty from Earth & Environmental Sciences, Physics & Astronomy and Chemistry & Biochemistry on zircons, some of the oldest rocks on earth.

The International Symposium on Dental Hygiene accepted research and teaching project presentations by dental hygiene faculty Kim Caldwell, Shelly Costley and Frances McConaughy. Caldwell and McConaughy’s research project, “The Impact of COVID-19 on Chronic Disease Management & Oral Health,” was nominated for an award. McConaughy and Shane Perry obtained the Association of College & University Educators’ micro-credential badge for Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning.

Carey Campbell, associate professor of performing arts, presented “Quiet places elude me (AnxStudy3)” at SEAMUS, an electronic, electroacoustic and computer music event.

Alex Collopy, assistant professor of early childhood education, was named a Transformative Intersectional Collective Fellow for 2022-23 to strengthen classroom integration of materials related to disability, transgender studies, anti-racism and other intersectional topics. Collopy was also named a 2022-2023 Fellow in Child & Adolescent Psychoanalysis at the Washington-Baltimore Center for Psychoanalysis and the Contemporary Freudian Society.

Four faculty members in the English department published books: Rebekah Cumpsty, Postsecular Poetics: Negotiating the Sacred and Secular in Contemporary African Fiction; Siân Griffiths, The Sum of Her Parts; Jason Barrett-Fox, Untimely Women: Radically Recasting Feminist Rhetorical History; and John Schwiebert, Walt Whitman, a Companion.

Jeremy Farner, associate professor in construction and building sciences, served as faculty advisor during a trip to Ghana, where 55 students, faculty and staff from across WSU helped design and build a school for children being rescued from slave and sex trafficking.

Jason Francis, Shaun Adamson and Diana Meiser, along with campus partners Nathan Boettcher, Angela McLean and Oliver Snow, presented a workshop, “Reflect on Accessible Content and Universal Design: An Introductory Immersion Session,” at the Medical Library Association Conference. The workshop, made possible by a Hemingway Collaborative Award grant, was based on their work to provide accessible course materials and promote Universal Design for Learning.

María del Mar González-González was awarded a Salt Lake City Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts Artists Career Empowerment Grant to curate and produce an exhibition, “(re)Framing Latina/x Art and Identities,” opening at the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art in January 2023.

Performing arts faculty Jessica Greenberg and Cully Long each had their theater design work featured at the World Stage Design Conference.

Dustin Grote, assistant professor of teacher education, co-wrote “Engineering community college transfer pathways through pre-transfer programs” for Expanding community college opportunities: Access, transfer, and completion and “Characterizing the curricular complexity faced by transfer students in 2+2 engineering programs” in Proceedings of the 2022 Annual Conference for the American Society for Engineering Education.

Master of English director David Hartwig’s article “Local Interventions: Civic Engagement through Shakespearean Performance” was published in Shakespeare Bulletin. His article “Teaching The Last of the Mohicans through Cinematic Adaptation” was published in Approaches to Teaching the Works of James Fenimore Cooper by the Modern Language Association.

Valerie Herzog, athletic training department chair, received the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Sayers “Bud” Miller Distinguished Educator Award.

Botany department professors Bridget Hilbig, James Cohen and Barbara Wachocki were awarded a grant of nearly $300,000 by the National Science Foundation to recruit, retain and support diverse students pursuing the field of botany.

Accounting instructor Lisa Hopkins, certified public accountant, was appointed chairperson of the CPA Education Advisory Committee.

Dan Hubler, associate professor in child and family studies, and Natalie Williams, teacher education professor, co-wrote “Trends in the Selection of Primary Grade (K-3) Reading Programs and Assessments in the United States” for Reading Psychology.

Alicia Ingersoll, assistant professor of supply chain management, had an article published in I by IMD titled “Greater inclusion at the top strengthens company performance.”


Heeuk Lee and Bradford Reynolds of the criminal justice department co-authored “Fear of sexual assault for oneself and others: A gendered perspective from five states” for International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice.

Associate professor of sociology R.C. Morris co-authored “Accessorizing Ideology: Conservative Political Identity Shift and Firearm Acquisition” in the Journal of Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society. The research was also presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems annual meeting.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Benjamin Neve, assistant professor of supply chain management, presented “Data-driven decision making: Supply chain lessons from COVID-19” at the 40th annual Logistics Officer Association symposium.


Microbiology professors Craig Oberg, Matt Domek and Michelle Culumber joined eight undergraduate students to present multiple research projects at the American Society for Microbiology’s Microbe meeting.

Carrie Ota, child and family studies professor, co-wrote “Child-Sustained Attention in Two-Year-Olds” for the Early Childhood Education Journal.

