

Western Illinois University

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 4, 2024

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WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 3 – 4, 2024

Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois

June 3, 2024 – University Union, Capitol Room, Macomb

Motion to Convene to Open Session – 5:30 p.m. **Action**

Roll Call **Action**

Motion to Convene to Closed Session **Action**

Motion to Convene to Open Session **Action**

Adjourn **Action**

June 4, 2024 – University Union, Capitol Room, Macomb

Motion to Convene to Open Session – 8:30 a.m. **Action**

Roll Call

Public Comments

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Review and approval of March 21, 2024 open, closed and March 22, 2024 open session minutes.

Review and approval of May 10, 2024 open session meeting minutes.

Chairperson’s Remarks

Mrs. Carin Stutz, Chair

President’s Remarks

Interim President Kristi Mindrup

Agenda Topic

Reports and Discussion Items

Report No. 24.6/1

Repair and Maintenance of Official Residence
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Report No. 24.6/2

Purchases of \$100,000-499,999.99
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Report No. 24.6/3

Budget and Financial Data for Quarter Ended March 31, 2024
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Report No. 24.6/4

Marketing & Communication Update
(Interim Assistant Vice President for Communications, Marketing and Media Relations,
Alisha Looney)

Report No. 24.6/5

Annual Listing of Academic Program Changes
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Report No. 24.6/6

Academic Affairs Report
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Report No. 24.6/7

Report on Externally Sponsored Grants and Contracts for the 3rd Quarter
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Report No. 24.6/8

Report on Contributions
(Vice President for Advancement, Alumni Relations and Athletics, Clare Thompson)

Report No. 24.6/9

Report on External Audits
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Verbal Reports and Updates

Executive Director of QC Outreach and Operations, Audrey Adamson
Athletics Director, Paul Bubb
Director of Justice, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, Carl Ervin
Director of Governmental Relations, Zach Messersmith
Interim Vice President for Student Success, Justin Schuch

General & Advisory Group Reports and Comments

Student Government Association, Kyle Ramlow (Macomb)
Student Government Association, Harrison Dehnert (Quad Cities)
Faculty Senate Co-Chair, Everett Hamner
Faculty Council Co-Chair, WIU-Quad Cities, Everett Hamner and/or Dana Lindemann
Civil Service Employees Council, Jackie Price
Council of Administrative Personnel President, Paul Bubb

Resolutions and Action Items

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/1

Interim President, Dr. Kristi Mindrup Employment Contract
(Interim General Counsel, Victoria Smith)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/2

Fiscal Year 2024 Preliminary Spending Plan
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards and University Budget
Director, Renee Georges)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/3

New Degree Program – BA in Public Relations
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/4

Tenure Recommendations for 2024-2025
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/5

Release of Closed Session Meeting Minutes
(Interim General Counsel, Victoria Smith)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/6

Elect Trustee to Serve on State Universities Civil Service Merit Board
(Interim General Counsel, Victoria Smith)

Action

Resolution No. 24.6/7 **Action**
Election of Officers of the Board for July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
(Interim General Counsel, Victoria Smith)

Resolution No. 24.6/8 **Action**
Recommendation for the Naming of a University Building
(Interim President, Dr. Kristi Mindrup)

Old Business

New Business

Next Meeting

September 26, 2024 Closed Session - QC Campus, Riverfront Hall 104
September 27, 2024 Open Session - QC Campus, Riverfront Hall 104

Adjourn **Action**

- The audio will be streamed live at <https://www.youtube.com/user/WesternIllinoisU>
- Public comments will be held to a total of 30 minutes. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes for those speaking in person and 500 words for those writing. Those who wish to have your comments read, please email them to Athena Brooks at AM-Brooks@WIU.edu by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday, June 3, 2024.
- Trustees will meet in person.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Review and Approval of the Meeting Minutes of:
March 21, 2024 Open and Closed Session

Minutes will be available for review at:

http://www.wiu.edu/board_of_trustees/minutes/index.php

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Review and Approval of the Meeting Minutes of:
March 22, 2024 Open Session

Minutes will be available for review at:

http://www.wiu.edu/board_of_trustees/minutes/index.php

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Review and Approval of the Meeting Minutes of:
May 10, 2024 Open Session

Minutes will be available for review at:

http://www.wiu.edu/board_of_trustees/minutes/index.php

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/1 -- Repair and Maintenance of Official Residence

Routine residence repairs and maintenance were made in the total of \$9,002 for FY24 to date. This includes cleaning, HVAC repair, as well as normal maintenance and upkeep.

University residence maintenance historical expenditures.

Dept	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	Average	FY24TD
Building Maintenance	\$3,693	\$7,241	\$5,260	\$7,151	\$5,836	\$2,749
Building Services	\$2,930	\$11,607	\$7,904	\$2,277	\$6,179	\$1,484
Landscape Maintenance	\$4,688	\$10,760	\$5,395	\$3,698	\$6,135	\$1,796
Mechanical Maintenance	\$3,089	\$4,206	\$5,978	\$2,509	\$3,946	\$2,973
Facilities Planning & Construction	\$0	\$2,112	\$94,926	\$26,642	\$30,920	\$0
Total	\$14,400	\$35,926	\$119,463	\$42,277	\$53,016	\$9,002

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/2 -- Purchases of \$100,000 -- \$499,999.99

Purchases of \$100,000 - \$249,999

Vendor	Type of Purchase	Annual Amount (unless otherwise noted)	Number of Bids
Levi Ray & Shoup Inc; Springfield, IL	Develop a custom database and website redesign for Illinois Retired Officer Concealed Carry (IROCC) program.	\$117,510.00	Exempt (Grant)
Safeware, Inc; Lanham, MD	VirTra 300 Firearms Simulator - virtual interactive coursework and training simulator for the Office of Public Safety. Grant-funded.	\$244,241.35	IPHEC Award

Purchases of \$250,000 - \$499,999 Receiving Presidential Approval

None

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/3 -- Budget and Financial Data for Quarter Ended
March 31, 2024

All Funds						
	FY2024 Budget	FY2024	% of Budget	FY2023 Budget	FY2023	% of Budget
Revenue						
State Appropriations	\$ 55,712,200	\$ 55,468,440	99.6%	\$ 52,067,400	\$ 51,882,287	99.6%
Assessed Tuition	46,414,600	48,769,683	105.1%	51,585,000	50,197,486	97.3%
Assessed Room and Board	20,014,614	21,060,341	105.2%	20,294,974	21,428,745	105.6%
Sales	3,563,700	3,058,949	85.8%	3,022,750	2,960,382	97.9%
Assessed Student Fees	4,658,254	4,883,439	104.8%	4,775,691	4,932,130	103.3%
Other	59,968,613	51,101,377	85.2%	61,001,212	50,173,026	82.2%
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 190,331,981</u>	<u>\$ 184,342,229</u>	96.9%	<u>\$ 192,747,027</u>	<u>\$ 181,574,056</u>	94.2%
Expenditures						
Personnel Services	\$ 104,000,000	\$ 69,699,138	67.0%	\$ 99,200,000	\$ 67,372,186	67.9%
Medicare	1,970,000	2,189,237	111.1%	1,945,000	\$ 1,793,927	92.2%
Commodities	3,560,000	1,957,040	55.0%	3,500,000	\$ 1,958,118	55.9%
Operation of Automotive Equip	620,000	311,921	50.3%	545,000	\$ 356,256	65.4%
Travel	695,000	435,428	62.7%	583,000	\$ 388,004	66.6%
Contractual Services	41,500,000	28,960,494	69.8%	40,650,000	\$ 29,636,635	72.9%
Permanent Improvements	430,000	872,286	202.9%	650,000	\$ 143,587	22.1%
Equipment	4,300,000	2,057,581	47.9%	5,522,200	\$ 2,324,264	42.1%
Telecommunication Services	325,000	203,614	62.7%	427,000	\$ 153,927	36.0%
Awards/Grants & Matching Funds	38,600,000	34,890,677	90.4%	47,033,000	\$ 37,911,298	80.6%
CMS Health Insurance	3,044,800	2,935,389	96.4%	3,144,800	\$ 2,808,703	89.3%
Other	10,950,000	11,817,845	107.9%	10,200,000	\$ 11,259,893	110.4%
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 209,994,800</u>	<u>\$ 156,330,650</u>	74.4%	<u>\$ 213,400,000</u>	<u>\$ 156,106,798</u>	73.2%

The Board of Trustees approved the Western Illinois University Fiscal Year 2024 All Funds Budget by source of funds and estimated object of expenditure on October 13, 2023 (see Western Illinois University Board of Trustees Resolution No. 23.10/1). Per Board approval, Western Illinois University is authorized to spend up to \$209.9 million during Fiscal Year 2024, and the President is authorized to make technical adjustments in budgets if necessary.

Following the approval of institutional spending plans, the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees shall receive quarterly revenue and expenditure reports to review the University's financial status and compliance with institutional spending plans. To be clear, concise, and transparent, the financials have been revised to a single chart that includes all sources of revenues and expenditures. This information has been presented in separate charts in prior years.

The table provided displays the approved All Funds Budget for the current fiscal year, along with the year-to-date revenue and expense data. Additionally, it includes Fiscal Year 2023 data for comparison purposes. Essential spending and important year-end deadlines have been communicated to the campus community to ensure that the deficit for FY2024 will be much lower than the budgeted amount across all funds.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/4 -- Marketing & Communication Update



**UNIVERSITY
MARKETING**

wiu.edu/brand

W | Western Illinois
University

Goals

- 1** Provide value to WIU's audiences
- 2** Differentiate from the competition
- 3** Highlight Western's unique, high-demand programs
- 4** Nurture leads through the Admissions funnel to help drive enrollment
- 5** Retarget WIU's audience to increase the frequency of visibility
- 6** Generate positive feelings about Western through continued brand awareness efforts
- 7** Examine trends and analytics to make data-driven decisions



Overview

Digital

- Paid digital advertising (Carnegie)
- Lead generators
- Strategic organic social media

Traditional

- Brand awareness via billboards & banners; broadcast television; radio; community relations; print
- Layering some traditional media with digital efforts with specific CTAs for campaigns aligning with Enrollment goals

Community Engagement & Outreach

- Experiential - experiencing the WIU brand
- Strategic sponsorships



According to RNL*, the average online program marketing budget (not including any overhead costs) is in excess of one million dollars. Public institutions reported an average of \$1.04 million. (WIU's total overall marketing budget is less than \$1 million)

*Ruffalo Noel Levitz

Digital Marketing

Digital advertising is an extremely effective way to **hyper-target** students in their college search. According to RNL*, clicks on paid advertising went up in 2021 from 2019 for high school seniors, juniors and sophomores.

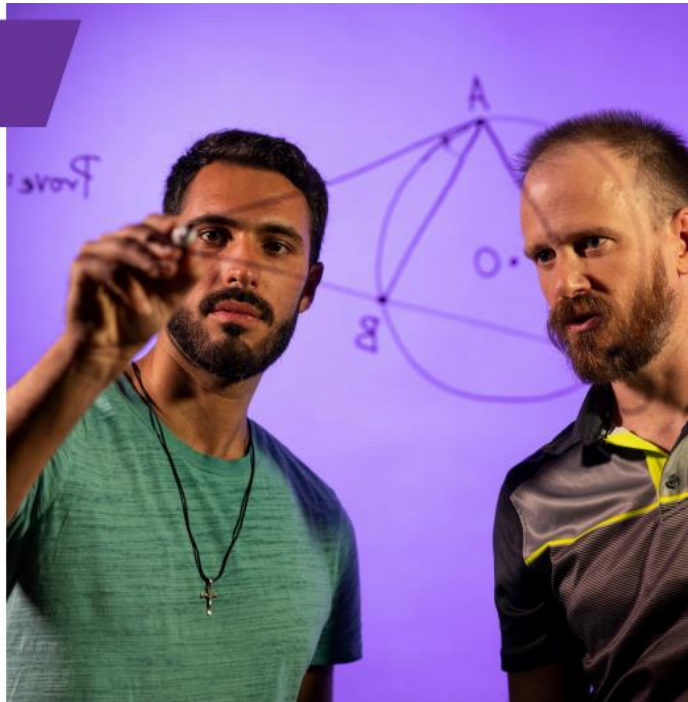
Google Search, followed by **Facebook** and **YouTube**, was where students were clicking on ads the most. The actions most taken by students after clicking were looking at information on a website, filling out a form to have information sent by postal mail or watching a video.

*Ruffalo Noel Levitz



Objectives

- 1 Generate new leads
- 2 Increase exposure and interest beyond the organic
- 3 Drive traffic to WIU's website
- 4 Encourage actions (visit, apply etc.)
- 5 Strengthen brand awareness
- 6 Track conversions



Digital Plan

- IP Targeting
- Mobile Footprint Targeting
- PPC - Google Ad
- YouTube Ad
- Snapchat Ads
- TikTok Ads
- Facebook/Instagram/ Stories Ads
- Mobile Location Targeting
- Display
- SEO
- Analytics
- Carnegie Clarity™
- Data Tagging (Dart Tagging)
- Zapier/Slate Import Automation Set Up



Audience Campaigns

- Prospect
- Transfer
- Inquiry
- Yield

Digital Highlights

19 Million
Impressions

100,078
Clicks

3,593
Conversions



Campaign Shoutout

Display Retargeting was the driving force behind these positive gains, securing a 50% increase in conversion volume. We are excited to highlight that the Display Retargeting campaign drove 236 application completions, making the cost per application \$35, falling below our Undergraduate Display cost per application benchmark of \$98.

Clarity Highlights

75K Users +232.3% YoY

Created Application Account	1,968
Submitted Application	899
Submitted an RFI	763

899 Registered for an Event or Tour

Connect With WIU
Curious about what life is like for the Leathernecks? Whether you're a first-year freshman or a prospective transfer student, we're ready to show you around!

[Choose a Visit Date](#)

SEO Audit

Carnegie, University Marketing and Web Services partnered for the SEO technical audit which was completed in Fall 2023.

Objective:

Verify that digital marketing tactics are being properly captured within the GA4 account, properties, and data streams on the wiu.edu domain.

Outcome:

A set of findings and recommended best practices for a fully functioning GA4 set up and Property that will provide accurate and actionable marketing data. Additionally, through the review of the assessment a basic understanding of GA4 features that are be used to determine marketing impact will be presented.

Process:

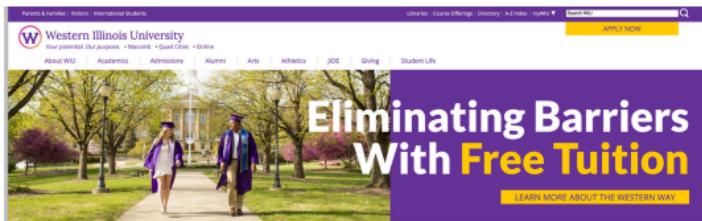
Carnegie Google Analytics specialists reviewed:

- Deployment of the Google Analytics tracking script to the website
- Account-level settings impacting data governance
- Property-level settings and features for data collection

Site Health Score

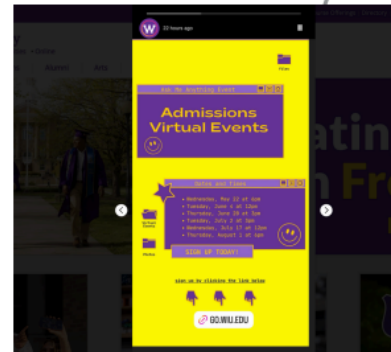
The web crawl gave a site health score of **39%**
The top end of higher ed is around **75%**.

Reeled Beta Testing



Results

10,472
Total Opens
202s
Average Dwell Time



University Communications and Marketing, with the assistance of Web Services, partnered with Study College and beta-tested their new product Reeled in the Spring of 2024. WIU was one of only 2 institutions in the country selected for beta testing this new product that brings the look and feel of social media to web pages.

Social Media

Increase engagement with the campus community, alumni, and prospective students through various social media platforms.

Top 5 Used Daily*

- Snapchat
- Instagram
- YouTube
- TikTok
- Facebook

Top 5 Most Useful for College Search*1

- Instagram
- YouTube
- Facebook
- Twitter
- TikTok

*Ruffalo Noel Levitz



Dining with Devin

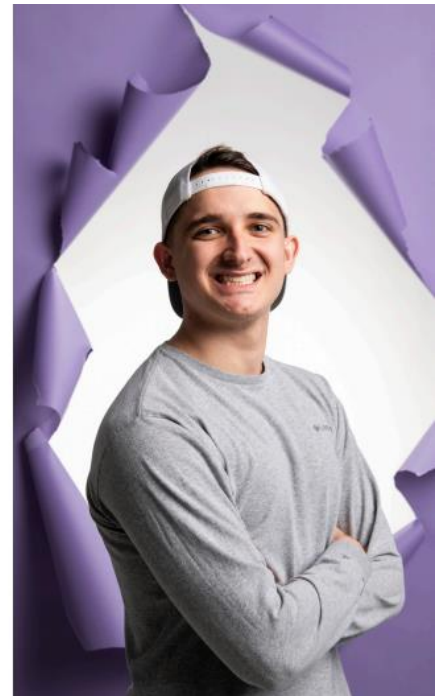
61K Views

Instagram

28K Views

Facebook

In the Fall of 2023, University Communications and Marketing social media coordinator Kelsey Brown and student intern Devin Hermsmeier started a new social media video series on our flagship WIU accounts, Dining with Devin. The series aimed to provide a real student perspective reviewing food from local restaurants in the Macomb area. He did such an amazing job that local businesses requested to be featured in the series and recently included our local Sodexo food offerings around campus. This creative initiative not only helped with town and gown relationships, it helped contribute to our social media strategy by increasing engagement on our platforms.



Paid In-House Campaign

Western Challenge 2024

379,245
Impressions

The number of times the ads were on screen.

81,037
Reach

The number of unique accounts that saw your ads at least once.

2,685
Link Clicks

The number of times the ad achieved an outcome, based on the objective.



The average cost per result: \$.089

The average cost per click (CPC) for Facebook ads across all industries is \$1.72.

Traditional Marketing

- 3 Area Macomb Billboards
- 3 QC Billboard near campus
- 1 Springfield Billboard
- QC Airport Ad
- WGEM
- Weigel Broadcasting The U/CW26
- WCIU-TV
- WMBD/WYZZ
- WMBD - Bloomington
- WYZZ
- Tri-State Public Radio
- The Joe Roderick Show
- Community News Brief
- Pike County Express
- QC Times
- WQAD



Billboard Examples



Student Survey

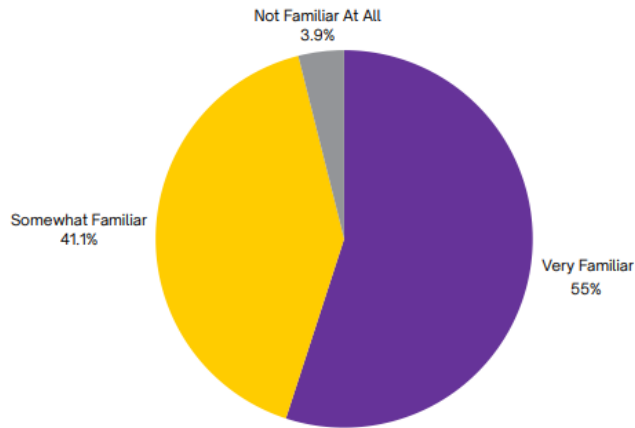
OBJECTIVES To help University Communications and Marketing improve the branding and marketing efforts at Western Illinois University, the department conducted a survey and focus groups for current WIU students.

	Projects	Details	Outcome
March 2024	Survey drafted and sent	All current students (undergrad and grad) were able to participate	484 people participated in the survey
April 2024	Focus Groups	Focus groups were held on both the Macomb and QC campuses as well as the at the MCC on the Macomb campus.	About 50 students participated in the focus groups and were able to give more insights into their thoughts on branding and marketing efforts at WIU.

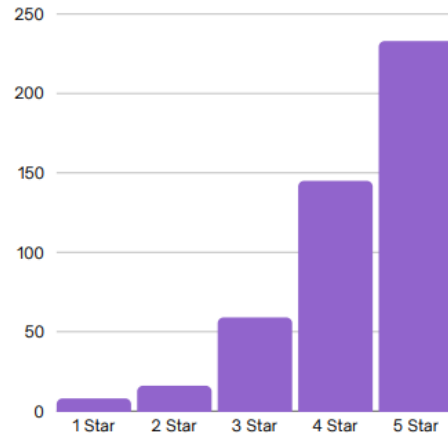


Student Survey Results

How familiar are you with Western Illinois University's brand?

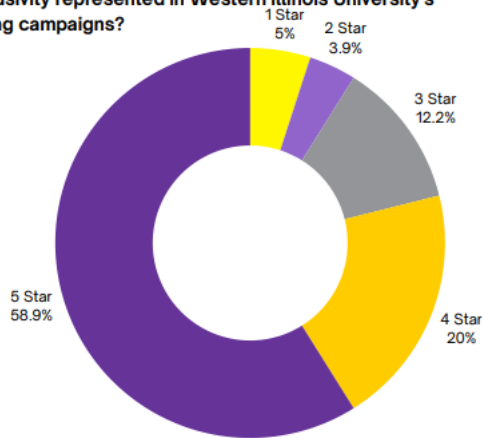


On a scale from 1- 5, please rate your overall perception of the University's brand.

