“I’ve benefitted throughout my life from opportunities that were made possible by charitable donations.”

Donald Wishom, Legislative Correspondent

Although the internship was paid and he was offered subsidized housing, during his stay in Washington, D.C., Lonnie had to pick up a second job so he could have spending money. He knows how costly internships can be and he wanted to help relieve some of that burden. Lonnie now works in the office of U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch as a Legislative Correspondent. He knows it was the experience and knowledge he gained from the internship that led to his employment.

“I feel that if someone or some group takes a chance and invests time and resources in me, I want them to get a great return on that investment. I just know how much I’ve benefitted throughout my life from opportunities that were made possible by charitable donations...I’ve always looked forward to being in a position to play my role in helping open doors for others.”

—Donald Wishom

The Cost of an Internship

Academic Credits-$400 Each
Airfare-$500
Housing-$2600
Transportation-$300

Make Governor Walker’s Vision Possible

Internships ■ Civic Education ■ Policy Discussions

The Walker Institute at Weber State University combines two PASSIONS of mine: EDUCATION & POLITICS.”

—Governor Olene Walker

“An active, insightful citizen. Democrat-ic leadership and civic participation require knowledge and a set of qualities that can be taught and cultivated through education and experience. Knowledge, candor, decision, and political responsibility are chief among those qualities.

The Walker Institute serves the Weber State community through programs that promote leadership development, civic education, and policy discussion. We recruit and help students apply for and serve internships in Washington D.C., in the Utah State government, both in the executive branch and with the legislature, in local government offices, and non-profit offices. We also sponsor academic leadership courses, speakers on political and policy topics important to Utah’s future, and civic education for students and the community that provide instruction about how to be involved in public life.

Join the Walker Institute this year as we discuss freedom of speech with USA Today, Daily Beast columnist, and Fox News contributor, Kirsten Powers (Constitution Day, September 17), the Role of the Millennial Generation in public life in Utah (Haven J. Barlow Fall Civic Leadership Forum, October 8), and for our Citizens Academy with Ogden City! In the Spring, 2016, the Walker Political Leadership Institute will introduce citizens to the new primary system in Utah and help them understand how to participate in their party caucuses!!

—CarolMcNamara@weber.edu

Zions Bank supports Walker Institute

Citizens Academy to Campaign

Internship to Employment

How to Give

Online
weber.edu/walkerinstitute/donate

By Check
1299 Edvalson St., Dept 1219
Ogden, UT 84408-1219
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Rooms 346 & 348

By Phone
801-626-6138

September 23, 30, October 7, 14
Citizens Academy
WSU Campus Downtown, 210
Continue:weber.edu/citizensacademy

October 8, 12 p.m.,
Haven J. Barlow Fall Civic Leadership Forum: Millennials and Public Policy
Shepherd Union Building, Ballroom A and B

September 17, 12 p.m.,
Constitution Day Address: Kirsten Powers, author of The Silencing: How the Left is Killing Free Speech
Shepherd Union Building, Wildcat Theater
Zions Bank Supports the Walker Institute

What are the crucial questions donors ask before contributing to an organization? How will this organization impact the community? What is its vision? Is this a principled organization in which people believe? Scott Anderson, President and CEO of Zions Bank, needs this information before making donations. The organization must represent a vision Zions Bank can stand behind and with which it is proud to associate its name. The Walker Institute of Politics & Public Service meets the criteria and is grateful to Scott Anderson and Zions Bank for their support since the time of its founding in 2012.

Anderson, who had the honor of working with Governor Olene Walker, said, “I was impressed with her grasp of the issues, her intellect, her common sense approach to problem solving, and her ability to bring people together for the common good.”

When Governor Walker first discussed with Anderson her exciting idea to create the Walker Institute at Weber State University, he was thrilled to support her vision for a political and public service institute as a means to honoring her legacy as a powerful leader in Utah. Politics and education are two of Governor Walker’s passions and the Walker Institute combines both.

Scott Anderson expects the Walker Institute will continue to grow as a forum for the study and discussion of political and policy ideas, a center for civic engagement on issues important to the state, country, and citizens, and the home of the internship program at Weber State. Zions Bank is taking the lead with its continued support of the Walker Institute, which is essential to its development as it continues to motivate more students and members of the community through education and opportunities.

From Internship to Employment

Sarah Gribble is an inspiration to all Weber State University students hoping to turn their internships into employment. Sarah graduated from Weber State University in 2013 with a degree in Communications, an emphasis in Public Relations & Advertising, and a concentration in International Affairs. Sarah served four daring internships, but it was the last internship that led her to full-time employment and an adventurous move to our nation’s capital. Sarah served her first internship in Washington D.C., through the Walker Institute, with United States Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah. Sarah put her communication and public relations education to use; she collected news clips for the Senator each day and provided research support for written press releases. She had a chance to edit video and monitor some of Senator Hatch’s social media sites and website. In addition to her press duties, Sarah also helped the office by giving tours of the Capitol to Utah constituents (which was her favorite responsibility) and responding to constituent calls and letters.

Through her experience in Senator Hatch’s office, Sarah acquired an understanding of media work, a greater knowledge of U.S. history and government, and was able to connect with many people from across the state of Utah. During the internship, she fell in love with Washington, D.C. and all it had to offer. After graduation, Sarah decided she was ready for a new adventure. The Walker Institute director recruited her for another internship opportunity in Washington, D.C. and, of course, she jumped at the chance to return. Sarah interned for the Walker Institute director and soon was working for his chief of staff than an intern. When she was in charge of Senator Bramble’s phone, she received a late night call from former Governor Michael Levitt, “That is one call you make sure you answer!” Stuart said. Becoming acquainted with some of the most powerful people in Utah was a rewarding part of his internship experience. Stuart had the opportunity to observe them at work, in public settings, and on a more intimate level telling jokes over dinner.

The Walker Institute asked Stuart what advice he had for students considering internships:
A. “Do it. Don’t hesitate. A lot of people were hesitant because they were not political science majors, but I had a lot of friends interning from different majors: sociology, history, economics, and communications.”

Q. What guidance would you give potential interns for future sessions?
A. “Don’t be afraid to take risks. The representatives and senators do not want to hold your hand the entire time. They want you to take initiative.”

Q. What was the most challenging aspect of serving an internship?
A. “Remembering faces and names. That is something I wish I’d spent more time researching. The legislative website has profiles of all the senators and representatives, so you can look them up. If you memorize their names and faces, you will be a step above other interns.”

Citizens Academy: “Engage, Envision, and Invest.”

From the Walker Institute’s Citizens Academy, to running his own campaign, Ben Nadolski, had a decision to make: should he run for a spot on the Ogden City Council? Still unsure of his decision and not confident how to execute a campaign, he attended Citizens Academy hoping to gain insight and guidance about whether political involvement would be right for him, his family, and Ogden. Ben was a Weber State Wildcat and also has a Master’s degree from Utah State University. He is currently serving as a Policy Analyst for the Utah Department of Natural Resources. Ben has impressive credentials and a politically involved family background and yet, he found Citizens Academy to be a useful experience.

The goal of Citizens Academy is to promote an active and vibrant citizenry. The Walker Institute strives to educate citizens so they can understand more clearly the workings of government and how they can become more involved in their communities. This idea became the inspiration for Ben’s campaign theme: “Engage, Envision, and Invest.” He knows people want to be more involved in decisions affecting their communities, but sometimes struggle to find ways to get involved and stay informed. Ben said he would recommend Citizens Academy to anyone wanting to get involved, and is hopeful that as time goes on Citizens Academy will become the platform for community awareness, volunteerism, leadership development, and much more.