Demetrios Pagonis, chemistry and biochemistry assistant professor, collaboratively published “Systematic way to understand and classify the shared-room airborne transmission risk of indoor spaces” in the Indoor Air, International Journal of Indoor Environment and Health.

Brent Parkin, interim executive director of development, was named Rotarian of the Year award for living by the Rotary motto, “Service above self,” and for his involvement with the state organization’s youth programs.

Emily January Petersen, assistant professor of English, and students published “Understanding the experiences of technical writers in New Zealand and Australia” in XChanges.

Associate professor of political science Richard Price published “Navigating a Doctrinal Grey Area: Free Speech, the Right to Read, and Schools” in First Amendment Studies. Price also presented “Heather Has Too Many Mommies: Gay Children’s Books and the Christian Right Backlash” at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting and the Queer History Conference. They presented to the 2022 Spector/Warren Fellows at the Holocaust Museum Houston.

Music professor Thom Priest performed two programs with his colleague Daniel Lipori of Central Washington University at the International Double Reed Society’s Annual Conference.

Matthew Romaniello, associate professor of Russian history, received the Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society to conduct archival research in the U.K. for the book project, Unplanned Obsolescence: Modernity and the Loss of the Natural World.

Teacher education faculty Sheryl Rushton, Melina Alexander and Shirley Dawson presented “Mathematics to Teacher Education Persistence” at the Mathematics Education for the Future Project’s international conference. They also published their findings in the organization’s peer-reviewed proceedings.

Supply chain management faculty Shane J. Schvanveldt, Francois Giraud-Carrier and Evan Barlow received the 2021 Teaching Innovation Award from the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals at its international conference.

College of Health Professions dean Yasmen Simonian was selected as one of the honorees for the Utah Business 2022 Women of the Year Awards and will be featured in the magazine’s September issue.

Assistant professor of film and digital media Ash Soltani-Stone’s feature-length documentary “Rez Metal” screened at more than 45 international film festivals, including a special screening at the Smithsonian Museum. It won Best Feature Documentary at several film festivals and showcases.

Hannah Stedge, athletic training instructor, was awarded a doctoral research grant from the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Research and Education Foundation.

Visual arts faculty K Stevenson and Andrew Rice took students to the Southern Graphics Council International conference and shared their work.


Jennifer Turley, exercise and nutrition sciences professor, co-wrote “Nutritional Concerns among Female International Volunteers Based on the Income and Development Status of Their Country” and “Prevalence of Female Athlete Triad Risk Factors among Female International Volunteers and College Age-Matched Controls” for the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

Stephanie Wolfe, associate professor of political science, was a guest speaker at the 28th Commemoration of Genocide Against Tutsis in Rwanda Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio and the Jewish Community Relations Council. She also received WSU’s Affordable Course Materials Award and authored “Reparations and the Role of Apologies” for The Oxford Handbook of Atrocity Crimes.
Welcome to WSU

On the Move/Promoted

Kendra Allan | Wildcat Stores
Eric Bennick | Information Technology
Crystelle Bergeson | Accounting Services
Nicole Butler | Online & Continuing Education
Ty Christensen | Facilities Management
Conner Christiansen | Application Development
Jessica Colver | Concurrent Enrollment
Camela Corcoran | Wildcat Stores
Elizabeth Crawford-Bizzell | Nursing
Peter Crompton | Athletics Admin & Support
Sharon Dansie | Academic Technology Services
Randy Davis | Facilities Management
Eric Durt | Athletics Admin & Support
Joshua Ford | Information Technology
Aaron Francom | Facilities Management
Doris Geide-Stevenson | Goddard School of Business & Economics

Patricia Glover | School of Accounting & Taxation
Erich Goeckertz | Stewart Library
Amanda Gonzalez | Dental Hygiene
Matthew Grove | Dunkie College of Health Professions
Myranda Hackley | International Programs
Natalie Hales | Communication
Brittney Hancy | Office of the Registrar
Debra Hansen | Online & Continuing Education
Jacob Hansen | Facilities Management
William Holden | Facilities Management
Stephanie Hollist | University Legal Counsel
Eric Hunter | International Programs
Nancy Jeffery | Strategic Regional Partnerships
 Raeanna Johnson | Human Resources
Jeffrey Johnson | Dunkie College of Health Professions

Megan Jolley | Nontraditional Student Center
Edward Kessing | Online & Continuing Education
Cody Kortright | Wildcat Stores
Richard Leary | Student Success Center
Patrick Leavitt | Financial Services IT
Kimberly Love | Online & Continuing Education
Jennifer Lueckler | Accounting Services
Rebecca Mobile | Campus Recreation
Erica Marken | University Legal Counsel
Hollie McKeeth | Provost’s Office
MaryEllia Mitchell | Provost’s Office
Gino Moncada | Student Success Center
Marvin Murray | Information Technology
Heidi Nelson | Purchasing
Brent Parkin | Development
Kaley Price | Child & Family Studies