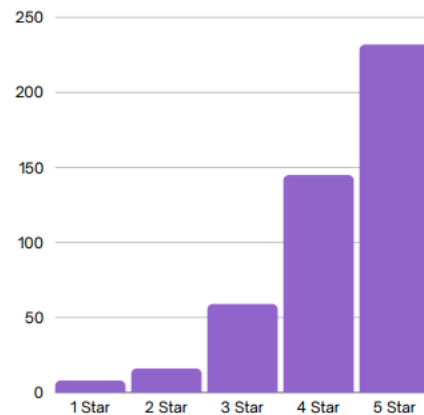


Student Survey Results

On a scale from 1-5, how important is it for you to see diversity and inclusivity represented in Western Illinois University's marketing campaigns?

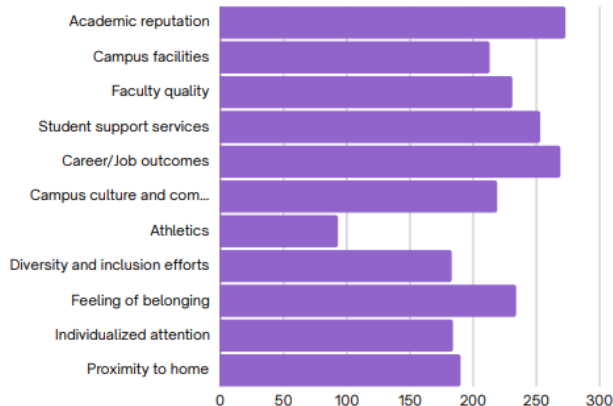


On a scale from 1-5, how likely are you to recommend Western Illinois University to a prospective student?

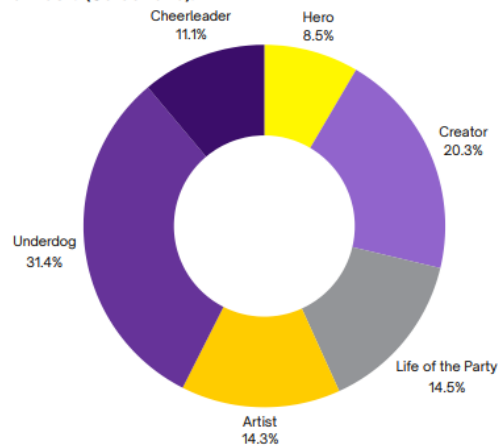


Student Survey Results

Which aspects of WIU resonate with you the most? (Select all that apply)



Which of the following characters do you identify with the most? (Select one).



Student Survey Results

"I came here on my tour and instantly was met with smiles and kind faces. I knew they would make me feel included and like I belonged."

"Small town feel with big time personality"

"It's got a dog that you can pet, and there will always be a club you can relate to"

"This is the place to start fresh. When you fall and lost all hope, WIU is the place to find it again."

"This campus doesn't just give you an education, it can give you a genuine connection to some of the most important people you'll ever meet"

Print Ads

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE TO GO FAR!

- 100+ DEGREE OPTIONS
- 94% OF CLASSES ARE TAUGHT BY FULL-TIME FACULTY
- 19 YEARS AS A BEST MIDWESTERN COLLEGE —PRINCETON REVIEW
- BEST MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Western Illinois University

Purple Stands Out

"I decided to commit to our local university. I love being able to commute from home and still participate in everything I love. Students at Western are like one big family, and the support and kindness is unbeatable!"
—Chloe, Student at Western, IL

Western Illinois University

Come see us at
Heritage Days 2023
Thursday-Sunday June 22-25

- Inflatables
- Give aways
- Time with Ray

Western Illinois University

Publication Highlights

GOLD AWARD
Entry Name: Purple Stands Out • Category: Recruitment - Series

COLLEGIATE ADVERTISING AWARDS

GOLD AWARD
Entry Name: Leathernecks Don't Blend In • Billboard Design - Series

NECK UP & SHOW UP!
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

STAND OUT with LEATHERNECKS

GO ANYWHERE 100% LEATHERNECKS

MANY TERMS. ONE GOAL: STUDENT SUCCESS

COLLEGIATE ADVERTISING AWARDS

BRONZE AWARD
Entry Name: Leathernecks Stand Out • Category: Student Viewbook - Product

COLLEGIATE ADVERTISING AWARDS

Communications and Marketing and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions were granted multiple Collegiate Advertising Awards, with victories across three categories. The scoring breakdown is as follows: Judges Choice, only two issued, top 1%; Gold Awards, top 5% in the nation; Silver Awards, top 12% in the nation; Bronze Awards, top 16% in the nation

Community Engagement

Examples Include:

- Quad Cities Marathon
- Warsaw High School
- YMCA of Macomb
- Macomb Chamber
- John Deere Classic
- Macomb Heritage Days
- Macomb-Western Holiday Tournament
- Children's Therapy Ctr of QC
- Quad Cities Business Journal
- Various High School and Community College Sponsorship Outreach



Brand Management

OVERVIEW

Western Illinois University's brand showcases our history and brings new initiatives to light that move us forward. Brand guidelines help all ambassadors—anyone representing WIU—apply the brand. University Marketing enforces these standards help build and maintain consistent visual and verbal communication.

ONGOING

Brand 360 Management with CLC

Management of Creatives for external communications

Strengthen brand guidelines to be more user friendly

Create a brand suite on the website



Have more questions?

Email: Marketing@wiu.edu



**Western Illinois
University**

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/5 -- Annual Listing of Academic Program Changes

The Illinois Board of Higher Education requires that each public university submit a list of academic program changes annually in June. Following is Western Illinois University's planned report for the period June 21, 2023, to June 20, 2024.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
ANNUAL LISTING OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM CHANGES
June 21, 2023 to June 20, 2024

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
*****REPORTING CATEGORIES AS IDENTIFIED BY IBHE*****					
1	Creation of a new non-credit program or a program of study composed of credit courses that does not result in the formal award of a degree.		N/A		
2	Creation of a new unit that does not have an instructional, research, or public service mission, including new units that might be named department, division, or institute.		N/A		
3	Addition of a new organized set of courses within a major to an existing degree program.	15.0613	M.S. in Engineering Technology, Precision Agriculture emphasis		Campus 03/06/24 HLC notified 04/18/24
4	Addition of an externally funded research or public service activity labeled as a center or institute because of grant requirements. The activity is temporary, not formally organized, and has no continuous mission.		N/A		
5	Addition of a new minor.		Minor in Latinx Studies		Campus 12/04/23
6	Change in a degree title.		N/A		
7	Change in the name of an administrative (including departments), research, or public service unit.		N/A		
8	Elimination (or temporary suspension) of an existing degree program, with indication of Phase Down, Elimination, or Temporary Suspension status.	05.0201	B.A. in African American Studies	Entered Phase-Out 03/22/17 Replaced FL 22 by African American Studies option of Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree program (new option approved on campus 04/15/22)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		52.1902	B.S. in Apparel and Textile Merchandising	Entered Phase-Out 08/17/20	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
8	Elimination (or temporary suspension) of an existing degree program, with indication of Phase Down, Elimination, or Temporary Suspension status (cont'd).	51.0913	B.S. in Athletic Training	Entered Phase-Out 02/27/18	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		13.0201	B.S.Ed. in Bilingual/English as a Second Language Education	Entered Phase-Out 04/19/21 (including Bilingual Education track and English as a Second Language track) Replaced FL 21 by Multilingual Education option and English as a Second Language option of B.S.Ed. in Elementary Education degree program (new options approved on campus 04/19/21)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		09.0701	B.A. in Broadcasting	Entered Phase-Out 12/14/17 (including Broadcasting option and Sports Broadcasting option) Replaced FL 18 by B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism degree program (approved by IBHE as RME 12/14/17)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		19.0101	B.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences	Entered Phase-Out 06/29/15 (including Dietetics option, Fashion Merchandising option, and Hotel/Restaurant Management option) Replaced FL 15 by B.S. in Apparel and Textile Merchandising (52.1902), B.S. in Dietetics (51.3101), B.S. in Hospitality Management (52.0901), and B.S. in Nutrition and Foodservice Management (19.0501) (approved by IBHE as RME 06/22/15)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		16.0901	B.A. in French	Entered Phase-Out 10/25/13 (including French option and Teacher Education option) Replaced FL 14 by French option of B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures degree program and B.A. in French Teacher Education degree program (approved by IBHE as RME 10/22/13)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
8	Elimination (or temporary suspension) of an existing degree program, with indication of Phase Down, Elimination, or Temporary Suspension status (cont'd).	13.1325	B.A. in French Teacher Education	Entered Phase-Out 11/01/18 Replaced FL 19 by French Teacher Education option of B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures degree program (approved on campus 10/31/18)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		10.0305	B.S. in Graphic Communication	Entered Phase-Out 06/16/20	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		30.0000	B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies	Entered Phase-Out 06/25/20 (including Interdisciplinary Studies concentration and Youth Leadership concentration)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		09.0401	B.A. in Journalism	Entered Phase-Out 12/14/17 Replaced FL 18 by B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism degree program (approved by IBHE as RME 12/14/17)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		13.0501	B.S. in Media and Instructional Technology	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		50.0901	B.A. in Music	Entered Phase-Out 05/12/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		38.0101	B.A. in Philosophy	Entered Phase-Out 03/22/17 (including Philosophy option and Pre-Law option)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		38.0201	B.A. in Religious Studies	Entered Phase-Out 03/22/17	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
8	Elimination (or temporary suspension) of an existing degree program, with indication of Phase Down, Elimination, or Temporary Suspension status (cont'd).	16.0905	B.A. in Spanish	Entered Phase-Out 10/25/13 (including Spanish option and Teacher Education option) Replaced FL 14 by Spanish option of B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures degree program and B.A. in Spanish Teacher Education degree program (approved by IBHE as RME 10/22/13)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		13.1330	B.A. in Spanish Teacher Education	Entered Phase-Out 11/01/18 Replaced FL 19 by Spanish Teacher Education option of B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures degree program (approved on campus 10/31/18)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		05.0207	B.A. in Women's Studies	Entered Phase-Out 03/22/17	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		40.0601	B.S. in Geology	Entered Phase-Out 10/04/23	Campus 10/04/23 HLC notified 10/12/23
9	Reorganization, restructuring, consolidation, elimination, and other changes of existing administrative (including departments), research, or public service units that does not result in an increase		School of Communication and Media (effective July 1, 2024)	Formed by merging former Department of Communication and former Department of Broadcasting and Journalism	Campus 04/16/24

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
	in subunits.		Department of Health Sciences and Social Work	Department dissolved; academic programs reassigned to other departments (see also #29)	Campus 05/24/24
			School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration	Reassigned from College of Education and Human Services to direct report to Provost	Campus Pending
10	Creation of certificate program in a field in which there is a previously approved degree program.		N/A		
11	Creation of a joint degree program from two previously approved programs.	43.0202 43.0103	Integrated 5-Year Baccalaureate / Master's Degree Program: B.S. in Fire Protection Services / M.A. in Public Safety Administration	Created from previously approved Bachelor of Science in Fire Protection Services and Master of Arts in Public Safety Administration	Campus 12/11/23
12	Reactivation of a temporarily suspended program.		N/A		
13	Creation of a new, formally organized research or public service unit that has a temporary mission of up to five years.		N/A		
14	Creation of a certificate program in a field or at a level in which there is not a previously approved degree program at that level or higher level.		N/A		
15	Creation of a new program that results from the reorganization or restructuring of the curricular elements of an existing program that have over time evolved into separate and distinct programs.	09.0900 (Requested)	B.A. in Public Relations	Formerly Advertising and Public Relations option of B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism (see also #25)	Campus 04/03/24 BOT Pending IBHE Pending HLC notified Pending

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
16	Reclassification of a program resulting from incremental changes or consolidation of two or more degree programs into a single program.	45.0603	B.B. in Economics	Formerly CIP Code 52.0601	Campus 06/16/23 IBHE 10/04/23 HLC notified 11/16/23
17	Changes in degree designation at the same level.		N/A		
18	Creation of an out-of-region degree program.		N/A		
19	Creation of a degree program in a new field or at a new level.		N/A		
20	Creation of new units of instruction, research, or public service that involve a change or expansion in mission.		N/A		
21	Creation of a new campus.		N/A		
*****ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES IDENTIFIED BY UNIVERSITY*****					
22	Offering existing academic program at second campus.		Minor in Forensic Psychology	Also offered at Quad Cities campus	Campus 11/27/23
		27.0101	B.S. in Mathematics, Actuarial Science option Data Science and Statistics option Mathematics option	Also offered at Quad Cities campus	Campus 12/06/23
23	Retitling of existing organized set of courses within a degree program.	13.1299	M.A.T. in Alternative Teacher Licensure Middle Grades Language Arts (Grades 5–8) track Middle Grades Mathematics (Grades 5–8) track Middle Grades General Science (Grades 5–8) track Middle Grades Social Science (Grades 5–8) track	Formerly Middle Level Education, Literacy Licensure track Formerly Middle Level Education, Mathematics Licensure track Formerly Middle Level Education, Science Licensure track Formerly Middle Level Education, Social Studies Licensure track	Campus 08/10/23 HLC notified 08/14/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		09.9999	B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism, Journalism and Strategic Media option	Formerly Multimedia Journalism	Campus 01/30/24
		52.1401	B.B. in Marketing, Digital Marketing option	Formerly Marketing Technology option	Campus 02/14/24
		11.0101	B.S. in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Big Data emphasis	Formerly Big Data Technologies emphasis	Campus 05/02/24
24	Placement of program (other than a degree program) into temporary suspension status.	51.3801	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.), RN–BSN emphasis	Temporarily suspended until no later than 03/29/29	Campus 03/29/24 HLC notified 04/18/24
			Minor in Therapeutic Recreation	Temporarily suspended until no later than 04/17/29	Campus 04/17/24
		40.0801	B.S. in Physics, Materials Science option	Temporarily suspended until no later than 05/24/29	Campus 05/24/24
25	Elimination of existing organized set of courses within a degree program.	50.0701	B.A. in Art, Teacher Education option	Entered Phase-Out 05/09/17 Replaced FL 17 by Teacher Education option of B.F.A. in Art (new option approved on campus 05/09/17) (NOTE: B.A. in Art degree program remains active; only the Teacher Education option is to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
25	Elimination of existing organized set of courses within a degree program (cont'd).	11.0101	B.S. in Computer Science, Business emphasis	Entered Phase-Out 04/30/18 (NOTE: B.S. in Computer Science degree program remains active; only the Business emphasis is to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		11.1003	B.S. in Cybersecurity, Cybersecurity emphasis Network Technologies emphasis	Formerly B.S. in Network Technologies (11.0901), Cybersecurity emphasis and Network Technologies emphasis Entered Phase-Out 06/13/17 (NOTE: B.S. in Cybersecurity degree program remains active; only the emphases are to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		14.0101	B.S. in Engineering, Electrical Engineering emphasis Robotics Engineering emphasis	Entered Phase-Out 06/06/19 (NOTE: B.S. in Engineering degree program remains active; only these two emphases are to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		16.0101	B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures, German option	Entered Phase-Out 11/07/17 (NOTE: B.A. in Foreign Languages and Cultures degree program remains active; only the German option is to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		30.0000	B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies concentration	Entered Phase-Out 06/25/20 (NOTE: B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies degree program remains active [though Temporarily Suspended]; only the Interdisciplinary Studies concentration is to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		24.0101	Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Environmental Studies emphasis Multidisciplinary Studies emphasis	Entered Phase-Out 05/01/18 (NOTE: B.L.A.S. degree program remains active; remaining emphases have been changed to options.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
25	Elimination of existing organized set of courses within a degree program (cont'd).	45.1101	B.A. in Sociology, Deviance and Criminology emphasis Environment and Community emphasis General emphasis Social Inequality emphasis Social Institutions emphasis Sociological Social Psychology emphasis Sociology of Health and Illness emphasis	New emphases created for FL 15 (approved on campus 02/03/15) All emphases entered Phase-Out 12/08/20 (NOTE: B.A. in Sociology degree program remains active; only the emphases are to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		50.0501	B.A. in Theatre, Directing option	Entered Phase-Out 02/09/16 (NOTE: B.A. in Theatre degree program remains active; only the Directing option is to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		09.0101	B.A. in Communication, Communication Studies option Interpersonal Communication and Processes option Organizational Communication option Social Influence option	New options created for FL 16 (approved on campus 09/11/15) General Communication option title changed to Communication Studies (approved on campus 06/21/16) All options entered Phase-Out 04/19/21, to end following FL 25 semester (approved on campus 08/18/23) (NOTE: B.A. in Communication degree program remains active; only the options are to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		52.2001	B.S. in Construction and Facilities Management, Construction Management option Facilities Management option	New options created for FL 15 (approved on campus 10/23/14) Both options entered Phase-Out 02/26/19, to end following SP 24 semester (approved on campus 08/18/23) (NOTE: B.S. in Construction and Facilities Management degree program remains active; only the options are to be eliminated.)	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		09.9999	B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism Advertising and Public Relations option	Entered Phase-Out 02/02/24 To be eliminated no later than 06/01/27 To be replaced by B.A. in Public Relations upon IBHE approval of RME (see also #15)	Campus 01/30/24 HLC notified Pending
26	Elimination of existing post-baccalaureate certificate program.		Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in African and African Diaspora World Studies	Entered Phase-Out 08/29/14	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		27.0301	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Applied Mathematics	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Business Administration	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in English: Literary Studies	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in English: Professional Writing	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in English: Teaching Writing	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Instructional Design and Technology: Graphics Applications	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Instructional Design and Technology: Multimedia	Entered Phase-Out 05/24/16	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
		50.0901	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Music Performance	Entered Phase-Out 12/11/20	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
26	Elimination of existing post-baccalaureate certificate program (cont'd).		Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Women's Studies	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
27	Elimination of existing minor.		Minor in Broadcasting	Entered Phase-Out 02/27/18 Replaced SP 18 by Minor in Broadcasting and Journalism (approved on campus 11/17/17)	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Community Health	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Contemporary United States Studies	Entered Phase-Out 04/04/19	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Digital Media	Entered Phase-Out 05/18/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Emerging Design Technologies	Entered Phase-Out 06/16/20	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Entrepreneurship	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Family and Consumer Sciences	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Functional Morphology and Evolutionary Anatomy	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in German	Entered Phase-Out 11/07/17	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Graphic Communication	Entered Phase-Out 06/16/20	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Health Services Management	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
	Minor in Instructional Design	Entered Phase-Out 06/16/20	Campus 08/18/23		

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
			Minor in Journalism	Entered Phase-Out 02/27/18 Replaced SP 18 by Minor in Broadcasting and Journalism (approved on campus 11/17/17)	Campus 08/18/23
27	Elimination of existing minor (cont'd).		Minor in Kinesiology	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Military History	Entered Phase-Out 04/04/19	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Modern Global History	Entered Phase-Out 04/04/19	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Photographic Media	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Psychology of Substance Abuse	Entered Phase-Out 02/26/19 Replaced by Minor in Mental Health (approved on campus 02/26/19)	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Urban Forestry	Entered Phase-Out 03/11/15	Campus 08/18/23
			Minor in Web Design	Entered Phase-Out 05/18/15	Campus 08/18/23
28	Elimination of undergraduate certificate program.		Undergraduate Certificate in Integrated Marketing Communications	Entered Phase-Out 11/17/17	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
			Undergraduate Certificate in Marketing Technologies	Entered Phase-Out 11/17/17	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
29	Reassignment of academic program from one department/school to another.	51.0701	B.S. in Health Services Management	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Kinesiology (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		51.2207	B.S. in Public Health	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Kinesiology (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
		30.1701	Master of Public Health	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Kinesiology (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
29	Reassignment of academic program from one department/school to another (cont'd).	44.0701	Bachelor of Social Work	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Counselor Education and College Student Personnel (see also #9)	Campus 05/24/24
		13.1314	B.S. in Physical Education	Reassigned from Department of Kinesiology to School of Education (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
		31.0504	M.S. in Sport Management	Reassigned from Department of Kinesiology to Department of Recreation, Park, Tourism, and Hospitality (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
		13.1307	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Health Services Administration	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Kinesiology (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
			Minor in Occupational Safety	Reassigned from Department of Health Sciences and Social Work to Department of Kinesiology (see also #9)	Campus 05/09/24
30	Extending end date for existing academic program in "Phase-Out" status.	14.0101	B.S. in Engineering, Civil Engineering emphasis	End date extended to 12/31/24	Campus 08/18/23 HLC notified 08/29/23
31	Elimination of academic program at Quad Cities campus.	31.0301	M.S. in Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 12/31/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24

	PROGRAM CHANGE	CIP CODE	PROGRAM TITLE	REMARKS	DATE APPROVED
		31.0301	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Event Planning and Management	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 06/01/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
		31.0301	B.S. in Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 12/31/27 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
31	Elimination of academic program at Quad Cities campus (cont'd).		Minor in Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 06/01/26 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
			Minor in Nonprofit Administration	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 12/31/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
			Minor in Event Planning and Management	Begun phase-out at Quad Cities campus; to be eliminated no later than 12/31/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
		27.0501	M.S. in Applied Statistics and Decision Analytics	Eliminated 06/01/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
		52.1302	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Business Analytics	Eliminated 06/01/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24
		52.0201	B.B. in Management	Eliminated 06/01/24 To be eliminated at Quad Cities campus <u>only</u>	Campus 05/14/24

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/6 -- Academic Affairs Report

College of Arts and Sciences

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SELECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

THE COLLEGE:

- The College of Arts and Sciences held its annual John Hallwas Liberal Arts Lecture in April 9. **WIU Trustee Kirk Dillard** gave a very well-received talk entitled *The Value of a Liberal Arts Education in 2024* to an audience of WIU students, faculty, staff and members of the Macomb community. (Thank you, Sen. Dillard!)
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the opening of the **Quad Cities Chemistry lab**, funded with a generous grant from the Carver Foundation, was held May 3 on the WIU QC campus.
- **Nursing Instructor Kaila Fox** is a recipient of the \$10,000 2024 IBHE Illinois Nurse Educator Fellowship award. The focus of her award is to enhance her knowledge about new teaching strategies in the nursing simulation lab.
- **Dr. Ligu Song, director of the Forensic Chemistry program**, and the Department of Chemistry hosted Hali Carls-Miller, a Forensic Scientist in the Firearms, Toolmarks and Footwear/Tiretrack division of the Illinois State Police Department's Springfield Crime Lab. In what is hoped to be the beginning of an ongoing relationship with the crime lab, Ms. Carls-Miller met with department and college administrators and made a presentation to students in the Forensic Chemistry program.
- **Dr. Peter Cole, professor of History**, was named an Honorary Fellow of the International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Dr. Cole also made several presentations at a number of universities in Paris, France on his public history project regarding racial violence in Chicago and his research on the labor movement.

- **Undergraduate Physics Student Gabriel Sojka**, in a trip organized and funded by **Dr. Esteban Araya** and his NSF grant, visited the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, New Mexico Tech, and the Very Large Array, a radio telescope facility in New Mexico during Spring Break (March 10 – 13, 2024). Mr. Sojka learned how to access the NRAO Socorro computer cluster to reduce and analyze data, attended a PhD thesis defense, and had multiple meetings with scientists to discuss research projects in the area of radio astronomy.
- **Dr. Brian Peer, professor of Biological Sciences**, has been elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

DEPARTMENTS

Biology:

- Professor Brian Peer, PhD, has been elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). This honor recognizes Dr. Brian Peer's achievements for Ornithological research contributions and mentoring numerous student research projects.
- The MacPherson and Meagher Labs attended the Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society annual conference 14-16 April, 2024 at Starved Rock State Park (Utica, IL). We're so proud of graduate students Ebby Ayaegbunam, Moshood Ayinde, Eyitope Michael Adunbi and undergraduate David Hernandez who received travel grants to attend and presented posters. Dr. MacPherson also delivered an invited research talk in a telemetry symposium. David won wildlife art prints in the student grant fundraising auction.
- Dr. Vaskar Nepal, graduate student Joshua Oyeboade, and undergraduate student Abigail Roussin traveled to the annual meeting of the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in Bloomington - Normal, IL. They presented their ongoing research at the meeting. While at the meeting, Joshua Oyeboade and Abigail Roussin each received the Diverse Voices awards from the Society, and Dr. Nepal won the best professional presentation award for his talk on his ongoing research on fish diversity and conservation in Nepal.

Chemistry:

- Mette Soendergaard: A review article titled Improving Pharmacokinetics of Peptides Using Phage Display is accepted for publication in Viruses.
- F. Egbeleke, S. Henning, M. Soendergaard. The Anti-cancer Effect of Acmella Extracts in Ovarian Cancer. ASBMB Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX. 2024
- T. Bolarinwa, A. Ariwoola, M. Adisa, T. Olalekan, M. Soendergaard. Anti-Cancer Activity of Novel Cobalt, Copper, Manganese, Iron, and Silver Benzothiazole and Benzoimidazole Complexes. ASBMB Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX. 2024
- Ligu Song has reviewed two manuscript for a peer-reviewed journal, i.e., Talanta Open, on March 12 and 15, respectively.
- Dr. Song and his graduate students helped with the Science Olympiad held on campus on Saturday, February 17.

- Presentation at a national conference (*graduate student; **undergraduate student): G. Meyer*, M. Adisa*, Z. Dodson*, E. Adejumo*, E. Jovanovich*, L.G. Song, A liquid chromatography electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry method for quantification of up to eighteen cannabinoids in hemp-derived products, PITTCON Conference & Expo 2024_NIJ poster section, San Diego, CA, 2024.
- Presentation at a WIU conference (*graduate student; **undergraduate student): J. Provis*, B. Bain**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabicitran among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Lucky Leaf Hemp Cigarettes by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- A. Owolabi*, A.M. Al-Bataineh*, E. Johnson**, L. Song, Quantification of D9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Lucky Leaf Hemp Cigarettes by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- O. Ogunsola*, N. Licea**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabigerol (CBG) among 19 Cannabinoids in D8-THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) fortified White Whale CBG Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- L. LeBlanc*, M. Kotler**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabidiol among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Hemp Infused Water by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- E. Jovanovich*, J. Mulholland**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabichromene among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Key Lime Pie Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- K.J. Fabien*, M. Schoener**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabidiol among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Key Lime Pie Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- A.M. Al-Bataineh*, A. Owolabi*, K. Dosch**, L. Song, Quantification of D9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) among 19 Cannabinoids in D8-THC fortified White Whale CBG (Cannabigerol) Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- ShaoZhang Zhang: Presented a poster titled Synthesis of macrocyclic aromatic tellurides towards the
- synthesis of cycloparaphenylenes (Poster Board #: 1200) at the National ACS meeting in New Orleans, March 17-20
- Two students of Dr. Zhang will present posters at the upcoming Graduate Research Conference on March 29:
 - a. Egzona Tahiri: Synthesis and application of macrocyclic aromatic tellurides.
 - b. Marlena Gabriel: Synthesis and study of novel macrocycles containing S/Se and Si
- Mathew McConnell is collaborating with faculty members from University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and University of Chicago in submitting a proposal to the National Science Foundation (in preparation) Title: Exploring circularity in materials and economics in the Midwest
- John Determan: In collaboration with Soendergaard group (written by WIU Alumnia Gbenga Dairo and Matthew Ward): An Article titled Compounds from Morchella esculenta as Potential Inhibitors of RNA-Binding Protein La in Ovarian Cancer: A Molecular Modeling and Quantum Mechanics Approach has been accepted for publication in "In Silico Pharmacology"

- Kay Tsai will be serving as a judge for the 2024 GLOBE International Virtual Science Symposium (IVSS).
- Mette Soendergaard had an article titled Improving Pharmacokinetics of Peptides Using Phage Display accepted for publication in Viruses
- Dr. Ligu Song and his graduate students helped with the Science Olympiad held on campus on Saturday, February 17.
- J. Provis*, B. Bain**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabicitran among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Lucky Leaf Hemp Cigarettes by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- A. Owolabi*, A.M. Al-Bataineh*, E. Johnson**, L. Song, Quantification of D9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Lucky Leaf Hemp Cigarettes by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- O. Ogunsola*, N. Licea**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabigerol (CBG) among 19 Cannabinoids in D8-THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) fortified White Whale CBG Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- L. LeBlanc*, M. Kotler**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabidiol among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Hemp Infused Water by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- E. Jovanovich*, J. Mulholland**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabichromene among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Key Lime Pie Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- K.J. Fabien*, M. Schoener**, L. Song, Quantification of Cannabidiol among Nineteen Cannabinoids in Key Lime Pie Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection, WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.
- A.M. Al-Bataineh*, A. Owolabi*, K. Dosch**, L. Song, Quantification of D9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) among 19 Cannabinoids in D8-THC fortified White Whale CBG (Cannabigerol) Hemp Flowers by Liquid Chromatography Ultraviolet Detection WIU Graduate Research Conference, Macomb, IL, 2024.

EAGIS:

- Megan Landes has been recognized as the 2024 Student Employment Supervisor. Landes, from the Geographic Information Systems Department, was nominated by Emma LeMasters for her leadership and support of students.
- Christopher Sutton presented "The New Digital Atlas of Illinois - First Steps" at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Illinois Geographical Society in West Burlington, Iowa.
- Leslie Melim - Melim, L.A., 2024, Rapid Growth and Recrystallization of Cave Pearls: Implications for Diagenesis, Seds Online Webinar, April 10, 2024, International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS), https://sedsonline.com/webinar_category/scientific-webinars/
- Steve Bennett attended and Co-Chaired the Spring meeting of the IAI General Education Physical Sciences panel on April 12.

- Steve Bennett, as Treasurer of the Illinois Groundwater Association (IGA), managed online registrations for, and later attended, the Spring IGA Meeting held on the Northern Illinois University campus in DeKalb on April 19th.
- Chad Sperry and Peter Schoenfield presented at the MAGIC conference in Omaha this month.
- Twenty students attended the Illinois Geographical Society Annual Meeting in West Burlington, Iowa. April 27, 2024.
- Emma LeMaster received the Outstanding Senior Geography award at the Illinois Geographical Society Annual meeting in West Burlington, Iowa.
- One student made oral paper presentation at the Illinois Geographical Society Annual meeting in West Burlington, Iowa.
- Four students made poster presentation at the Illinois Geographical Society Annual meeting in West Burlington, Iowa.
- One student won 3rd place for the best poster presentation at the Illinois Geographical Society Annual meeting in West Burlington, Iowa.
- One student won 2nd place for the best poster presentation at the Illinois Geographical Society Annual Meeting in West Burlington, Iowa.
- Meteorology Earth Day event at Macomb High School, April 13, 2024. Participants: Andy Mulligan and Dr. Redina Finch.
- Meteorology Farm Safety Day, University of Illinois Extension Office 4H Center, April 26, 2024. Participants: Claire DeWalt, Grace Watterson, Lily Bennett, Lawren Moore, Andy Mulligan.
- Christopher Sutton moderated the IHSA Scholastic Bowl State Finals in Springfield, Illinois.
- Steve Bennett represented Sigma Gamma Epsilon at the Geodeland Rock, Mineral and Fossil Show and sold items to raise funds for the chapter.
- Chris Sutton with Sigma Gamma Epsilon students, installed sewer medallions on sewer inlets in the neighborhood west of Horrabin Hall. The sewer medallion installation is a service project as the medallions advise people not to dump contaminants down the sewer as they drain into the local streams.
- Chris Sutton brought members of Sigma Gamma Epsilon to Starved Rock State Park to view the geologic features.
- Jongnam Choi - Recruitment Initiatives: Time and Date: 9:00-11:40 on March 1. Venue: Macomb High School. Presentation Title: Trip to Antarctic Peninsula: Glacial and Periglacial Landforms
- Gyun Yeol Park, Bang Jung Bae, Hojong Lee, Daechol Kwon, Jongnam Choi (Corresponding Author) 2024. Sustainable Land Redevelopment Strategy of Morocco Based on an Eco Ethics Perspective: Studies on Humanities and Social Sciences, 6:1, 867-886.
- Five Meteorology students attended the American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD on January 28 - February 1. (Caleb Moore, Nicholas Albers, Robert Younker, LaDitra Mason, and Chris Hogan).
- The WIU Severe Weather Club poster won 2nd place at the American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting's Student chapter poster competition in Baltimore, MD.
- Emily Richardson awarded a 2024 CAS Undergraduate Research Grant.

English:

- Rebekah Buchanan won the CAS Excellence in Teaching Award.
- CAS Scholar of the Year: Emma Gilliland; CAS nominee for Lincoln Laurette: Claire Koechle; Jack Sellers, CAS honorary humanities award
- Ellen Poulter: Advisor of the Month
- Final Lola Creative Writing event of the year was April 2nd with Javier Zamora. Highest attended event for English all year. Zamora just won a national award: The Whiting Award.
- For the Reading Room Series: Finished the year with 30 people in attendance
- GETLIT—9 schools, around 130 students
- The Annual English Department Awards evening was April 18th with awards for Writing, Creative Writing, and English Scholarships awarded.
- Student Publication Elements is completed for the year and will be released before classes are over.
- Alumnus Raymond Norris credits Drs. Hamner and Malachuk with his continued interest in English and will begin work on a PhD next year at Texas A&M
- Barb Lawhorn was a semi-finalist for the Eludia Award (creative writing) and had her work “Ember” accepted for publication.
- Alum Bianca Sierra (MA in English, 2022) has been named the East Moline Public Library Director.
- For the Reading Room Series Merrill Cole read as a faculty member, Sarah Murphy for the graduate students, and Jael Henning as the undergraduate.
- English Education hosted a lunch for a returning student teacher so that they could share their stories with the students who will be student teaching in Fall 24.
- The Reading Room Series continued with four readers in February: Erika Wurth for faculty, Carlos Williamson as an alumni, Jailene Gonzalez as a graduate student, and Gerry Campos for the undergraduate student.
- The University Writing Center hosted another Write Night at the UWC. Forty-four (44) students came to get help on writing and to eat pizza! Eight writing consultants worked the event. It was the most people at the UWC at one time that we have ever had!

FLL:

- Munia Cabal-Jimenez was part of the event organized by Malpass Library for WIU Authors. She was recognized at the 18th WIU Authors reception because of her publication last October. The event took place on April 10.

History:

- Febe Pamonag “Gender, Class, and A Public Education Campaign for the Segregation Law in the U.S.-Occupied Philippines, 1900s-1930s,” Western Association of Women Historians conference, Portland, OR, Apr. 19.
- Febe Pamonag co-organized discussion panel of faculty, students, and a local business person, “Perceptions and Experiences of Asians and Asian Americans at WIU,” Malpass Library, Apr. 16

- Febe Pamonag represented the History Department at a Discover Western event, Student Union Building, April 8, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag chaired Gabriel Sphar's M.A. non-thesis portfolio review, April 9, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag member of Dennis Adetona's M.A. non-thesis portfolio review, April 16, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag reviewed manuscripts submitted for consideration for publication for the Western Illinois Historical Review.
- Febe Pamonag reviewed grant applications for the 2025 URC competition.
- Febe Pamonag co-organized and facilitated a panel discussion on "Perceptions and Experiences of Asians and Asian Americans at WIU and in the Western Illinois Region" Garden Lounge, Malpass Library, April 16, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag co-organized an exhibition titled "Perceptions and Experiences of Asians and Asian Americans at WIU and in the Western Illinois Region" 3rd floor, Malpass Library, April to summer 2024.
- Febe Pamonag presented a peer-reviewed paper titled "Gender, Class, and Colonialism during a Public Educational Campaign for the Segregation Law in the U.S.-Occupied Philippines, 1900s - 1930s" Western Association of Women Historians Conference, Portland State University, April 18-20, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag presented a peer-reviewed paper titled "The Afflicted Relieving Affliction: Anti-Leprosy Campaign in the U.S.-Occupied Philippines, 1900s-1930s" International Colloquium on Gendered Segregation and Gendering Segregation, co-sponsored by Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies at the University of Bonn and Gender & History, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany, April 25-27, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag "The Afflicted Relieving Affliction: Gender, Class, and Colonialism during an Anti-Leprosy Campaign in the U.S.-Occupied Philippines, 1900s-1930s" paper for the International Colloquium on Gendered Segregation and Gendering Segregation at the University of Bonn, co-sponsored by journal Gender & History, Bonn, Germany, Apr. 24
- Tim Roberts dual credit licensure in history initiative launched as part of the department's MA program, Apr. 30
- Tim Roberts acted as consultant and researcher for the City of Macomb and Macomb Area Convention & Visitors Bureau for grant application to the National Park to register the McDonough County Allison Family Homesite on the Service's National Underground Railroad Freedom Network; registration accepted Apr. 22 <https://tinyurl.com/5dba77wr>
- Tim Roberts co-organized discussion panel of faculty, students, and a local business person, "Perceptions and Experiences of Asians and Asian Americans at WIU," Apr. 16, Malpass Library
- Tim Roberts "Using digital tools to study Abraham Lincoln's racial perspective," presentation for Highland Community College Global Taskforce, Apr. 11
- Tim Roberts "McDonough County's Underground Railroad," presentation for Friends of the Macomb Public Library, Apr. 11
- Peter Cole presented A Dockworker Story by Herb Mills, ed. by Peter Cole and Matthew Tellon. New York: Hard Ball Press, 2024.
- Peter Cole "Chicago Race Riot of 1919 Commemoration Project," ACLU Illinois Peoria Chapter 63rd Annual Meeting, Peoria, IL, April 25, 2024.

- Peter Cole book launch for *Presente: A Dockworker Story* (Hard Ball Press, 2024), virtual, April 23, 2024.
- Peter Cole historic bike tour on Chicago Race Riot of 1919, Facing History & Ourselves and Collins Academy High School, Chicago, IL, April 5, 2024.
- Peter Cole manuscript reviewer, book proposal, Columbia University Press, April 2024.
- Ute Chamberlin April 4: ASH activity, co-organizer of Lee Brice's "Last Lecture"
- Ute Chamberlin April 11: ASH activity, took students to do volunteer work at the Western Illinois Museum.
- Ute Chamberlin April 27: ASH activity, took students on a field trip to Nauvoo.
- Ute Chamberlin April 19: Presented a research paper at the Annual WAWH (Western Association of Women Historians) in Portland, OR. Title: "Women, Occupational Training, and Work in the Ruhr after the Great War, 1919-1924."
- Ute Chamberlin was on committees for Gabe Sphar and Mary Owusu in April, and chaired Dennis Adetona's committee, also in April. All three passed their portfolio reviews.
- Lee Brice won a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to continue work on a large hoard of silver coins from 4th-3rd century Greece, \$5000.00.
- Lee Brice "士兵的生活 (The Life of Soldiers)." In *古希腊社会生活研究 (Studies on Social Life of Ancient Greece)*, edited by Yi, Zhou Yin, chapter 10. Shanghai: 商务印书馆, 2024.
- Lee Brice has been invited (and accepted) to deliver the Keynote at the conference, "Ancient Historians on the Nature of War", hosted by the University of the Peloponnese, Kalamata Greece May 23-24, 2024.
- Peter Cole presented: *A Dockworker Story* by Herb Mills, ed. by Peter Cole and Matthew Tellon. New York: Hard Ball Press, 2024.
- Peter Cole named an Honorary Fellow, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Peter Cole "Public Art in remembering Chicago's Worst Episode of Racial Violence," *New Monuments: Iconoclasm, Reenactments, and Alternative Commemorations in the United States since 2000*, Institut national d'histoire de l'art, Paris, France, 16 March 2024.
- Peter Cole "Dockworkers, Black Internationalism, and Transnational Activism (San Francisco, Durban and Beyond, 1940-1980s)," *Laboratoire de Recherche sur les Cultures Anglophones (LARCA)*, Université Paris Cité, Paris, France, 14 March 2024.
- Peter Cole "The Industrial Workers of the World, US Labor Movement, Race Relations, and Worker Control in the Early 20th Century," *Institutions & Historical Dynamics of Economics & Society (IDHE.S)*, University of Évry Paris-Saclay, Paris, France, 13 March 2024.
- Peter Cole "The Chicago Race Riot of 1919 Commemoration Project," *Actors/Researchers seminar*, Centre for Research on English-Speaking World, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France, 12 March 2024.
- Febe Pamonag presented the lecture, "Occupied Japan," 2024 DuPage County Social Studies Conference, Metea Valley High School, Aurora IL, March 1, 2024 [participants were Northern Illinois Social Studies teachers].
- Febe Pamonag attended Dawn Sweet's CTR Webinar, "How can I use technology platforms to engage students in active learning," March 18, 2024.

- Febe Pamonag attended Dawn Sweet's CTR Webinar, "How can I create authentic engagement through feedback dialogue?" March 25, 2024.
- Febe Pamonag performed editorial Board work for the Spring 2024 issue of the Western Illinois Historical Review.
- Febe Pamonag peer-reviewed journal article: Febe Pamonag, "From Baked Beans to Pancit: Recipes and Male Allied Prisoners of War (POWs) in the Philippines," World History Bulletin, Vol. LXXXIX no.2 (Fall/Winter 2023): 48-56.
- Peter Cole - "Journeys to Justice: Commemorating and Memorializing the History and Legacy of Anti-Black Terror in Illinois," Illinois Innovation Network. Co-Principal Investigator. \$30,000. [might already have sent you this for January].
- Peter Cole - "Ben Fletcher, the IWW, and Black Labor Radicalism" (virtual), Tulane University, 5 Feb. 2024.
- Peter Cole - "Bringing Monuments Home," Monumental podcast, February 26, 2024.
- Peter Cole - "From the Docks to the Killing Floor," Episode 6 of podcast, Organizing the Unorganized: Rise of the CIO, February 2024.
- Rich Filipink taught a LIFE Class on Vietnam 1963 on Feb. 27.
- Lee Brice won a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to continue work on a large hoard of silver coins from 4th-3rd century Greece.
- Lee Brice "士兵的生活 (The Life of Soldiers)." In 古希腊社会生活研究 (Studies on Social Life of Ancient Greece), edited by Yi, Zhou Yin, chapter 10. Shanghai: 商务印书馆, 2024.

IES / ES PhD:

- Environmental Science partnered with the Rock Island Soil and Water Conservation District to cohost the 9th Annual Quad Cities Pond Water Clinic. The event drew 75 attendees to the Quad Cities campus on Saturday, March 9, 2024.