Retired

Susan Alexander | Dental Hygiene
Bradley Beazer | Wildcat Stores
Nicole Berthelemy | Zoology
Delroy Brinkerhoff | School of Computing
Laree Cloud | Facilities Management
Matthew Domek | Microbiology
Susan Foss | Electrical & Computer Engineering

Cordell Gold | Manufacturing - Systems Engineering
G. Richard Hill | University Legal Counsel
Ronald Holt | Sociology
Craig LaRocco | Online & Continuing Education
Laura MacLeod | School of Computing
David Matty | Geosciences

Chloe Merrill | Child & Family Studies
Matthew Mauritzen | Goddard School of Business & Economics
Kathryn Newton | Health Sciences
Craig Oberg | Administrative Services
Eleanor Olson | English
Kristin Radulovich | Teacher Education
Randy Rahe | Athletics Admin & Support

Daniel Russell | Athletics Admin & Support
Shannon Sandau | International Programs
Lynetto Sandoval | Developmental Math Program
Eric Short | Facilities Management
Anahi Silva | Student Success Center
Colton Simons | Concurrent Enrollment
Shannon Smith | Dental Hygiene
Xiao Song | Student Success Center
Robert Steedley | Communication
Natalie Stoddard | Goddard School of Business & Economics
Samantha Stuart | Athletics Admin & Support
Joseph Sutton | Facilities Management
Jared Tenney | Nontraditional Student Center
Kris Tibbets | Facilities Management
Abbigail Turner | Wildcat Stores
Chimolui Ucha | School of Computing
Lizbeth Velazquez | Social Work
Kaija Waite | Online & Continuing Education
Kay Walker | Online & Continuing Education
Joshua Weier | Athletics Admin & Support
Jordan West | Health Sciences
Shara Willard | University Police
Kamiko Williams | Athletics Admin & Support
Maya Willis | Student Success Center
Tyler Yeaman | Student Success Center
Mercedes Ziegler | Women’s Center

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EHSI Goal, continued from page 1

message to the state of Utah that we need to pay attention to this population," she said.

In the university’s five-year strategic plan, Amplified, WSU committed to increasing the percentage of students who identify as Hispanic or Latino to 15% by fall 2025. To help reach this goal, the university hired Lewis, thanks to a generous $500,000 commitment from Ally Financial Inc.

“This is about strategically positioning the students so they can transition from high school graduation to a certificate or degree program enabling them to work in the field they’re passionate about,” she said. “That in turn will help Utah’s economy and our community.”

WSU President Brad Mortensen, who serves on the governing board of Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, said he’s excited to have Lewis join the Weber State team because she’s a passionate and experienced advocate for high school students being able to access higher education.

“Utah’s changing demographics and ever-increasing workforce demands require our higher education institutions to better serve Hispanic and Latino communities,” Mortensen said.

Lewis will report to Mortensen as well as Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Adrienne Andrews.

Andrews said Weber State is fortunate to have Lewis’ nationally-recognized skills and commitment to supporting education.

“I’m excited to see what will happen next as we move the needle forward on our strategic plan goal of becoming an Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution,” Andrews said. “Yudi is the right person, in the right place and this is the right time to make it happen.”

The search committee for Lewis’ position included Teresa Martinez, Center for Community Engaged Learning interim co-director; María del Mar González-González, assistant professor of art history; Azenett Garza, psychology professor; Andrea Garavito Martinez, assistant professor of education; Cristian Gutierrez, College Access Retention Advisor for DACA/Undocumented Students; Andrea Hernandez, Women’s Center program coordinator; and Leslie Park, Student Success Center executive director.

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1 100TH ANNUAL MOUNT OGDEN HIKE SEPT. 24

The 100th anniversary of the Mount Ogden hike is Saturday, Sept. 24. Hikers are welcome to make the climb on their own from a variety of trailheads or join the guided group to carry on the tradition started in 1922, when more than 350 Weber College students and faculty ascended the mountain and planted a Weber flag at the summit. For more information, visit weber.edu/outdoor

2 DEE EVENTS CENTER PARKING NOW FREE

Starting fall semester, everyone can park for free at the Dee Events Center and ride the new Wildcat Shuttle to school or work. Shuttles run every 10 minutes Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and make additional stops at Wildcat Village and Shepherd Union. Riding the shuttle on campus does not require a UTA pass. Parking permits are required for all other on-campus parking lots and can be purchased at weber.edu/financialservices/parking

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CONTACT US

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