Mathematics & Philosophy:

- Kathy Felt provided an all-day professional development opportunity for Rock Island Regional Office of Education: Math Interventions That Count
- Kathy Felt participated in Saturday Math Cohort twice: Tier 1 Interventions for Differentiation and Building Math Understanding; Not Just Memorization
- Kathy Felt presented 6 webinars
- Kathy Felt: Workshop: Building Place Value Understanding Through the Grade Levels
- Kathy Felt: Math Symposium: Building Math Proficiency for Life—Jason Zimba, Chief Academic Officer for Amplify and Math Common Core author
- Dinesh Ekanayake and Beth Hansen guided graduate research that resulted in multiple presentations below:
- Harsha Iduruwage presented his research at the student colloquium.
- Harsha Iduruwage presented at the graduate research conference (podium).
- Maral Tajova presented at the graduate research conference (podium).
- Tinuade Daworola presented a poster at the graduate research conference.

- Harsha Iduruwage presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Illinois Section of the Mathematical Association of America (ISMAA).
- Maral Tajova presented at the ISMAA 2024.

Nursing:

- Kaila Fox was selected as a spring recipient of the IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowship Award \$10,000
- Nursing students Carols Negron and Lilian OBasi-Uchechukwu were first place winners with their Poster at undergraduate research day "Exploring Embeddedness of New Nurse Graduates in a Nurse Residency Program"
- Lindsay White presented at the Midwest Nursing Research Society in Minneapolis Minnesota: 'Teaching Clinical Judgement in the Nursing Classroom: A literature Review' and she was the key note speaker at Springfield Memorial Health System Research Day.
- Ashley Frederick: research project was accepted at the National IHI patient safety congress in Orlando "Enhancing a patient safety program utilizing innovative technology in a rural hospital"
- Dr Leesa Thompson and Lindsay White both participated in area school district's STEM night by hosting a stuffed animal clinic at their respective school districts. Both activities were well received by the children and parents.
- Nursing Instructor Kaila Fox is a recipient of the \$10,000 2024 IBHE Illinois Nurse Educator Fellowship award. The focus of her award is to enhance her knowledge about new teaching strategies in the nursing simulation lab.
- Dr. Laura Harden is in the process of reviewing content for both text book and online activities for neurocognitive and personality disorders for Ascend Learning Ati-nursing.
- Nursing Instructor Lindsay White presented "Teaching Clinical Judgement in the Nursing Classroom: A Literature Review" at the Midwest Nursing Research Society in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Nursing Instructor Ashley Frederick received funding from the Institute of Healthcare Improvement to attend an 11-week course on Redesigning Event Review with Root Cause Analyses and Actions
- Dr. Sandy Nash, Dr. Laura Harden and Dr. Eathington are in the process of writing the self-study for the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education for the accreditation visit in October 9-11, 2024.

Physics:

- Atharva Kapale (high-school student) and Alaric Evans (graduate student), "Search for Methanol and Water in a High-Mass Star-Forming Region", poster and oral presentation at the IMSAloquium, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), April 2024. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Posters: Gabriel Sojka (Undergraduate Student) and Kenneth VanZuiden (Undergraduate Student), "Variability Hydroxyl Emission in the Orion Nebula", Natural Science Research Day and Undergraduate Research Day, April 2024, WIU, Macomb, IL. (Third place award, undergraduate physics posters, Natural Sciences Research Day) Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Poster: Kenneth VanZuiden (Undergraduate Student) and Gabriel Sojka (Undergraduate Student), "Continuum and Methanol Maser Variability in the Orion Nebula", Natural Science Research Symposium and Undergraduate Research Day, April 5, 2024, WIU, Macomb, IL. (First place award, undergraduate physics posters, Natural Sciences Research Day) Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Poster: Matthew Clayton (Undergraduate Student), Wei Siang Tan, "Investigating the Origin of 4750 MHz Hydroxyl Emission in a Region of High-Mass Star Formation", Natural Science Research Symposium and Undergraduate Research Day, April 2024, WIU, Macomb, IL. (Second place award, undergraduate physics posters, Natural Sciences Research Day). Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Regional Conference Poster Presentation: Gabriel Sojka (Undergraduate Student) and Kenneth Vanzuiden (Undergraduate Student), Oral presentation: "Hydroxyl Masers in the Orion Nebula", 116th, Illinois State Academy of Sciences (ISAS) Annual Meeting, April 13, 2024, Millikin University, Decatur, IL. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Regional Conference Oral Presentation: Kenneth Van Zuiden (Undergraduate Student), and Gabriel Sojka (Undergraduate Student) Oral presentation: "Identifying Radio Continuum Controls to Characterize Variability of Methanol Masers in the Orion Nebula", 116th, Illinois State Academy of Sciences (ISAS) Annual Meeting, April 13, 2024, Millikin University, Decatur, IL. (Best oral presentation in Physics and Astronomy award). Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Posters: Al Evans (Graduate student), Atharva Kapale (High-school student), "Broadband Spectral Line Survey Toward Ultracompact and Hypercompact HII Regions", WIU Graduate Research Conference presentation (March 2024). Poster also presented at the Natural Science Research Day (NSRD), WIU, April 2024. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Poster: Amisha Jagdish Rane (Graduate student), Punya Paudel (Graduate student), "Methanol and Ammonia Lines Detected in via Broadband Continuum Observations Towards Ionized-Jet Candidates", poster presented at the Natural Science Research Day (NSRD), WIU, April 2024 (1st place, Physics and Astronomy Poster award). Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Poster: Punya Paudel (Graduate student), Amisha Rane (MS student), "Radio Continuum Consistency and Modeling of Molecular Lines in High-Mass Star-Forming Regions", poster presented at the Natural Science Research Day (NSRD), WIU, April 2024 (3rd place, Physics and Astronomy Poster award). Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Regional Conference: Oral Presentation: Kushal Dahal (Graduate Student) "Raman Study of Binary Bismuth Borate Glasses Doped with Praseodymium Ions", Illinois State Academy of Sciences

Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha B. Mallur.

- Regional Conference: Oral Presentation: Chelsie Hadley (Undergraduate Student) "Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computing with Three Qubit Codes", Illinois State Academy of Sciences Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.
- Regional Conference: Oral Presentation: Md Nazmul Haque Nihad (Graduate Student) "Quantum Zeros and Ones: Leveraging Quantum Entanglement for Game Strategy Optimization", Illinois State Academy of Sciences Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. Kishor T. Kapale. First place oral presentation graduate award.
- Regional Conference: Poster: Mehbuba Rashid Mouri (Graduate Student) "Density Measurements of Binary and Ternary Lead/Bismuth Glasses", Illinois State Academy of Sciences Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentors: Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha B. Mallur. First place graduate poster award.
- Regional Conference: Poster: Amy Aung (Graduate Student) "Investigation of the Structural Properties of Bismuth Boro-Tellurite Glasses Using Raman Spectroscopy", Illinois State Academy of Sciences Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentors: Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha B. Mallur.
- Regional Conference: Poster: Md Khokon Miah (Graduate Student) "Preparing Glass Samples and Studying the Refractive Index of Borate Glasses Doped with Rare Earth Ions", Illinois State Academy of Sciences Meeting, Millikin University, April 13, 2024. Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha B. Mallur.
- Poster: Amy Aung (Graduate Student) "Analysis of Structural Properties of Bismuth Boro-Tellurite Glasses by Raman Spectroscopy", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentors: Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur. Second place graduate poster award.
- Poster: Kushal Dahal (Graduate Student) "Raman Study of Binary Bismuth Borate Glasses Doped with Praseodymium Ions", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Poster: Md Khokon Miah (Graduate Student) "Glass Sample Preparation and Refractive Index Study of Borate Glasses Doped with Rare Earth Ions", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Poster: Mehbuba Rashid Mouri (Graduate Student) "Density Measurements of Borate Glasses", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentors: Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Poster: Md Nazmul Haque Nihad (Graduate Student) "Quantum Zeros and Ones: Leveraging Quantum Entanglement for Game Strategy Optimization", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.
- Poster: Chelsie M Hadley (Undergraduate Student) "Fault-Tolerant Quantum Computing with Three Qubit Code", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.

- Poster: Rajeswari Sen (High-School Student) "The Refractive Index and Optical Band Gap in Strontium Borate Glasses", Natural Sciences Research Day, April 5, 2024, MAC Gym WIU Student Rec. Center. Faculty Mentors: Dr. P. K. Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Aditya Kumar (High-school student) "The Study of Quantum Chess", poster and oral presentation at the IMSAloquium, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), April 17, 2024. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.
- Daunye Slatton (High-school student) "Characterizing Quantum Chess AI", poster and oral presentation at the IMSAloquium, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), April 17, 2024. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.
- Dr. Pengqian Wang: Western Illinois University Girl Scout STEM Program on April 6, 2024, hosted 45 high school students. Led by Dr. Jin in Chemistry. Physics did optics show in CH420.
- Dr. Kishor T. Kapale, Dr. E. D. Araya and Dr. Pengqian Wang: Co-organized the visit of Lewistown Middle-School to the Physics Department. Several astronomy, optics, and entry-level physics activities were developed to mentor the middle-school students. Dr. E. D. Araya also mentored undergraduate and graduate students to lead some of the activities. April 2024.
- Dr. E. D. Araya, faculty participant in the Macomb Youth Leadership Organization (MYLO) program. High-school student Tucker Baldi visited the WIU Physics Department in April 2024, to participate in an Astronomy Night (stargazing) activity, where he learned about telescopes, and interacted with graduate and undergraduate students from the department.
- Dr. E. D. Araya, faculty mentor in field trip to Southern Illinois University (traveled with a group of ~15 graduate and undergraduate students) to observe the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse. Activities included the use of solar telescopes to give informal presentations to students and general public about the eclipse.
- Dr. Kishor Kapale coordinated many activities and distribution of solar eclipse glasses on the occasion of the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. About 4500 solar eclipse glasses were distributed to many students, faculty, and local schools.
- Dr. Brian Davies: Organized solar viewing on the WIU campus on the occasion of the April 8, 2024, solar eclipse.
- Dr. E. D. Araya: Judge at the WIU Natural Sciences Research Symposium, Macomb, IL, April 2024.
- Dr. Esteban D. Araya received the 2023-2024 WIU College of Arts and Sciences Award for Excellence in Research/Scholarly Activity.
- Dr. Kishor T. Kapale received the "Community Service Award" from the WIU Council of Administrative Professionals for 2023-2024.
- Keynote address at IMSA's Annual Research Day IMSAloquium: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale was invited to be a keynote speaker at IMSA's annual Research Day entitled IMSAloquium on April 17, 2024. He delivered his address on "The Quantum Realm: Fun, Games, and Utility". The address was well received by parents, IMSA Staff, and Students. Several IMSA students working with WIU Physics faculty presented their work at this event.
- Dr. Esteban D. Araya: Serving on a doctoral dissertation committee: Member of the doctoral dissertation committee of Mrs. Tatiana Rodriguez, PhD student (now PhD graduate) of New Mexico Tech.
- Gabriel Sojka (undergraduate student): Made an off-campus educational experience trip to visit the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, New Mexico Tech, and the Very Large Array in New

Mexico during Spring Break (March 10th – 13th, 2024). Mr. Sojka learned how to access the NRAO Socorro computer cluster to reduce and analyze data, attended a PhD thesis defense, and multiple meetings with scientists to discuss research projects in the area of radio astronomy. Dr. Araya organized and covered the costs from an active NSF grant.

- Matthew Clayton (undergraduate student): Received CAS Undergraduate Research Grant award in the amount of \$300 to cover expenses to present their research at the 2024 Summer conference of the American Astronomical Society in Wisconsin. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Kenneth VanZuiden (undergraduate student): Received CAS Undergraduate Research Grant award in the amount of \$300 to cover expenses to present their research at the 2024 Summer conference of the American Astronomical Society in Wisconsin. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Gabriel Sojka (undergraduate student): Received CAS Undergraduate Research Grant award in the amount of \$300 to cover expenses to present their research at the 2024 Summer conference of the American Astronomical Society in Wisconsin. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Agatha Carbonell Garcia (undergraduate student): Received CAS Undergraduate Research Grant award in the amount of \$300 to cover expenses of carrying out research in the Optics Lab on Electro-optic Effect in Lithium Niobate Crystal. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Thomas Chu (graduate Student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "1R-1C WBO circuit: Theory and Measurement" Faculty Mentor: Dr. Pengqian Wang.
- Punya Paudel (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Radio Continuum Consistency and Modeling of Molecular Lines in High-Mass Star-Forming Regions" Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Alaric Evans (graduate Student) and Atharva Kapale (HS student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Broadband Spectral Line Survey Toward Ultracompact and Hypercompact HII Regions" Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Amy Aung (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Analysis of structural properties of Bismuth Boro-Tellurite glasses by Raman Spectroscopy" Faculty Mentors: Dr. PK Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Mehbuba Rashid Mouri (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Density Measurements of Borate Glasses" Faculty Mentors: Dr. PK Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Md Khokon Miah (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Glass Sample Preparation and Refractive Index Study of Borate Glasses Doped with Rare Earth Ions" Faculty Mentors: Dr. PK Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Amisha Jagdish Rane (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Methanol and Ammonia Lines Detected in VLA Broadband Continuum Observations towards Ionized-Jet Candidates" Faculty Mentor: Dr. Esteban D. Araya.
- Md Nazmul Haque Nihad (graduate student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Quantum Zeros and Ones: Leveraging Quantum Entanglement for Game Strategy Optimization" Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kishor T. Kapale.

- Kushal Dahal (graduate Student): Presented at the Graduate Research Conference on March 29, 2024 research entitled "Raman study of Binay Bismuth Borate glasses doped with Praseodymium ions" Faculty Mentors: Dr. PK Babu and Dr. Saisudha Mallur.
- Pengqian Wang: Represented the department at the Rushville-Industry High School Career Fair on March 1, 2024.
- Kishor T. Kapale: Designed and delivered hands-on, hour long workshop for NOYCE Scholars and high-school science and mathematics teachers at WIU on March 2, 2024.
- Aparna Kapale: In collaboration with Kishor Kapale and retired WIU Math Faculty Dr. James Olson, handled the Math Olympiad activities during the month of January for the middle school students. About 20 students of grades 6 through 8 are being served via this activity to enhance their interest in mathematics, to promote mathematical thinking, and to offer them competitive environment to develop a whole host of academically valuable skills and experiences. The season concluded on March 25, 2024.
- Kishor T. Kapale: Organized the 11th Annual Graduate Research Conference in collaboration with the graduate school staff Amanda Schulz and the planning committee. There were 28 podium presentations, 39 poster presentations, and 4 performance presentations.
- Alaric Evans (Graduate Student): Accompanied Dr. Pengqian Wang at the Rushville-Industry High School Career Fair and spoke with the HS students about Careers in Physics on March 1, 2024.

Political Science:

- Casey LaFrance had a Rays Hour luncheon in April.
- Casey LaFrance \$500 Walmart grant request was approved.
- Casey LaFrance has \$500 for ND workforce development training aids, texts, and materials (especially ones that can be accessed online from the virtual sensorium OR housed in either sensory room in Macomb or Moline).
- Julia Albarracin International Peace Day has received the award for Outstanding Collaborative Program by the Office of Student Engagement. Collaborators for the Peace Day program were the Latin American Student Organization, AMPLIFY, the African Student Association, the Political Science Department, and the College of Arts and Sciences, Western Illinois University. Pictured with the award are CAS Interim Dean James Schmidt, CAS Associate Dean Keith Boeckelman, Political Science professor Julia Albarracin, and Political Science department chair Greg Baldi.
- Jonathan Day is joined at the Undergraduate Research Day Presentation Podium by Winter Hurst-Leadicker, Drew Cisse, and Piper Hill, all of whom presented papers under Dr. Day's mentorship. Congratulations to all our presenters for a great URD!
- Congratulations to Seth Obiri! Best Paper Award (graduate Category) for the 31st Annual Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science! Seth's project was named by several attending faculty at the conference as being among the best papers submitted by students this year. With this Seth has the opportunity to have his paper published in Critique, a peer-reviewed journal for student research that is recognized by the American Political Science Association and indexed by the EBSCO-Host database.
- Casey LaFrance will have a Rays Hour luncheon in April

- Casey LaFrance: Autismazing Grant for Sensory Room and Workforce Development. \$1,000. WIU POLS initiated this inquiry/application at the request of admissions and interim vice president for Student Success Justin Schuch. WIU will be listed in the Top College Consultants database of ND/ASD friendly institutions and will get publicity that might encourage applications from members of this community.
- Julia Albarracin obtained grant Healing Illinois from the Illinois Department of Human Services for the Project "Advancing Racial Inclusion at WIU."
- Julia Albarracin presented to the Roseville Women's Club "Immigration 101."
- Erin Taylor traveled to Chicago, IL to present "Letdown: Breastfeeding, Diet, Culture, and the "War on Obesity" at the Popular Culture Association National Conference in Chicago, IL.
- Greg Baldi served on the panel "Varieties of Nationalism in Europe" at the Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, Strathclyde University, Glasgow, UK, March 26, 2024.
- History/Political Science student Winter Unverzagt, participated in Model Illinois Government in Springfield, IL in February. Students enjoyed the beauty of the capital of Illinois and portrayed roles of elected officials. The complete delegation consisted of Winter Unverzagt, Christian Carson, Emir "E.J." Miranda, Nico Lamb, Kyle Wittenrich, and Chase Williamson.
- The Western Illinois University Justice, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (JIDE) recently proposed an initiative through the Accessibility Committee to proudly launch its latest fundraising initiative supporting neurodivergent students as they transition beyond high school. Recognizing the significant challenges many neurodivergent individuals face upon graduating high school and losing access to school-based accommodations and resources, the committee has made it their mission to bridge this gap and provide support.
- Recently, JIDE was awarded a \$1,000 grant from Autism Amazing covering resources for this initiative and snacks to further support the students. At the forefront of this initiative is a strategic partnership between WIU's political science department and the Initiatives in Accessibility Committee. Together, they are working tirelessly to address the transitional hurdles faced by neurodivergent students.
- Julia Albarracin - Gov. Pritzker highlights the benefits Dr. Albarracin's Department of Education grant will bring to our region. Thanks to new federal funding from the US Department of Education, Western Illinois University will be able to help enroll and retain rural students. Increasing access to higher education, retention rates, and post-graduation employment rates – that's a win for our state.
- Casey LaFrance participated with Yinka Ogunlana in the Lighting Festival and presented policy memos.
- Casey LaFrance is working with Currier Services and Mindy McCraven in training for self-advocacy and ADA competence.
- Casey LaFrance Gray Matters group visited the Sensory Room and may assist with fund raisers for the room.
- Casey LaFrance - WIU POLS initiated this inquiry/application at the request of admissions and Assistant VP Justin Schuch. WIU will be listed in the Top College Consultants database of ND/ASD friendly institutions and will get publicity that might encourage applications from members of this community. Looks like we're in!

- Political Science students Winter Unverzagt, Ripley Zanger, and Angel Obyasoyin, participated on the Mock Trial Team in December in Pella, IA and again in February in St. Louis, MO. This is valuable mock courtroom experiences for the WIU students.
- Political Science students Winter Unverzagt, Ripley Zanger, Tarannum Rashad, Yinka Ogunlana, Seth Obiri & Emir Miranda, participated in Midwest Model United Nations in St. Louis, MO in February. Each team represented a country in the UN and went to work in outlining key issues to discuss that affect people worldwide.
- Added 2 on-campus sensory rooms furnished with funds granted through The Ability Experience, the Central Illinois Autism Association, the Autism Self Advocacy Network and other donors/partners; An emergent student group, WINDS (Western Illinois ND Support) has guided purchasing decisions for these spaces with their requests being prioritized.
- Passed a Faculty Senate Resolution stating that WIU embraces the Neurodivergent Paradigm and commits to providing support services focused on justice, inclusion, diversity, and equity principles, and added ND support to the mission of the JIDE office on campus.
- Have begun work on a virtual sensorium for off campus students/community members to have access to sensory regulation materials/resources (in concert with WIU's Museum Studies Program) and the Art Department;
- Provided funding for student staff in the sensory rooms and built capacity for internships with ASD/ND focused non-profits;
- Begun training for students/faculty/staff about neurodivergence in the classroom and training for workplace skill development and ADA rights awareness for ND students going into the workforce.

Psychology:

- *Carle, J., & McGuire, K. (2024, April). The effect of age and disability on jurors' perceptions of child sexual abuse victims. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-Western Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- *Denzler, K., & McGuire, K. (2024, April). The effect of gender and extralegal factors on sexual assault investigations. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-Western Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- *McKinsey, H. & Keefe, K.M. (April 2024). Anger, Sexual Assault, Trauma, and True Crime: A Correlational Study. Poster presentation at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.
- McCarty, A., Gilbertson, R., Hammersley, J., *Hale, D., Birkholz, S., & Keefe, K.M. Standardization of a Video Game Imagery Database. Presentation at 2024 Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago
- Hammersley, J. (2024). Challenges & Successes in the Development of a Mental Health Minor. Accepted Presentation, 2024 Society for Teaching of Psychology Symposium at Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago IL.
- Hammersley, J. & Stone, B. Nicotine Effects on Attentional (Eye Gaze) Bias to Smoking Cues. Presentation at 2024 Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago IL.

- *Foster, E., & Intrieri, R.C. (2024). Initial Development of the Attitudes Toward Healthcare Providers Scale. Poster presentation at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.
- *Wustefeld, P., Goodwin, P., & Intrieri, R.C. (2024). Caregiver Attachment and Relationship Quality with Daily Affect and Stress. Poster presentation at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.
- Simon, D. J., Swerdlik, M. E., Cruise, T. K., Hickey, A., & Golomb, L. (2024, April). Professional development course for ISPA supervision credential. Illinois School Psychologists Association. Remote delivery. (12-hour course plus 2 hours of metasupervision)
- Cruise, T. K. (2024, April). Foundational Supervision: A DEP Approach. Presentation for the WIU Clinical and School Professional Conference. Macomb, IL.
- Keefe, K.M., *Griffith, A.M., Hetzel-Riggin, M., & *Jensen, C. (2024) Presenting concerns and risk factors for transgender and gender non-conforming college students in therapy. *Journal of College Student Psychotherapy*, DOI: 10.1080/28367138.2024.2329592.
- Asterisks in faculty achievements above indicate student coauthors: 6 student conference coauthors, 2 student publication coauthors
- Undergraduate Research day: 9 projects involving 9 different students.
- Aleshina, M. (2024, April). Growth and recovery: Exploring the relationship between PTSD symptoms, post-traumatic growth, and resilience in Russian-speaking asylum seekers. Presentation at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- White, M. (2024, April). Associations Between Avoidant Coping Styles and Interpersonal Indicators of Suicidality. Presentation at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Chen, K. (2024, April). Adverse Childhood Experiences, Working Memory, and Emotion Regulation. Presentation at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Courtney Anderson (2024, April). Exploring the PEERS® Program with an Online Adaptation in a Community Setting. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Jayla Carle (2024, April). The Effects of Age and Disability Status on Jurors' Perceptions of Child Sexual Abuse Victims. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Kit Denzler (2024, April). The effect of gender and extralegal factors in sexual assault investigations. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Haley McKinsey (2024, April). Anger, Sexual Assault, Trauma, and True Crime; A Correlational Study. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Mitchell White, Cole Turner, and Kelly Chen (2024, April). Attentional Habituation: Examining Motives for Caffeine Use, Mood State, and Anxiety Sensitivity in Negative Emotional Stroop Task Performance. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Sydnee Osgood (April 2024). A pilot study for zebrafish memory. Poster at annual Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day, WIU, Macomb IL.
- Midwestern Psychological Association (regional research conference in Chicago IL): 5 projects

- Juan Ramirez MPA paper: Dissecting the Horror Spectrum: Enjoyment, Personality, and Physiology.
- Madelyn Swigart MPA paper: The Personality Problems Linked with Parent-child Relationships.
- Jayle Carle MPA. The effects of age & disability on jurors' perceptions of child sexual abuse victims.
- Kit Denzler MPA: The effect of gender and extralegal factors on sexual assault investigations.
- Haley McKinsey MPA: Anger, sexual assault, trauma, and true crime: a correlational study.
- Inaugural WIU Clinical and School Professional Conference- Friday, April 12, 2024: 6 student presentations
- Wright, H. (2024, April 12). Story Mapping [Conference session]. Western Illinois University Clinical and School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Johnson, C. (2024, April 12). Partner Spelling [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Murphy, T. (2024, April 12). Mystery Motivators. [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Kennel, J. (2024, April 12). Debriefing: Helping Students Solve Their Own Behavior Problem. [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Beaver, J. (2024, April 12). Positive Peer Reporting. [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Pode, E. (2024, April 12). Fraction Face-Off [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Hernandez, K. (2024, April). Parents as Reading Tutors. [Conference session] Western Illinois University Clinical & School Psychology Conference, Macomb, IL.
- Single Serve/Let's Talk MH Workshops
- April 25 (self-care) Deoquase Williams
- Psychology staff and undergraduates participated in a virtual recruitment session sponsored by Admissions on Apr 18.
- The WIU chapter of Psi Chi, Psychology's international honor society inducted new members on Apr 10.
- Psychology hosted its annual Spring student awards ceremony on Apr 22 and over 60 students attended. Student winners of scholarships and awards were honored.
- Psychology faculty and students celebrated the return of a long-standing tradition in Psychology called Woodsie (Apr 27), a cookout held at a faculty member's backyard. It was the first Woodsie since 2019.
- Owens-Boone, J., & McClure, K. A. (2024). Attempting to Replicate First-Person Shooter Task Effects: Guns, Not Black Faces, Facilitate Shoot Responses. Presentation at the American Psychology and Law Conference in Los Angeles, CA, USA. (March 2024)
- Harbke, C.R. (2024). There's So Much More to Taste: An Exploration of Neurological Integration through Flavor Perception. Presented at the DuPage County Social Studies Conference (March 1, 2024).
- Tracy Cruise: 3/22/24 8:00-4:30pm West Central Illinois Professional Counselor Association: Working with Shame & Perfectionism Through Embodiment.

- Tracy Cruise: 3/27/24 3:30-4:30pm Women in the Military Panel Discussion.
- CCMH program offered a 5-week Psychoeducation Group on Dialectical Behavioral Therapy to students in Dr. Laura Harden's Mental Health Nursing course (Feb.-March).
- WIU Graduate Research Conference Mar 29, 2024
- Podium presentations: Maame Esi Assafuah (Psychology), "Understanding Academic Resilience in International Students."
- Leo Ofili (General Experimental Psychology), "An Exploration of Self-Determined Motivation, Diversity Climate, and Organizational Commitment." –3rd place winner
- Juan Ramirez (Psychology), "Individual Differences in Enjoyment of Horror Experiences."
- Amariah Seely (General Experimental Psychology), "Working Memory Capacity and Task-Demand: Spontaneous Mind-Wandering Revisited."
- Posters:
 - Cloud Chang (Clinical/Community Mental Health), "Discover PTSD Diagnosis Intricacies by Evaluating Widely Used Tools: CAPS-5, PCL-5, C-Mississippi, and PSSI-5."
 - Katie Hernandez (School Psychology), "Growth Trajectory of Religiosity from Adolescence to Adulthood."
 - Amariah Seely (General Experimental Psychology), "The Association of Mood States & Personality Traits with Attentional Difficulties."
- Leigh Ann Filsler: Presentation with two psychology classes at ICC on transferring into a four-year school after community college. Highlighted specific undergraduate majors and minor within psychology and career path options with BS degrees.
- Tracy Cruise: 3/20/24 Meeting with Eagle View Community Health System to discuss CCMH practicum and internship opportunities.
- Grant awarded to Tracy Cruise: Healthy Children-Healthy Communities, Tracy Family Foundation (Submitted with Kim McClure). Total request \$15,000; funded 2/6/2024.
- Leigh Ann Filsler completed an interview for an article on attending graduate school in counseling psychology for Zippia.com.
- Tipton-Fisler, L.A., Humes, H., & Kelly, R. (2014, February). Exploring External Contracts to Secure School Psychology Positions. Poster presented to Trainers of School Psychologists. New Orleans, LA.
- Blonigen, S*, Tipton-Fisler, L. A., & Norris, C*. (2024, February). Exploring the PEERS® Program with an Online Adaptation. Poster presented at the NASP Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- Johnson, C*, Wright, H*, Tipton-Fisler, L. A., & Zhu, Q. (2024, February). Evaluating Commonly Used Interventions to Inform MTSS in Rural Districts. Poster presented at the NASP Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA.
- Student coauthors on two of Leigh Ann Filsler's posters listed under Faculty Achievements (students indicated by *)
- Peer Support Counseling Program, a collaboration between the Psychology Department and University Counseling Center, began Feb 5. Five undergraduates (Nate Bloom, David Hale, Isabelle Robbins, Jacob Rod, Ilayzia Walton) are serving as peer counselors, available to meet with students; according to their promotional material: "They are here to listen, support, and provide resources on topics related to everyday aspects of the student experience." https://www.wiu.edu/peer_support/

- Hosted program interview days for both the Clinical/Community Mental Health and School Psychology graduate programs which entailed full-day interviews and arranging on-campus site tours as requested.
- Cruise, T. K. & Nestor, M. (2024, February). WIU Honors Program: A focus on mental health. Presentation for the WIU Honors Student Association. Macomb, IL.
- School Psychology graduate program hosted two guests (1 alumnus) from the Science of Reading Illinois (SoRI) for PSY 593 with second-year SSP students on a special topic on the ways in which they can move into advocacy roles within their schools.

Race, Religion, and Multidisciplinary Studies:

- Conversations on Race, Ethnicity and Community will be held at First Presbyterian Church from 7:00 to 8:30 PM April 29th. Amy Carr will be participating in the panel discussion.
- RELICS CAS student organization won Recognition of the Year.
- Baker-Sperry, Lori, Mark Mossman and Justin Schuch. 2024. "Revamping Onboarding: Preparing Students for Higher Learning." Paper presented at the The Higher Learning Commission annual conference.
- The African American Studies program hosted a screening of *The Color Purple* (2023) on April 18, followed by a student panel discussion coordinated by AAS Instructor Dr. Sharon Hunter and members of a newly-recognized student organization, the African American Studies Club. About fifty students attended the screening and panel discussion.
- Dr. Sharon Hunter spoke and gave pastoral remarks for the Inter-Hall Council Memorial Tree Planting ceremony to memorialize the students that were lost over the past two years.
- Dr. Perabo spoke at the Women's History Month panel on March 20, 2024, on the topic "Pain equity, religion, and the use of anesthesia during labor in the mid-19th century."
- Dr. Sharon Hunter, Speaker for the Annual Women's Empowerment Brunch Event Saturday, March 31st; hosted by WIU Women's Center .
- Awarded MOW scholarships to REL minors Kali Becker, Melissa Bevins, Maribell Cunningham, Summer Javadi, Georgiana Reedy, and nonmajor Ebonie Jefferson.
- Led workshop for high school students at WIU Writing Festival, on "Myth, Storytelling, and Religion," February 5, 2024. (also list Amy's presentation)
- Co-sponsored Black History Movie Night with Veterans Resource Center, February 20, 2024; Dr. Perabo moderated the panel, Dr. Hunter was a participant
- The Department hosted a Open House where students, faculty, and staff gathered to celebrate Black History Month and Women's History Month, February 27, 2024
- Student workers Laniyya Strange and Isabella Macias produced a Black History Month display and a Women's History Month display for the Department bulletin board.
- Dr. Perabo developed a campaign to welcome undeclared prospective students at this semester's Discover Western events, in coordination with the First-Year Advising program. A new banner and flyers were used at the February 19 Discover Western. This work is intended to make all undeclared students feel welcomed and supported, and is also a long-term recruiting

strategy for the Liberal Arts and Sciences Major, which is often a "discovery major" for students who enter Western without a declared major.

Sociology and Anthropology:

- Tawnya Adkins Covert served as a panelist for the session, "Being a Chair: What to Expect" at Midwest Sociological Association (MSS) Annual Meeting in Des Moines, IA on April 5, 2024.
- Andrea Alveshere attended the 93rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists in Los Angeles, CA, where she presented a paper, "Somatic Mutation and Adaptive Flexibility: Neural Plasticity and the NF1 Gene in Hominin Evolution and Beyond," co-authored with Vincent M. Riccardi of The Neurofibromatosis Institute, La Crescenta, CA.
- At the same meeting, Andrea Alveshere also led a workshop, "Evolutionary Mechanisms: Beyond the Basics" which, due to participant interest, is sparking an ongoing monthly journal club for collaboration on strategies for teaching these complex topics in our upper-division courses.
- Andrea Alveshere and Tawnya Adkins Covert served as panelists for the "Lioness" film screening event with the Veterans Resource Center in honor of Women's History Month.
- Gordon Chang presented "Simple and Complex Cognition in Ideological Thoughts and Social Movements" at Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting in Des Moines, IA on April 6, 2024.
- William Gblerkpor was awarded \$300 through the Sociology and Anthropology Faculty Research and Travel Award.
- William Gblerkpor attended the 89th annual Society of American Archaeology (SAA) conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he presented a paper, "Pursuing Park Museums and Archaeology in Ghana: A New Frontier in Heritage Education and Development."
- William Gblerkpor was a discussant and presenter at the African Humanities and Heritage Initiative panel: Decolonizing Ancient History and Archaeology of Africa, organized by the University of Michigan African Studies Center.
- William Gblerkpor was a discussant at the New York University Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies' symposium, Silence No More: Perspectives on Black Ecologies. His presentation was titled Creating New Frontiers for Indigenous Ecological Competences and Resiliency in Africa.
- William Gblerkpor organized and participated in the campus event "Performing and Showcasing Africa: Dance and Wildlife Exhibit" at the WU Multicultural Center April 24th, 2024.
- Robert J. Hironimus-Wendt organized a panel presentation for the McDonough County and Macomb community, entitled "Conversation on Race, Ethnicity and Community." Panelists were Dr. Amy Carr, Professor of Religion; Alan Henderson, Pastor of Mt. Calvary COGIC, and Kelly Ingersoll, Pastor of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
[[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h20UtDTKKVk>]] on April 29, 2024
- Patrick McGinty served as roundtable discussion facilitator for the session "Program and Department Administrator Roundtable: Marketing Our Departments and Disciplines" at Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting in Des Moines, IA on April 6, 2024.

- Jacob Skousen co-organized a symposium (w/ Caitlyn Antoniuk) at the Society for American Archaeology entitled "Rethinking Persistent Places: Relationships, Atmospheres, and Affects" on April 21 in New Orleans.
- Jacob Skousen presented a paper in that session called "Pilgrimage Centers as Persistent Places: Spiritual Magnetism, Affects, and Atmospheres" at the Society for American Archaeology conference on April 21 in New Orleans.
- Craig Tollini published the article, "Versatility in anal sex in gay pornography" in the peer-reviewed journal Porn Studies (Published online: April 5 2024 at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23268743.2024.2324807>)
- Student Shampa Shikdar was selected as the 2024 Sociology Masters Scholarship Award Recipient.
- Students Md. Rezaul Karim and Ojonimi Adaji were named the recipients of the 2024 Won M. Hurh Memorial Graduate Thesis Award in Sociology
- Student Jennifer Ofoe received a Graduate Student Research and Professional Development Fund.
- Student Mariah Armstong, Sociology major, was awarded the Harriet Stull Scholarship.
- Student Riley McAllister, Sociology major, was awarded the Kara Leigh Broughton Scholarship.
- Student Lisa Marie Bell, Anthropology major, was awarded the Randall and Delores Lindsey Scholarship.
- Student Cristina Parker, Anthropology major, was awarded the Spring's College of Arts and Sciences Honorary Recognition Award for the Social Sciences
- Students Kate Blessing and Candy Hadsall were inducted into the Anthropology Honor Society Lambda Alpha.
- Eight students were inducted into the Sociology Honor Society Alpha Kappa Delta: Brooklynn Bateman, Chase McLaughry, Nafisat Agunbiade, Darcy Eberle, Camilla Ruiz, Elizabeth White, Ebenzer Mensah, Jennifer Ofoe, and Shampa Shikdar.
- Jennifer Ofoe presented her research, "A Content Analysis Study Describing Information Regarding Female Genital Mutilation Present in United States Medical Textbooks" at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa.
- Md. Razaul Karim presented his research, "A Cultural Shock and Mental Health Status among International Students in the United States" at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa.
- Sociology 100 students Jael Henning and Hector Cerda (with faculty advisor Beate Wilson) were awarded the Department Award for their poster "African Americans and the Arts: Bringing Black Arts to the Front Stage Collages for the Creative Self-Expression of Black Campus Members at WIU" at the Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day on April 17, 2024.
- SRRC (Student Recruitment and Retention Committee) members sent welcome emails to all admitted students.
- The Department held its annual Student Recognition Reception on Sunday April 21.
- William Gblerkpor was awarded \$300 through the Sociology and Anthropology Faculty Research and Travel Award.
- Shampa Shikdar was selected as the 2024 Sociology Masters Scholarship Award Recipient

- Dr. Gordon Chang received Honorable Mention for the Midwest Sociological Society Distinguished Book Award, 2024 for *Revolution and Witchcraft: The Code of Ideology in Unsettled Times*.
- Amanda Buford was named the Spring 2024 Department Scholar for Sociology
- Cristina Parker was named the Spring 2024 Department Scholar for Anthropology
- Jennifer Ofoe gave a presentation at the WIU Student Leadership Conference on February 17. Her presentation was titled "Strategic Thinking in Achieving Success"
- Faculty from the Student Recruitment Committee and the Department Chairperson met with WIU Admissions to highlight our programs.
- Anthropology launched a Meta ad that featured Heather McIlvaine-Newsad's study abroad program.

College of Business and Technology

- **Ad Legacy Sale Results in Success** - The Ag Legacy Sale was conducted on April 16, 2024. This year's sale had 247 different livestock related items up for auction. The one-day, on-line sale generated over \$150,000 to support the travel expenses associated with the Livestock Judging Team as well as support the Animal Science curriculum and activities. This year's sale broke last year's record, which was \$132,000. Big thanks to Dr. Mark Hoge and the Livestock Merchandising students for their hard work on this event.
- **School of Agriculture Awards Banquet** - The annual School of Agriculture Banquet was held on April 17th at Park Place. There were 200 attendees at this event, which showcased student organization achievements, announced the Cliff Becker Agriculture Excellence Awards (which is new), announced "Outstanding Senior and Scholar", and recognized Dr. Keela Trennepohl as the outstanding faculty member within the department. It was also announced that the number of service hours accumulated this year by all of our student organizations was 3242 hours with Hoof-n-Horn leading the way with over 700 service hours.
- **Illinois Soybean Endowment Supports** - Research - Several research projects will be conducted this summer, which were supported by the Illinois Soybean Association Endowment, by several of the School of Agriculture faculty and staff. They are: "Reading soybean sign-language with a multi-spectral sensor" (Gruver & Venturi), "Effect of foliar application of malic acid on seed and oil yield in soybean" (Phippen & Wesley), "Soybean maturity group selection and golden pennycress (*Thlaspi arvense*) establishment after soybean" (Phippen & Wesley).
- **Pennycress Celebration Scheduled** - Wraps The 2024 Pennycress Field Day will be May 23rd from 10 am to noon at the university farm. This will be the final field day for the USDA-NIFA 10 million dollar grant that was awarded to Dr. Win Phippen in 2019.
- **Weed Suppression Research Collaboration** - The Organic Research Program will be hosting a visiting professor from Italy this spring to study microorganisms' impact on weed suppression at the Allison Organic Research Farm. Dr. Mauro Senatore will be with us for about two months this spring.

- **Ag Facilities Renovation Begins** - A renovation project has begun at the Livestock Center. The renovation project will include new flooring in the main hallway, main classroom, and bathrooms. New bathroom fixtures will also be installed for this project. The project was supported through the Ag Legacy funds as well as a \$10,000 Compeer grant. We look forward to the new renovation as it will give a fresh, new look to the Livestock Center that hosts numerous recruitment events for the School of Agriculture.
- **IL Nutrient Research and Education Council (NREC) Research Continues** - In June 2023, Dr. Joel Gruver assumed the role of PI for a long-term multidisciplinary project titled "Integrating livestock grazing into the western Illinois corn-soybean cropping system to enhance farm profitability and reduce nutrient loss". The project, a collaboration between 3 WIU School of Agriculture faculty (Dr. Keela Trennepohl - Animal Science, Dr. Graciela Andrango - Agricultural Economics and Dr. Joel Gruver - Soil Science) and 1 WIU Environmental Studies faculty (Dr. Roger Viadero - Hydrology) has received renewed funding from the IL Nutrient Research and Education Council (NREC) each year since 2020. Dr. Gruver presented results of the project at the NREC conference in Feb 2024.
- The School of Computer Sciences hosted a Jeopardy-style cybersecurity competition on April 27, following the Discover Western event. Five teams participated. Based on successes we intend to expand and increase the number of competitions in the coming years.
- **SOET Advisory Boards Meet** - Meetings were held by the four engineering majors within the School to present partial results of the ABET accreditation visit outcomes, review of audit findings, revision and update of educational objectives, and voting on curriculum and objective outcomes for all programs. Additionally, the Construction and Facilities Management Advisory Board met March 8, 2024, to discuss the protocols and tasks related to the initial stages for ACCE accreditation.
- **IGVC '24 Competition Participation** - Engineering Senior Project Team Rock-E, best of two teams this academic year, will participate in the 31st Annual Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan from May 31 - June 3. Last year, the WIU team ranked 11 out of 26 teams.
- **Career Readiness for Engineering Students** - Track I and startup of Track II of a S-STEM project to recruit and retain 20 (two cohorts of eight starting in Year 1 Year 2,

respectively) domestic, low-income, and academically talented students into its target baccalaureate of science majors of engineering and engineering technology. The program: improving Career Readiness for Engineering Students Through a mentored Living-Learning-Community (iCREST), started in the Summer of 2023 and it is sponsored through an NSF grant. Track I for \$750,000.00; Track II for up to \$2,000,000.00.

- **DOE Solar Technologies Grant Engagement** - Application for a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) Solar Energy Evolution and Diffusion Studies 4 (SEEDS 4) funding opportunity. The program will award up to \$7 million for social science research that generates actionable insights that can improve large-scale solar (LSS) siting processes and outcomes for host communities.
- **Quad Cities Manufacturing Lab Partnerships Revised** - Since November of 2023, the School has participated in the restructuring of the Quad Cities Manufacturing Laboratory, now deemed QCML 2.0, in partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champagne and Iowa State University. WIU's previous operation in the Rock Island Arsenal is being dismantled and some of the equipment will be transferred to the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center of the RIA as part of WIU's contribution towards the new partnership.
- **Programmatic Exploration with John Deere Welding Engineering Technology Program** - Since early Fall 2023, meetings between John Deere engineers from all facilities in the Quad Cities, School of Engineering and Technology representatives, and members of Blackhawk College have been discussing and weighing options to develop and deliver an education degree for employees, from Deere and other companies in the region, that focuses on elements and requirements in the processing of welded elements and assemblies. After many discussions and shadowing events at facilities, the determination is that an emphasis area, including 18 hours of special course, for the current Engineering Technology degree will satisfy the needs that John Deere pursues.
- **National Engineering Week Engages Regional Youth** - 85 middle school students and several STEM teachers participated in a coding workshop in Riverfront Hall in Moline. They were divided into four groups to do a variety of activities, including hands-on coding activities and campus/lab tours (Electrical Engineering Lab, Maker Space, Machine Shop, WQPT, ESports Room, RF Atrium, and QCC Atrium). The event was coordinated and conducted by Engineering students, including the ACE officers. Participating teachers

expressed their gratitude and commitment to bring more students to events and activities of this kind.

- **GenCyber Summer Camp Planning Begins** - The School of Computer Sciences has entered into a coalition with University of North Texas (lead), University of Nebraska - Omaha, and San Jacinto College in an effort to bring a GenCyber Summer Camp to WIU in 2025. Continued participation in the DoD Scholarship program will ultimately allow WIU to participate as a lead institution.
- **SCM Students Place 2nd in 2024 ASCM Midwest Gateway Student Case Competition** - The competition was co-hosted by UMSL's SCM program and the ASCM Midwest Gateway St. Louis Chapter, and sponsored by Bunge, Bayer, and Ameren. The schools that participated included UMSL, SLU, Mizzou, and WIU. This was the first year of this competition, and they hope to have eight teams next year. John Burton, Madison Butts, Devin Hermsmeier, and Edgar Sanchez made up the WIU team, naming themselves Rocky's Refreshment Co. The simulation-based competition focused on the impact of supply chain on broader company profitability for an orange juice manufacturing company based out of the Netherlands.
- **WIU-SHRM Student Leaders Show Excellence at SHRM Council Summit** - The Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) Student Chapter of Western Illinois University recently showcased its excellence at the SHRM State Council Summit hosted by the University of Iowa's Tippie College of Business. This event provided networking and ongoing learning opportunities for University students who are leaders in human resources. Throughout the event, student members of WIU's SHRM Executive Board made a presentation, engaged in discussions, exchanged ideas, and built valuable connections with fellow attendees from various institutions. The event provided a platform for sharing insights, best practices, and emerging trends in the field of human resource management.
- **Supply Chain Management Program Hosts Second Annual ConNEXT Conference** - Western Illinois University and Black Hawk Region Pathways co-hosted the Supply Chain Management ConNEXT conference on the WIU Quad Cities campus in Moline. The event was designed to allow regional high school students to explore high-paying, in-demand careers in supply chain management and logistics. Supply Chain Management includes the business functions that plan, source, make and deliver. Attendees learned about different careers in sourcing and procurement, manufacturing and operations, distribution and warehousing, and transportation.
- **Finance Students Make Stock Pitches** – MBA students enrolled in the Advanced Portfolio Course (FIN 575) presented their annual stock recommendations to members of the local investment community including representatives from Edward Jones, MidAmerica National Bank,

Wealth Associates, and the WIU Foundation including. The course is designed so students obtain a deep understanding of stock investing by managing an actual portfolio of money and equities. Analysis of companies' business models, growth and valuation ratios, price charts, etc., is performed before buying stocks that fit in a well-diversified portfolio.

- **AFED Hosts “Finance Forward”**- Exploring Career Opportunities and Financial Literacy Essentials- Preston Gray, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, and WIU alum, presented two sessions to WIU students related to understanding personal financial health and outlining critical steps necessary to increasing short term and long-term wealth. The day concluded with a panel of finance professionals sharing insights about the diverse array of professional opportunities in finance.
- **The School of AFED Hosts Workshop on “Ethical Issue and Best Practices in Data and Data Analytics”** - In conjunction with the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association (ASA), WIU welcomed a community of students, faculty, staff, professionals, and data enthusiasts to a discussion of the ethical issues surrounding data and data analytics with Dr. David Corliss, the Principal Data Scientist at Grafham Analytics. The day's events engaged audience participants in active conversations about the practical and applied understanding of ethical issues related to data ownership, data privacy, bias in analytics, and best practices in the field.
- **Data analytics Students Compete in the Iowa Business Analytics Case Competition** - The two-day competition provided an opportunity for the brightest graduate level analytics students in the country to come together and solve a real-world business problem. On site, teams were provided large data sets and performed a deep dive analysis using programming, data wrangling, and data visualization skills to identify a problem, and propose a unique solution. Students presented their findings and recommendations to panel of analytics experts.
- **The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) Partners with John Deere** Members of the WIU Student Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants hosted an exclusive Meet the Firm event at the College of Business and Technology where they gained invaluable insights on interview strategies and career navigation from the John Deere HR specialists.
- **The School of AFED and Beta Alpha Psi Hold Accounting Career Exploration** – The event, held on the Quad Cities campus engaged high school students in leadership and team building activities culminating in an accounting competition to earn scholarship money to attend WIU and major in accounting. The half day event engaged corporate partners from RSM, Deloitte, and John Deere and hosted an alumni professional panel discussing the importance and relevance of accounting in business with WIU Accounting alums Joe Ellison and Joe Goetz.

College of Education and Human Services

Counselor Education and College Student Personnel

CSI XI Chapter Induction Ceremony (Honor Society) – Great turnout of family for and new inductees.

- Plants, Paths and Pizza – 2nd Annual Event on QC Campus CNED Program partnering with Wild Ones Quad Cities. Outstanding community turnout and speakers/activities included, Yoga in Nature, Forest Bathing (Dr. O’Ryan), Native Herbs, Bees, and concluded with a panel of experts on nature and natural healing and even had comfort dogs hanging out.
- Emily Ferryera attended the School Counseling Day on the Hill in Springfield with 35 school counselors and graduate students from Northeastern University and DePaul University.

Health Sciences and Social Work

- Dr. Maureen Bezold and alum Ms. Bethanie Albrecht hosted a full day training for the Medical Reserve Corps of Illinois in late March.
- MPH Journal Club hosted three alums – Dr. Oluwasola Stephen Ayosanmi, Ms. Precious Diaz, and Ms. Grace Agah – to present their research during the months of March, April, and May.
- The Health Sciences Graduate Student Association, in conjunction with the department TSAs, arranged for approximately 50 MPH students to travel to the University of Illinois-Springfield campus for the Illinois Public Health Association’s Student Day. The event piqued the interest of many of our students to work on policy making for public health initiatives.
- MPH students were very involved in the planning for Minority Health Month (April). MPH students made several presentations for Minority Health Month and National Public Health Week. One group of students presented on mental health at the local high school.
- Professor Smith Okon and Ms. Jill Bisbee traveled to John Wood Community College in late March to present to a group of students in the TRIO, Upward Bound program. They presented on goal setting and imposter syndrome and self-care.
- Dr. Debra Allwardt had an article, “Reintroducing the Oral Exam: Finding Out What Your Students Really Know in the Age of ChatGPT” accepted for publication in the journal *Currents in Teaching and Learning*.
- March was Social Work month. On March 4, Mayor Mike Inman signed a proclamation at the City Council meeting recognizing the important work of social workers.
- Members of Social Work’s student groups (SWSA, Phi Alpha, and the SW Diversity Council) hosted an event at Horn Field Campus in April for all SW students.
- On April 16, 12 students and two faculty from the Social Work program at Western Illinois University proudly attended the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Advocacy Day held at the Illinois Capitol in Springfield, IL. Three of the students were named Lobby Leaders, guiding various groups across the capitol to engage in discussions with legislators on critical social issues.

- The Social Work Student Diversity Council hosted a Self-Care Event on April 3. Student ToniSue Chatfield wrote and received a \$500 grant from DOT Foods to purchase food and beverages for the event.

Kinesiology

- Sent about 400 digital postcards to prospective and transfer students in the past month.
- Hosted the George Hermann Senior Olympics on April 26-27 (incessant rain notwithstanding).
- Undergraduate Research Day Posters:
 - Pain Tolerance & Sensitivity in Redheads-Alexis Betker
 - Effects of Music Preference on Level of Motivation During Aerobic Exercise-Kaitlyn Witte and Audrey Thomann

Law Enforcement and Justice Administration

- **Recruitment and Retention activities.**
 - Dr. Sergevnin presented 10 Recruitment Guest lectures at: a) Qainar University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, b) Al-Faraby University, Almaty, Kazakhstan, c) Turan University Almaty, Kazakhstan, d) Humanitarian-Economic University Almaty, Kazakhstan (March 12-18, 2024).
 - The Fire Protection Program held their full day recruitment event Get a Taste Program - April 1st - for 22 prospective students at the Quincy Fire Center.
 - Dr. McCrary chaired weekly meetings for Justice ACED Academy, for distinguished scholars at various historical white and black universities.
 - The Fire Protection program, Chief Henning, and 7 students attended the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) April 14 - 20 in Indianapolis
 - Meeting with Fire Departments to offer bridge course work beginning fall (2024) for students to obtain full paramedic licensure. (Director Myers, Chief Henning, Dr. Brewer).
 - Meeting with ambulance associations to partner for student recruitment and internship placement for fall 2024. (Director Myers, Chief Henning, Dr. Walton)
 - Director Myers taught multiple session on Cyber Investigations to Brimfield High School Students, April and May 2024.
 - The FBI command staff came and presented to the LEJA organizations in April 2024 (Dr. Kelly).
 - Dr. Stinson attended March 1, 2024, Recruitment, Career Day, Rushville-Industry High School.
 - Dr. Stinson presented and recruited at Indian Valley Vocational Center (Sandwich, IL) High School on Human Performance Improvement in April 2024.
 - Professor Butts and Dr. Stinson attended the Illinois Valley Central High School Recruiting Event (March 2024).
 - J. Pete Blair, two-time LEJA alumni and Executive Director of the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT.org) Center and a Professor of Criminal

- Justice and Criminology at Texas State University presented to all LEJA fraternities on April 25 on Active School Shootings with specific insight into the Uvalde, Texas school shooting,
- Director Myers and Chief Henning attended all Discover Westerns and both Online WIU University Recruitment events and met multiple times every week with prospective students and families on an individual basis. Dr. McCrary facilitated weekly meetings with Macomb Middle School students, providing mentoring services every Wednesday and tutoring services every Saturday.
 - Dr. McCrary presented information about Justice ACED academy for Quincy Illinois community meeting.

- **Presentations and Grants by Faculty:**

- \$1,550,000. The Congressionally Directed Grant funding award by Senator Duckworth for the EOC renovation project was passed by Congress (Director Myers, Drs. Walton, and Kelly).
- Presentation: Sergevnin, V. (February 21, 2024) Adapting artificial intelligence programs in the higher education: theory and practice at the international scientific and practical forum; Media Space and Artificial Intelligence: Problems and Perspectives. Turan University, Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- Dr. McCrary facilitated an antiracist presentation with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, for state and local legislators, and law enforcement officers and administrators.
- Dr. Brewer presented Navigating Crime Scene Environments while Practicing Emergency Care for the membership of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses on March 27, 2024.
- Presentation: Sergevnin, V. (March 12, 2024) Critical Issues in the Use of Artificial Intelligence by American Law Enforcement at the International scientific and practical conference Criminal threats of modernity and strategies of anti-criminal security of the individual, society, state (14th annual Kairzhanov readings). Kazakhstan State University named after Al-Farabi. Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Presentation: Sergevnin, V. (April 17, 2024) Online anticorruption training for universities' faculty in the USA (the State of Illinois case). XXIII International Scientific and Practical Conference "Scientific Potential of Modern Youth", ALMATY HUMANITIES AND ECONOMICS UNIVERSITY. www.ageu.edu.kz. Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan.

- **Club service activities**

- Fire Protection Club and Chief Henning received the 2024 Outstanding Student Organization by the Office of Student Engagement
- Professor Butts and the Corrections and Law Enforcement Fraternities presented a Cold Case Homicide Investigation to students
- March 22, 2024, ASIS Fraternity, held True Crime Jeopardy Night, open to all students, prizes donated by local merchants
- March 26, 2024, Veterans Resource Center and Dr. Stinson presented Woman's History Movie Night
- March 27, 2024, Alpha Phi Sigma [APS-National Criminal Justice Honor Society] Drone Presentation
- April 2, 2024, ASIS Club, presented Threat Pattern Recognition Presentation
- April 12, 2024, APS presented Mock POWER (Police Officer Wellness Evaluation Report) Test, Brophy Hall
- April 13, 2024, APS (LEJA Honors Fraternity) conducted a Community Volunteer Day with Habitat for Humanity of McDonough County (Drs. Walton and Stinson).
- Presentation: Sergevnin, V presented (April 9, 2024) Crocus City Hall Massacre: Lessons Learned. At: WIU ASIS INTERNATIONAL SECURITY CLUB.
- Fire Fraternity - March 7th - Guest speakers from Firefighter Straps and Illinois Professional Female Firefighters Association
- Fire Fraternity- March 21st - Alzheimer Association Walk Committee Meeting
- Fire Fraternity - April 11th and 16th - Joint Training Meeting with Carthage Fire Department

- **Teaching activities**

- March 13, 2024. Dr. Sergevnin presented his review on the Ph.D. defense of the dissertation in Education "Criminological problems of domestic violence against women". It was defended by Doctoral student Suraeva Karina at the Doctoral Council at Kazakhstan State National University named after Al-Farabi.
- The Fire Protection Program held their Fire Academy - 6 weeks in Quincy March 7- April 26th All students passed their ProBoard Certification.
- Faculty conducted approximately 15 mock interviews with current LEJA students for preparation for both career and internship interviews
- Professors Young and Kelly presented multiple demonstration of polygraph techniques to classes and fraternity students.

- RPTH held its Professional Development Conference on April 19th. In attendance were alumni, industry professionals, faculty and students. Interim Dean Sheffield gave opening remarks and then there were networking opportunities and professional sessions for students to attend. Afterwards, there was a luncheon where several awards were presented.
 - **Jim Berousek Distinguished Alumni Award - Derek Harms** - this award is given to an alumni practitioner in the field that was nominated and voted on by their peers as one professional that is making an impact on the public parks and recreation sector. This award was given out at the RPTH social event during the IPRA conference in January.
 - **Developing Scholar - Olivia Jung** - This award is given to a freshman or sophomore RPTH major that demonstrates excellence in education.
 - **Arthur F. Clayton Award – Erin Mudd and Julia Bosold**
 - - The Arthur F. Clayton Award is given to a senior RPTH major who demonstrates outstanding potential for career advancement in the field of Recreation and Leisure. **Outstanding Senior Award – Kayla DePoorter-** The Outstanding Senior Award recognizes a senior for his/her accomplishments in the classroom as well as on the campus and community
 - **Anita H. Magafas Award – Kervell Vital--** The Anita H. Magafas Nontraditional Student Award is a monetary award established in honor of Dr. Magafas, Professor Emeriti of RPTH and her love of nontraditional students.
 - **Outstanding Graduate Student Award – Emma Fleming-** The Outstanding Graduate Student Award is given to a graduate student in RPTH, who holds a minimum of a 3.6 GPA for all graduate coursework completed. The grad student must have completed 12 hours of coursework prior to the current semester and must demonstrate involvement in activities at the Department, College and/or University level.
 - **The recipient of this year’s GOLD Undergraduate award is Edith Garcia.**
 - **The recipient of this year’s GOLD Graduate award is Lily Moser.** The G.O.L.D. Award was established several years ago to recognize a graduate of the last decade for his/her contributions and work in the field as well as their contributions to the department. We present two GOLD awards, one for undergraduate of the last decade and one for graduate of the last decade.
 - **Distinguished Alumni Award – Jon Johnson-**The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus/alumna by the RPTH Department. This award is given to alumni who have reached the pinnacle of their career and have brought credit to themselves and RPTH through distinguished accomplishments in ALL of the following areas:
 - Business or professional life.
 - Community affairs at local, state or national affairs levels.
 - Support of the advancement and continued excellence of RPTH and/or WIU.
 - **Distinguished Service Award – Paul Blome** -The Distinguished Service Award is presented each year to someone who has contributed to the department and provided support to students beyond the call of duty.
 - The RPTH Junk Food Fest was held on May 2.

School of Education

Faculty Leadership in Local, State, Regional, National Organizations

- Jim LaPrad, MCUSD-#185, Board of Education Member
- Melissa Stinnett, President-Elect, Illinois Reading Council (IRC)
- Sharon Stevens, Executive Director Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA)
- Rashmi Sharma, President Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA)
- Jim LaPrad, Chair, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Team, National Rural Education Association (NREA)

Graduate Program Updates

Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT), currently has 10 Alternative Licensure tracks and will be adding 3 additional tracks this summer:

- World Languages: Spanish (Grades K-12) [ISBE approval expected June 2024]
- World Languages: French (Grades K-12) [ISBE approval expected June 2024]
- Physical Education (Grades K-12) [ISBE approval expected June 2024]

Educational Leadership

- Hosted the Administrator's Round Table (ART) conference with regional principals and superintendents, with the 30th *WIU Law Conference* April 12, 2024.

Undergraduate Program Updates

- Our **Special Education programs** student group: *Council for Exceptional Children*, is looking to take students to the Special Education Legislation summit in Washington DC, July 29 - August 1, 2024 they are also fundraising for this event with a music trivia contest in a pie in the face contest.

Centers

- **American Reads / Reading Center** tutored at Lincoln Elementary School 18 students (18 volunteer tutors) and at St. Paul Elementary School, 20 students (14 volunteer tutors) during the Spring 2024 Semester
- **The Science Center** will be setting up the star globe for the public in May of 2024.
- **The Seymour Center for Rural Education/Great River Teacher Corp**
 - Hosted its spring dinner and meeting on March 19th.
 - Submitted a proposal for NREA National Forum to Advance Rural Education, October 31 – November 1, 2024, Savannah, GA.
- **The Early Childhood Program** had a ribbon cutting ceremony in the Quad Cities for our new Early Learning Center on 4/8; a pre-opening/construction photo opportunity/session on 4/26; a donor walkthrough will be held in May; a family day of play event in June.

Grants

- Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) ending 6/30/24
- Ascendium Foundation Research Grant active
- Illinois Elevating Special Education, sub-grant awarded
- GYO-IL Grow Your Own - Illinois Implementation Grant, submitted 5/10/24
- National Professional Development (NPD) Grant - RFP, submitted 5/10/24
- Preschool for All (PFA), will be submitted 5/13/24

College of Fine Arts and Communication

Art & Design

Students

- Molly Borth has been accepted with a full ride and assistantships to the MFA Printmaking program at SUIC; Exhibition - 2 Fat 2 Furious, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI 2024; Portfolio Presentation Southern Graphics Council International, (SGCI) Providence 2024.
- Mackenzie White has been accepted with a full ride to the MFA painting program at SIUE.
- Kieara Morey: artwork will be used as divider in 2024 WIU Elements publication.
Rivers Ashton: Portfolio Presentation SGCI Providence 2024; 2024 SGCI Membership Portfolio Exchange.
Andrew Tomlinson: 2024 SGCI Membership Portfolio Exchange

Alumni

- Kyla Culbertson - WIU visiting artist workshop and exhibition; Summer artist residencies at Haystack Mountain School of Arts & Crafts and Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts.
- Joe Murzuch - Table and Shelf solo exhibition, 155A Gallery, East Dulwich, London, England.
- Sarah Smith Howerter - Soon to be published Illustrator, children's book The Taming of "Terrible T", written by Rose Guthrie.
- Michael Wartgow (alumnus) has been hired to teach at Lindenwood University in St. Louis. He was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art and Design. He will be teaching full-time; Drawing, Painting, and Figure Drawing.

Otherwise:

- Susan Czechowski had a great trip with students to the Southern Graphics Council International, Conference. She and her students raised over \$3000 through her Printworks Fundraiser to help students pay to attend the conference in Providence, Rhode Island.
- Susan is also taking 11 Art and Design students to Italy, May 21st as a study abroad trip.
- Art and Design completed another successful Spring Art Sale 06-10 May 2024
- Art and Design will be hosting two summer camps: 4-8th Grade and High School.

Broadcasting and Journalism

Students

- The National Association of Black Journalists WIU Chapter Received First Prize in Outstanding Hard News Program from the Illinois News Broadcasters Association.
- Members of student-run News3 interviewed Interim President Dr. Kristi Mindrup on March 20.
- Leatherneck Insider, the Department of Broadcasting and Journalism's Sports Variety Program, received Second Prize in Sports Program from the Illinois News Broadcasters Association.
- On February 17, 2024, The Western Courier and Editor-in-Chief Jaycie Doerr had an excellent showing at the 2024 Illinois College Press Association Award Ceremony in Chicago, Illinois, USA. Jaycie and the Courier received multiple accolades for their outstanding work.
- The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) held a panel on February 23 to discuss cultural competency and improving experiences across our community. Members of organizations and departments from across campus participated in the panel, which was organized by the NABJ students (photo included).
- Faculty and students from the Western Illinois University Department of Broadcasting & Journalism enjoyed visiting WIU's QC Campus and WQPT Public Television on February 14. (photo included).

Alumni

- BC&J alum Shaun Newell (Class of 2002) and colleagues from WMBD-TV (Peoria, Ill) spoke to our Broadcasting and Journalism classes on February 20. Shaun is WMBD Vice President/General Manager (photo included).
- Alum Dylan Smith (Broadcasting & Journalism, 2022) visited us on the third floor of Sallee Hall on March 18, to meet with students and discuss his work as a multimedia journalist and weekend anchor at WGEM TV in Quincy, Illinois.
- Alum Brendan Reidy (Broadcasting and Journalism, '21) on the third floor of Sallee Hall this morning, to meet and share with our BC&J students. Brendan works as Sports Director at WGEM-TV in Quincy, Illinois (photo included).
- Broadcasting and Journalism alumna and former BCJ News Director Emily Manley visited the third floor of Sallee Hall on March 21. Emily visited classes, attended a news meeting and spent time providing advice to current students. Emily works as the chief capitol bureau reporter at the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City for Nexstar stations (photo attached).
- Broadcasting alum Mike Nobler guest lectured on March 28 via Zoom with Dr. Eun Go's Sports Public Relations class this morning. Students listened to Mike discuss his work as Video Director of the NFL's Miami Dolphins.

- On April 30, 2024, BCJ alumni Ross Gunther, Dan Niederkorn and Zac Lueder conducted a workshop during the WIU Softball game, to show the students some real-world techniques and taking time to give back to their alma mater.

The Program

- Broadcasting and Journalism students continue to do outstanding coverage of Baseball and Softball, in collaboration with ESPN Plus and WIU Athletics.
- Prospective students from Cuba High School (Cuba, Illinois) plan to visit the Department. Students will be led by their adviser, Mr. Joe Brewer, who has also collaborated with Tri States Public Radio on the Forgottonia Podcast, which can be heard on public radio affiliates around the state.
- Reflecting on the state of the industry and on the needs of its students, the Department has updated its curriculum to better reflect the changing needs of emerging broadcasters and journalists. The more hands-on, production-oriented curriculum will take effect Fall 2024.
- The Department of Broadcasting and Journalism, Tri States Public Radio and The WIU Museum held a collaborative event focused on podcasting and audio storytelling, aimed at local high schoolers and middle school students from around the region. The event took place April 21, 2024. The goal is to show young adults how they can use podcasts to tell stories and also to build relationships between media organizations and local residents.
- Students visited WMBD TV (CBS/FOX, Peoria) April 15, 2024. Broadcasting and Journalism students toured the station, watched the 4pm and 5pm newscasts and interacted with reporters, anchors and station management.
- KWQC TV6 News in Davenport, IA hosted students Miesha Hughes, Anthony Jameson and faculty member Dr. Pam Peters on March 26. Students and faculty had the opportunity to watch the 11am and Noon newscasts, sit in on planning meetings and learn from members of the KWQC news team.

School of Music

Students

- George Pârnu, a freshman majoring in violin performance and first violinist in the President's International String Quartet, won the first prize at the Nouvelles Etoiles International Competition in Paris, France.
- Graduate violinist Martin Medrano was awarded a Fellowship Assistant Award for the Mostly Modern Festival in Saratoga Springs, NY, for the summer of 2024.
- Graduate pianist Denzel Abarquez received 2nd Prize in the professional category of the Birmingham International Music Competition.

Faculty

- The LaMoine Brass Quintet, including Dr. Jett Walker, Dr. Jena Gardner, Dr. Nicole Gillotti, and Dr. James Land, will perform at the International Trombone Festival in Fort Worth, Texas, in May.
- Dr. Charlie Chadwell and Dr. Suyeon Ko performed at the North American Saxophone Alliance 2024 Biennial Conference in Oklahoma, including a premiere of a new work by composer Dr. Hong-Da Chin.
- Dr. Jason Hawkins served as a clinician working with choirs from across the nation at the Heritage Festivals in San Francisco, CA, and Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Brian Winnie, launched a new professional choral ensemble, *With One Voice*, and presented performances at WIU and in Chicago. The ensemble brought together professional singers and teachers from our region, WIU faculty, and advanced students and alumni.
- Dr. Kenny Lee, conducted the Illinois All-State Orchestra at the Illinois Music Education Conference in January. The ensemble comprises talented students selected by audition from throughout the state.
- Dr. Natalie Landowski presented a lecture recital at the College Music Society's Southwest Chapter Conference at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA.
- Dr. Richard Cangro presented at the Third International Symposium on Music Pedagogy in Cetinje, Montenegro, and presented the WIU Distinguished University Professor Lecture in March.
- Dr. Alfonzo Cooper, Jr., and Professor Linda Andrews presented a recital at the First Presbyterian Church featuring the world premiere of a commissioned work in honor of civil rights leader C.T. Vivian.
- Dr. Brian Locke presented at the American Musicological Society National Meeting in Denver, Colorado.
- Graduate pianist Denzel Abarquez received 2nd Prize in the professional category of the Birmingham International Music Competition.

The Program

- The School of Music hosted several festivals and special events that welcomed thousands of people to campus. Over 3500 prospective students, parents, and community members attended the Marching Band Classic in October. WIU hosted the ILMEA District IV Festival on November 4, which attracted approximately 5000 people to campus, including talented students, their parents, and regional educators. Other highlights included the Holiday Festival of Choirs, Discovery Day for prospective music majors, the Showcase of Bands, the Jazz Festival, BrassFest, and numerous guest artist performances in COFAC Recital Hall.
- The University Singers under the direction of Dr. Brian Winnie performed at the Midwestern American Choral Directors Association Conference in Omaha, NE. The University Singers are one of only a few collegiate choirs to be invited following a competitive application process including hundreds of submissions from ensembles across 10 states.
- The Community Music School's, Summer Music Camp is welcoming over 130 students from ages 6 through 18 for a variety of music camps in June, including the Rocky's Pups Music Camp,

Rocky's Music Camp, Steel Band Camp, Piano Camp, Band Camp, Jazz Camp, as well as 50 + Marching Band Leadership Camp students, and more.

Speech Pathology and Audiology

Speech Pathology and Audiology has received \$20,000 from Mellinger Foundation for the Speech and Hearing Clinic.

Museum Studies

Students

- Four students graduated with an MA in museum studies this spring: Anna Thomas, Eli Sadler, Charlotte Drennen, and Grace Coffman.
- 85 students, faculty, and professionals attended the 2024 Museum Career Symposium event.
- WIU was the headlining sponsor for the program, which invited students from area universities and colleges to attend the virtual program. The program comprised five panelists, including two WIU Museum Studies alumni, who discussed their career paths and current museum positions.
- Students asked questions and gained helpful information from the professionals on how to enter the industry.
- Current Students took a trip to St. Louis to meet alumni at the St. Louis Science Center and Missouri Historical Museum. Eight students and two faculty members traveled to St. Louis for behind-the-scenes tours with alumni.

Alumni

- Recent Appointments:
- Kelly Lao, Co-Interim CEO and Vice President of Museum Experiences, Putnam Museum, Davenport, IA;
- Zackary Baraglia, Event Coordinator at the Ellwood House Museum, IL;
- Sadie Hynick, Associate Collections Manager, Prince's Paisley Park, MN.
- Addison Marsengill, Curatorial Assistant, National Danish American Museum, IA;
- Jordan Miller, Curatorial Assistant, U.S. Naval Seabee Museum, WA;
- Elyse Nerenberg, Tall Grass Archaeology, IA;
- Hope Stropes, Assistant Curator of Collections, Ella Sharp Museum, WI;
- Eli Sadler, Registration Assistant, Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The Program

- Through GA positions, internships, practicums, and board service, students and faculty provided over 10,000 hours to museums and cultural organizations.

- Museum Studies is enthusiastic about the diversity of students enrolled and the opportunities and success they are finding as they enter the workforce. Students are motivated to gain professional experiences in the field through internships, practicums, community-engaged projects, and graduate assistantships. These experiences are high-impact learning experiences for students, increasing career success and program retention. In the spring of 2024, students engaged in eight (8) Graduate Assistantship positions (6 externally funded) in museums in the Quad City region.

Site included:

- Bix Beiderbeck Museum, Davenport Iowa
 - Butterworth Center and Deere Wiman House, Moline, IL
 - Buffalo Bill Museum, Le Claire, IA
 - Family Museum, Bettendorf, IA
 - Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA
 - German American Heritage Center and Museum, Davenport, IA
 - Putnam Museum, Davenport, IA
- The Museum Studies Laboratory project raised half of the \$36K needed for a classroom upgrade to provide students access to technology and equipment for hands-on learning and exhibit prototyping.

Theatre and Dance



Tri States Public Radio

- Tri States Public Radio will be participating in an Illinois Humanities Envisioning Justice Hub in Galesburg, IL.
- TSPR currently participates in the Foreground Rural Initiative hub in western Illinois.

The College of Fine Arts and Communication

- Initiated the merger of the Departments of Broadcasting and Journalism and Communication to from the *School of Communication and Media* to start fall 2024.
- The Center for Performing Arts has hired our inaugural director, Dr. Anne Lefter.
- COFAC Continues to direct talent and resources to recruitment and retention through many means and looks to remain at the forefront of those initiatives across the university.
- Summer Stage 2024 announces the 2024 production of NEWSIES



Recruitment Postcard from College to all accepted students Jan/Feb 2024

BUILDING THE FUTURE

at Western Illinois University and the surrounding communities

Discover all we have to offer at wiu.edu/cofac or westernpresents.com

The College of Fine Arts and Communication is the proud home of the performing and visual arts as well as communication and speech pathology and audiology where students, learn, grow and practice their skills. Construction of the Center for Performing Arts is underway and expected to be completed in Fall 2025!

ART & DESIGN

Hosts six First Wednesday programs with 420 community participants.

ART GALLERY

Offers 19 exhibitions each year which showcase students and professional artists.

BCA

Brings the best in arts and entertainment to WIU and the surrounding communities.

BROADCASTING & JOURNALISM

Produces 18 newscasts and 45 sportscasts yearly!

COMMUNICATION

Is part of the core General Education coursework shaping over 1200 students.

PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY

Supports the Youth Performing Arts Series, Arts Grants, WIU Community Music School, BCA, & President's International String Quartet.

SPEECH PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY

The Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic provides speech-language and audiological services to over 4,000 clients.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Boasts 175 faculty, student, and guest performances and recitals!

THEATRE & DANCE

Realizes 12 fully produced shows each year. SummerStage entertains over 1,000 patrons each summer!

TRI STATES PUBLIC RADIO

Reaches 13,000 weekly listeners in the region.

OUR PERFORMANCES AND SERVICES REACH OVER 20,000 PEOPLE PER YEAR!



University Libraries

For academic year 2023 - 2024, the Library collected 331 citations of published works by 193 WIU authors, including faculty, staff, students, and administrators. In comparison, there were 263 publications and 184 WIU authors last year.

Centennial Honors College

Updates

One honors student, Winter Unverzagt, attended and conducted a podium presentation at the Upper Midwest Honors Council (UMHC) Annual Conference on April 5, 2024 at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. The title of Winter's presentation was *"Passion Meets Purpose Regarding Advocacy for the Latin American Community, Advocacy Trip to Washington, D.C."* Dr. Oden is the Illinois Representative on the Council. She also attended the annual conference.

The Honors College in collaboration with Malpass Library drafted Honors Thesis Requirements. Such requirements were not in existence prior to these being drafted. The guidelines were shared with the Honors Council for their review and vote. The guidelines will be implemented this upcoming fall semester.

The college is conducting a review of the honors curriculum.

Events

Academic Honors Convocation was held in-person on the Macomb campus on May 10, 2024.

The Honors College hosted the Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day on April 17 in the University Union. The event was well attended. Faculty mentors assisted 66 students with their presentations for the event. There were:

- 15 Podium presentations
- 51 poster presentations

Winners

Podium Presentations

First Place: [Mitchell White with faculty mentor Jonathan Hammersley, PSYCHOLOGY- *Associations Between Avoidant Coping Styles and Interpersonal Indicators of Suicidality*](#)

Second Place: [Maria Aleshina with faculty mentor Scott Hemenover, PSYCHOLOGY- *Growth and recovery: Exploring the relationship between PTSD symptoms, post-traumatic growth, and resilience in Russian-speaking asylum seekers*](#)

Third Place: [Chirecce Robertson with Dinesh Ekanayake, MATHEMATICS- *Predicting area burned from forest fires using meteorological data.*](#)

Poster Presentations

- First Place: [Lilian Obasi-Uchekwue, Carlos Negron, and Franca Adelu with faculty mentor Lindsay White, NURSING- Exploring Embeddedness of New Nurse Graduates in a Nurse Residency Program](#)
- Second Place: [Kevin Delgado with faculty mentor Shawn Meagher, BIOLOGY - Sex-biased parasitism is due to sex, not size differences, in Illinois white-footed mice \(*Peromyscus leucopus*\)](#)
- Third Place: [Haley McKinsey with faculty mentor Kristy Keefe, PSYCHOLOGY- Anger, Sexual Assault, Trauma, and True Crime; A Correlational Study](#)

Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs

- **National Science Foundation – Engineering Research Visioning Alliance (ERVA).** Chris Merrett is participating in the Engineering Research Visioning Alliance (ERVA) to help plan research directions for the NSF, focused on rural resilience, technology and health. Chris will be working with colleagues from the University of Iowa, Cornell University, University of Nebraska, Missouri University of Science and Technology, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. This project started in May 2024 and runs through March 2025.
National Science Foundation – Illinois Innovation Network. The IIRA is working with Honey Zimmerman, Professor of Supply Chain Management, WIU College of Business and Technology, on a National Science Foundation project focused on Smart Logistics. The overall project is called "Advancing Smart Logistics." There are seven IIN partners plus several private sector, governmental, and nonprofit partners. Chris will be participating with Prof. Zimmerman on a supply chain / smart logistics symposium at Governors State University on May 23, 2024.
- **Value-Added Sustainable Development Center (VASDC).** Sean Park, Kristin Terry, and John Bannon are working to address food deserts in Illinois by starting cooperative or municipally-owned grocery stores in Illinois. They are working with University of Illinois Extension, Chicago State University, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) as part of the Illinois Grocery Initiative (IGI), which aims to start new grocery stores in food deserts and help provide technical assistance to struggling grocery stores in low-income rural and urban neighborhoods. They are currently working Hopkins Park, Farmer City, and Englewood, Illinois.
- **Broadband READY Grant.** The IIRA is working with the WIU Department of Communication, School of Computer Sciences, and WIU Libraries on a \$75,000 DCEO grant to expand broadband utilization and digital literacy. This program has helped launch 10 Chromebook lending programs in partnership with community libraries in rural communities. The IIRA also worked with its broadband READY partners to co-host a workshop on digital literacy on the WIU campus on April 14. This was done in partnership with DCEO Office of Broadband and the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS).

- **Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).** The IIRA received \$20,000 from DCEO to host two community planning sessions in partnership with DCEO and the IIN. The purpose of these planning sessions was help develop the next five-year economic development plan for the State of Illinois.
- **IIRA Conference and Invited Presentations**
 - Athiyaman, Adee and Chris Merrett. 2024. The Impact of Dollar General Stores on Rural Illinois. Annual Conference of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). Honolulu, HI. April 19.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Moderator and Discussant. Water System Challenges and Technical Assistance Approaches. Center for Urban and Rural Resilience (CURES). University of Illinois-Springfield. April 23.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Welcome and Introductory Remarks. Western Illinois Digital Access Conference. Reaching Across Illinois Library System and Western Illinois University. Macomb, IL. April 12.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Strategies for Bridging the Digital Divide. Western Illinois Digital Access Conference. Reaching Across Illinois Library System and Western Illinois University. Macomb, IL. April 12.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Libraries, Broadband, and Rural Development. Western Illinois Digital Access Conference. Reaching Across Illinois Library System and Western Illinois University. Macomb, IL. April 12.
 - Merrett, Chris, Chris Smith, Honey Zimmerman, and Robert Sinkler. 2024. Corn Belt Ports as Regional Business Clusters: Preliminary Survey Results. Illinois River Carriers Association Quarterly Meeting. East Peoria, IL. April 9.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Discussion of *What the Eyes Don't See*. One Book One Community Event. Western Illinois Museum. Macomb, IL. April 4.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. Rural Development and Higher Education in Illinois. Presentation to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL. March 13.
 - Merrett, Chris. 2024. The Role of Rural Transit in Rural Community Economic Development. Annual Conference of the Illinois Department of Transportation / Rural Transit Assistance Center. Springfield, IL, March 5

Recent IIRA Publications now Available on the IIRA Website (www.iira.org):

- ***Discrimination in Healthcare: Perceptions among LGBTQ Individuals in the Metro and the Nonmetro.*** Abstract: The LGBTQ communities in the nation report experiences of discrimination across many areas of life. This research explores the healthcare experiences of LGBT population in the metro and the nonmetro geographies of the nation. Data are from a national survey of adults conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation and Washington Post during November/December 2022. The results show that the LGBT population is discriminated in healthcare; discriminative practices such as failing to treat the LGBT patient with dignity and respect are more pronounced among the nonmetro.
- ***Geographic Variation in Trauma Deaths in Rural Illinois: A Hypothesis about Trauma Deserts.*** Abstract: This paper explores the association between trauma deserts and trauma mortality using counties in rural Illinois as the geographical unit of analysis. Results of data analysis suggest the typical distance to a trauma center in rural Illinois is 14.5 miles. Further statistical analysis indicates that trauma deserts cannot be defined using the commonly prescribed “five-mile radial distance to the trauma center” criterion. A salient outcome of the research is the listing of distances to nearest trauma center from rural zip codes.
- ***Personal and Environmental Characteristics of People with Schizophrenia in the Midwest Region.*** Abstract: This paper explores the relationships between schizophrenia and demographic variables using data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, 2021. The Midwest census region is the geographical unit of analysis. Statistical analysis of data indicates that the Midwest region is home to 542,537 persons with schizophrenia and although the majority of schizophrenia sufferers are men, the proportion varies among the races; the prevalence of the disease is higher among Hispanic females.
- ***Maternal Mortality in Illinois Counties by Race, 2000-2023.*** Abstract: The Institute of Health Metrics based at the University of Washington, School of Medicine, provides visualization of maternal mortality rates at the county level, but to gather timeseries data and analyze trends in maternal mortality one has to click on the visualization many times. This paper eases this burden; it provides maternal mortality data and change metrics for each of the 102 Illinois counties. Other than a listing of maternal mortality data by race, the paper provides several insights from the data such as: (1) The age-adjusted, typical maternal mortality rate in Illinois is 2.92 for the Whites, 8.89 for the Blacks, and 3.53 for the Hispanics, and (2) Cook County in the metro had the largest MMRs for Blacks and American Indian / Alaskan natives.
- ***Support for Healthy Eating and Active Living in Rural Communities: Insights from a National Survey of Local Governments.*** Abstract: This paper explores local government

policies that facilitate or support healthy eating and active living. Microdata from the “Community Based Survey of Supports for Healthy Eating and Active Living” (CBS HEAL)” were collated to gain insights into healthy living. Data analysis suggests that the nonmetro has fewer municipalities that require installation of dedicated bicycle infrastructure for roadway expansion projects. More than one in five local governments in both the metro and the nonmetro provide tax incentives such as tax abatement, tax credit, or property tax exemption to attract supermarkets and full-service grocery stores to their community.

Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board

Founded in 1992, the **Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB)** Executive Institute provides knowledge and technical assistance to criminal justice practitioners throughout the State of Illinois, and is dedicated to developing leaders in the law enforcement community. Having been located on the campus of Western Illinois University (WIU) since its inception, the organization helps add institutional distinctiveness to the University as we are one of the few Peace Officer Standards and Training executive institutions in the country. As stewards of State resources, the Executive Institute continues to invest in strategic programs that deliver value and provide participants with academically-based knowledge and best practices. Core curriculum, workshops, seminars and executive summits are designed with fiscal responsibility not only for the Executive Institute, but also for those we serve.

This quarter’s contributions to the University community:

- The Executive Institute, one of the leading non-academic departments on campus, is currently managing fifty active grants this fiscal year.
- At every conference and training, the ILETSB Executive Institute either promotes WIU by means of promotional materials/flyers, verbal acknowledgement of WIU alumni in attendance, and collaborative efforts with LEJA, Psychology Department, Social Work Department, Management and Marketing Department, Philosophy Department, etc. Our name/branding is strongly associated with Western Illinois University, which further promotes recruitment/retention initiatives for the University.
- The Executive Institute promotes experiential learning through applied studies in external settings. These applied settings include internships, graduate assistant positions, and practicum students. We partnered with the School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration to support the internship of an undergraduate student in the spring semester. Graduate assistant positions are also filled within the Executive Institute: Applied Statistics and Decision Analytics. The Executive Institute provides opportunities for student development and learning outside the classroom through involvement, leadership, and co-curricular experiences in environments that are supportive, challenging, and inclusive. We continue to support articles authored by interns and practicum students in our weekly newsletter. Additionally, the Executive Institute provides

professional development to all practicum and intern students through attendance and participation at conferences and meetings.

- The Executive Institute facilitated the course “Police Executive Role in the 21st Century,” our flagship course sitting at three weeks in length, at the WIU Quad Cities campus with twenty-three police executives in attendance.
- The Executive Institute has been mentoring the WIU campus organization “Minorities in Blue,” an organization that serves a wide variety of students who wish to pursue a career in the law enforcement field. Additionally, MIB seeks to encourage women and minorities to join the field. This purpose is accomplished through the organization seeking to motivate, enhance, and empower a diverse population of students to become leaders in the Law Enforcement and Justice Administration field by inspiring them to not only become entry-level professionals but also to lead organizations as executives and administrators.
- At the 2024 Women in Criminal Justice Conference in April, Director Hotz sponsored three members to attend the Women in Criminal Justice Conference in April, free of charge. We also highlighted the group at the day one luncheon, where the President of the organization discussed the MIB group at WIU. The group was given approximately 15 minutes in front of all attendees to discuss WIU and their organization.





- Director Hotz provided the group with a table to share information/make connections and highlight their spring fundraiser. Additionally, Director Hotz supported the spring fundraiser for the organization.



- The Executive Institute manages the Emergency Operations Center grant on behalf of the University. Staff continues to attend EOC project meetings with LEJA, McDonough County ESDA, Facilities Management, and Sponsored Projects.
- Continue to support research projects with Department of Psychology at Western Illinois University, as well as the Professional Research Pool for Criminal Justice Science (www.prpforcjscience.org)
- Barend Wurth, Program Manager at the Executive Institute, started as an adjunct professor in the Kinesiology Department this spring semester. He teaches the course PETE235 - Aquatics in the PE Teacher Program. This course teaches students various swimming skills and to experience and understand contemporary aquatic skills and safety issues suitable for instructing PK12 learners to participate in aquatic activities throughout their lifetime.
- The Executive Institute continues to use the UPM and Transportation Services Department for staff that travels to trainings, which for the previous quarter was nearly a daily occurrence.
- We have been a long-standing partner with the Center for the Application of Information Technology (CAIT) on campus, as they not only house our Online Learning Network, but also host our Help Desk and Part-Time Academy. CAIT also assists the Executive Institute with instructional design services, website development, and photographic and video needs. For the past two years CAIT has produced our keynote speaker introductions, which continues to receive high praise. The videos have even reached national level decision makers at the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executive, who have inquired about using CAIT-produced-videos at their conferences as well.

Global Studies

- A record 324 international students graduated from WIU in May 2024; another 190 students are expected to graduate by the end of the calendar year.
- We anticipate additional students for fall 2024 with a focus on undergraduate enrollment, which will likely peak at almost 200 for the first time.
- Study Abroad continues to function with reasonable student interest; we continue to add sites and options;
- Outreach has a record number of attendees for the various summer camps. These are great seeding grounds for future students.

Sponsored Projects

- The Office of Sponsored Projects continues to be busier than ever. Our pre-award specialist is experiencing a higher-than-normal level of proposal submissions and has many exciting proposals being submitted from various areas, interests, and faculty & staff members. Our lone post-award administrator is working hard to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and grant regulations. She continues to work hard in light of two other vacant positions. The Director has assumed one grant portfolio to ease the burden. The Compliance Specialist finished the busy spring semester and is embarking on revising forms over the summer. In addition to the regular day-to-day operations, staff had to opportunities to attend and present at regional and national conferences:
 - NCURA (National Council of University Research Administrators) Financial Research Administration Conference (March 18-19, 2024):
 - *"Effort? Salary Cap? Voluntary Effort? Are We There Yet"* Shannon Sutton, Western Illinois University, Director Sponsored Projects and Diane Hillebrand, University of North Dakota, Assistant Director Research & Sponsored Programs Development.
 - *"OMB Update"* moderated by Shannon Sutton with Steven Mackey, Policy Analyst, Office of Management & Budget.
- NCURA Workshop (March 20, 2024):
 - *"Sponsored Programs Basics: An Overview of the Lifecycle of Sponsored Projects from Two Perspectives"* Shannon Sutton, Western Illinois University, Director Sponsored Projects and Anthony Ventimiglia, Auburn University, Assistant Vice President for Research Administration
- NCURA Pre Award Research Administration Conference March 21-22, 2024):
 - *"The Trusted Advisor"* Kari Woodrum, Western Illinois University, Pre-Award Specialist and Jeffrey Ritchie, Hamilton College, Director Sponsored Programs
 - *"WE: Enhancing Faculty and Sponsored Projects Relationship"* Kari Woodrum, Western Illinois University, Pre-Award Specialist and Shuna McMichael, Occidental College, Director Sponsored Research; Shannon Sutton presented
 - *"Thinking Beyond the Ladder: Contemplating Your Career in Research Administration"* Shannon Sutton, Diane Hillebrand, University of North Dakota, Assistant Director Research & Sponsored Programs Development and Christy Schulz, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Director Research Administration.
 - *"NIFA Policy Updates and IDC-101"* moderated by Shannon Sutton with Kim Lai, US Department of Agriculture, Senior Staff Accountant, and Laura Givens, US Department of Agriculture, Lead Policy Analyst.
- NCURA Region IV Spring Meeting (April 28-May 1, 2024)
 - Shannon Sutton, Kari Woodrum and Allison Meyer attended. Kari and Allison volunteered with packet preparation and event hosts. Shannon hosted a Newcomer's Reception and presented:
 - *"An Introduction to Research Administration"* workshop with Katherine Durben, Marquette University, Executive Director of Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Heather

- Offhaus, University of Michigan, Director of Grant Services Review & Analysis Office, and Roger Wareham, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Director of Office of Grants & Research
- *"Post-Award Basics"* workshop with Heather Offhaus, University of Michigan, Director of Grant Services Review & Analysis Office.
 - *"Effective Monitoring of Policies and Procedures at PUIs"* with Laina Stuebner, University of Wisconsin- Green Bay, Grants & Research Program Specialist.
- Shannon Sutton was invited to serve on the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) Research Administrator Subcommittee. The charge of the subcommittee is to address how research administration and development can foster collaboration among the IIN Hubs and identify common challenges and solutions to removing barriers arising from administration. Most recently she agreed to serve on the "Working with State Agencies (GATA)" working group with colleagues from Northern Illinois University, Illinois State University and Governor's State University.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/7 -- Report on Externally Sponsored Grants and Contracts for the 3rd Quarter

Executive Summary:

Report on externally-sponsored grants and contracts and income-producing contracts received by the University provided to the Board of Trustees on a quarterly basis.

Quarter to Date

Three Months Ended March 31	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Awards > \$50,000	\$5,418,544 (9)	\$4,914,898 (16)	\$2,240,839 (15)
Total Awards, (regardless of value)	\$5,577,371 (16)	\$5,109,380 (24)	\$2,445,825 (36)

Fiscal Year to Date

Nine Months Ended March 31	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY22</u>
Awards > \$50,000	\$16,809,043 (37)	\$15,379,208 (42)	\$35,111,065 (41)
Total Awards, (regardless of value)	\$17,214,985 (61)	\$15,957,618 (73)	\$35,619,229 (83)

Summary of Externally Sponsored Grants and Contracts

<u>Quarterly Totals</u>		<u>Annual Totals</u>	
<u>Quarters</u>			
1st	\$5,197,342 (18)	FY23	\$18,449,768 (88)
2 nd	\$6,440,272 (27)	FY22	\$38,562,123 (114)
3 rd	\$5,577,371 (16)	FY21	\$31,169,325 (121)
4 th	_____	FY20	\$28,516,125 (117)
Total	\$17,214,985 (61)	FY19	\$16,321,791 (124)

Selected Sponsored Projects Funded by External Agencies in the 3rd Quarter FY2024

Grants and Contracts

Amount of Grant or Contract:	\$50,000
Grantor/Contractor:	Corporation for National & Community Service
Date Received:	March 12, 2024
Term:	July 17, 2022 through July 31, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent:	Gisele Hamm
Purpose:	Public Service. The purpose of this project is to support VISTAs and VISTA leaders who work in rural communities across the state of Illinois on various poverty alleviation-focused projects.
Amount of Grant or Contract:	\$60,000
Grantor/Contractor:	Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
Date Received:	January 30, 2024
Term:	July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent:	Sandra Wittig
Purpose:	Public Service. The purpose of the project is to coordinate west-central service providers that perform outreach, marketing, and 1-on-1 technical assistance to hard-to-reach businesses.
Amount of Grant or Contract:	\$62,934
Grantor/Contractor:	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Date Received:	January 15, 2024
Term:	December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent:	Vaskar Nepal
Purpose:	Research. The purpose of this project is to develop physiologically derived habitat models to better understand the effects of climate change on the location and the extent of suitable habitats for five Chesapeake Bay fisheries species.
Amount of Grant or Contract:	\$70,000
Grantor/Contractor:	Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
Date Received:	January 31, 2024
Term:	July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent:	Theresa Ebeler
Purpose:	Public Service. The purpose of this project is to support the FY24 APEX Accelerator program which assists small businesses looking to enter the world of government contracting.

Amount of Grant or Contract: \$87,905
Grantor/Contractor: Illinois Community College Board
Date Received: February 14, 2024
Term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent: Michelle Frederick
Purpose: Public Service. The purpose of this project is to support the improvement and innovation of professional development and technical assistance for adult education and literary priority areas.

Amount of Grant or Contract: \$251,505
Grantor/Contractor: National Institute of Justice
Date Received: January 15, 2024
Term: January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025
Director/Fiscal Agent: Ligu Song
Purpose: Research. The purpose of this project is to develop an LC-DAD-ESI/MS/MS method for the quantification of psychotropic cannabinoids in newly emerging hemp-derived products and evaluation of their stability and interconversion during storage.

Amount of Grant or Contract: \$390,000
Grantor/Contractor: Illinois Community College Board
Date Received: February 14, 2024
Term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent: Michelle Frederick
Purpose: Public Service. The purpose of this project is to support the improvement and innovation of professional development and technical assistance for adult education and literary priority areas.

Amount of Grant or Contract: \$946,200
Grantor/Contractor: Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
Date Received: January 15, 2024
Term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026
Director/Fiscal Agent: Paul Sweet
Purpose: Service. The purpose of this project is to maintain and support the existing DCFS Virtual Training Center (VTC) and the new CWEL Education Fellowship program tracking system.

Amount of Grant or Contract: \$3,500,000
Grantor/Contractor: Illinois Emergency Management Agency
Date Received: January 19, 2024
Term: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
Director/Fiscal Agent: Heather Hotz
Purpose: Public Service. The purpose of this project is to support the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute ASSIST PROGRAM in FY24.

Additional Information

Number of First or Second time Proposals and Awards

Third Quarter:	<u>1st Proposal</u> 4	<u>2nd Proposal</u> 0	<u>1st Award</u> 3	<u>2nd Award</u> 0
Fiscal Year to Date:	<u>1st Proposal</u> 7	<u>2nd Proposal</u> 2	<u>1st Award</u> 4	<u>2nd Award</u> 1

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/8 -- Report on Contributions



Fundraising Progress Report July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Pledges Made	Planned Gifts (FV)*	Total Pledges
\$ 1,234,247	\$ 5,120,362	\$ 6,354,609
Cash Gifts	Gifts-in-Kind	Total Receipts
\$ 4,331,795	\$ 136,634	\$ 4,468,429

	Overall Total	Goal	% to Goal
Fiscal Year	\$ 10,823,038	\$ 8,000,000	135.3%
Campaign	\$ 57,646,281	\$ 100,000,000	57.6%

*Discounted Present Value for the 4 planned gift pledge(s):
\$ 1,983,485

Deferred gifts not included in totals:
\$ 11,350

PURPOSE: Record of fiscal year goals and progress
 AUDIENCE: Internal use for administrators, development officers, and board members
 NOTES: Cash Gifts do not include pledge payments.
 Gifts-in-kind do not include service or noncharitable gifts-in-kind.
 Printed on 2024-05-13

Fundraising Progress Report July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

COLLEGE/UNIT	PLEDGES	GIFTS	GIFTS- IN-KIND	PLANNED GIFTS	FISCAL YEAR TOTAL	PREVIOUS FY TOTAL
CAS	223,529	675,186	8,058	0	906,773	2,359,793
CBT	45,489	596,345	0	5,000,000	5,641,834	1,001,932
COEHS	34,517	429,468	1,000	0	464,985	424,095
COFAC	80,923	467,755	13,947	60,362	622,987	341,528
ATHLETICS	25,063	377,657	34,188	0	436,908	598,659
STUDENT SUCCESS	16,403	167,760	65,600	0	249,763	140,193
LIBRARY	134	30,630	597	0	31,361	116,168
HONORS	372	21,225	0	0	21,597	13,608
GLOBAL STUDIES	3,910	5,775	0	0	9,685	10,630
QC	4,322	66,912	0	0	71,234	166,903
ALUMNI	4,154	44,268	179	0	48,601	59,072
BGS	1,700	5,770	0	0	7,470	7,626
PFA	0	25	0	0	25	0
UNIV SCHOLARSHIPS	609,068	252,478	0	60,000	921,546	280,274
TRI-STATES RADIO	138,140	162,679	0	0	300,819	298,785
WQPT	9,369	525,086	12,310	0	546,765	610,038
OTHER	37,153	502,776	755	0	540,684	16,459,113
UNIVERSITY TOTALS:	1,234,247	4,331,795	136,634	5,120,362	10,823,038	22,888,417

PURPOSE: Record of fiscal year progress by unit

AUDIENCE: Internal use for administrators, development officers, and board members

NOTES: Gifts do not include pledge payments.

Radio is separate from COFAC; Parent and Family Association is separate from Student Services.

Gifts-in-kind do not include service or noncharitable gifts-in-kind.

Printed on 2024-05-13

Annual Fund Report July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

COLLEGE/UNIT	TOTAL PLEDGE AMT	PREV FY PLEDGE AMT	AVERAGE PLEDGE AMT	PLEDGES PAID	OUTRIGHT GIFTS	*TOTAL RECEIVED	*PREV FY RECEIVED
CAS	7,205	23,729	100	4,968	70,620	75,587	145,312
CBT	18,805	33,178	125	10,538	96,281	106,819	346,802
COEHS	4,560	23,465	97	2,880	46,714	49,594	160,666
COFAC	15,992	22,868	363	12,448	87,948	100,395	244,868
ATHLETICS	21,897	68,641	348	16,805	403,206	420,012	493,712
STUDENT SUCCESS	5,274	7,493	143	3,329	86,695	90,024	100,934
LIBRARY	134	752	67	91	24,580	24,671	14,997
HONORS	0	898	0	0	275	275	12,048
GLOBAL STUDIES	2,590	1,655	70	345	1,775	2,120	5,345
QC	2,180	2,355	727	1,115	1,916	3,031	5,944
ALUMNI	3,805	4,344	109	2,915	22,489	25,404	52,923
BGS	1,700	630	59	1,030	3,120	4,150	7,396
PFA	0	0	0	0	25	25	0
UNIV SCHOLARSHIPS	17,468	24,088	178	14,257	49,254	63,510	133,065
TRI-STATES RADIO	138,140	146,007	296	111,813	157,029	268,842	288,235
WQPT	9,369	9,227	116	2,757	515,086	517,843	592,751
OTHER	21,955	44,744	563	18,044	59,535	77,579	194,163
Total	271,076	414,074	225	203,336	1,626,547	1,829,883	2,799,161

****Total Annual Fund: \$1,897,623**

PURPOSE: Record of fiscal year Annual Fund totals by Unit; includes Phonathon and President's Scholarship totals.

AUDIENCE: Internal use for administrators, development officers, and board members.

NOTES:

*Total Received equals Income (Pledges Paid + Cash).

**Total Annual Fund equals sum of Pledges and Cash.

Radio is separate from COFAC; Parent and Family Association is separate from Student Services.

Printed on 2024-05-13

Phonathon Report July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

COLLEGE/UNIT	TOTAL PLEDGE AMT	PREV FY PLEDGE AMT	AVERAGE PLEDGE AMT	PLEDGES PAID	OUTRIGHT GIFTS	*TOTAL RECEIVED	*PREV FY RECEIVED
CAS	5,685	13,180	84	3,680	125	3,805	11,115
CBT	11,885	18,645	82	4,810	155	4,965	12,730
COEHS	3,240	12,995	74	1,870	60	1,930	7,750
COFAC	1,400	4,365	70	955	25	980	2,465
ATHLETICS	1,640	1,127	117	75	100	175	810
STUDENT SUCCESS	1,505	3,635	60	695	25	720	700
LIBRARY	25	618	25	0	30	30	438
HONORS	0	250	0	0	0	0	0
GLOBAL STUDIES	2,590	335	70	345	0	345	50
QC	0	580	0	0	0	0	165
ALUMNI	3,635	3,445	110	2,835	1,175	4,010	2,100
BGS	1,700	630	59	1,030	85	1,115	500
PFA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UNIV SCHOLARSHIPS	15,010	15,983	156	11,840	6,235	18,075	15,918
TRI-STATES RADIO	50	100	50	50	0	50	0
WQPT	0	70	0	0	0	0	50
OTHER	2,566	9,386	78	1,625	10	1,635	4,527
Total	50,931	85,344	93	29,810	8,025	37,835	59,318

****Total Phonathon: \$58,956**

PURPOSE: Record of fiscal year Phonathon totals by Unit.
 AUDIENCE: Internal use for administrators, development officers, and board members.
 NOTES:
 *Total Received equals Income (Pledges Paid + Cash).
 **Total Phonathon equals sum of Pledges and Cash.
 Radio is separate from COFAC; Parent and Family Association is separate from Student Services.
 Printed on 2024-05-13

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Report No. 24.6/9 -- Report on External Audits

This is a report of the activity and the results of the FY 2023 Annual External Financial Audit, Compliance Examination, and other outsourced audits.

Annual External Financial Audit and Compliance Examination FY 2023

- A. Financial Audit – 0 findings
- B. Compliance Examination – total findings 10:
 - 1. Inadequate Internal Control over Student Enrollment Reporting (repeat)
 - 2. Inadequate Internal Controls over Return of Title IV Funds (new)
 - 3. Inadequate Internal Controls over Verification Requirements (new)
 - 4. Lack of Adequate Change Control (new)
 - 5. Lack of Adequate Controls over the Review of Internal Controls over Service Providers (repeat)
 - 6. Security Related Weaknesses (new)
 - 7. Weakness in Cybersecurity Programs and Practices (repeat)
 - 8. Lack of Access Reviews and Inappropriate Screen Access (new)
 - 9. Weakness with Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (new)
 - 10. Untimely recognition of equipment acquisitions and disposals (new)

Full detail of these audits may be found on the State of Illinois Auditor General's Website:

<http://www.auditor.illinois.gov/Audit-Reports/WESTERN-ILLINOIS-UNIVERSITY.asp>

Other External/Outsourced Audits, Regulatory Reviews, or Agreed-Upon Procedures:

- 1. NCAA – Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures – June 30, 2023
- 2. WIUM-FM/WIUW-FM Radio Financial Statements & Independent Auditors' Report – June 30, 2023
- 3. Western Illinois University Foundation Financial Statements & Independent Auditors' Report – June 30, 2023
- 4. WQPT-TV Financial Statements & Independent Auditors' Report – June 30, 2023

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/1 -- Interim President, Dr. Kristi Mindrup Employment
Contract

Resolution:

WHEREAS, Dr. Guiyou Huang stepped down as the president of Western Illinois University, effective March 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kristi Mindrup has agreed to serve as interim president of Western Illinois University beginning on April 1, 2024, until that time when a permanent successor can be named;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois approves the following agreement setting forth Dr. Mindrup's conditions of employment while she serves as interim president.

INTERIM PRESIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This Interim Presidential Employment Agreement (the “Agreement”) is made and entered into as of this 4th day of June 2024, by and between the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University (“the Board”) and Dr. Kristi Mindrup (“Dr. Mindrup” or the “Interim President”). The Board and the Interim President are collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

Article I

RECITALS

01.01 The Board is an arm and agency of the state of Illinois and a body politic and corporate with its principal places of business in Macomb and Moline, Illinois. The Board was created by statute to, *inter alia*, operate, manage, control, and maintain Western Illinois University, 110 ILCS 690/35-1, et seq.

01.02 The Board desires to employ Dr. Kristi Mindrup to serve as Interim President of Western Illinois University (“the University”) pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Dr. Mindrup wishes to serve as Interim President under the terms provided herein. In consideration of the promises, releases, representations, covenants, and obligations contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration the sufficiency of which is acknowledged, the Parties agree to the terms set forth below.

Article II

THE BOARD’S AGREEMENTS WITH THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

02.01 Employment. The Board hereby employs Dr. Mindrup as the Interim President of Western Illinois University for a term commencing April 1, 2024, and ending when a permanent president is named and begins employment, no earlier than June 30, 2025. Dr. Mindrup hereby accepts such employment on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

02.02 CEO. The Interim President shall be the University’s Chief Executive Officer and shall have full authority and responsibility within the framework of the general policies determined by the Board for the organization, direction, and supervision of the University and for its effective administration and management.

02.03 Duties. The Interim President shall report directly to the Board, and, subject to the Interim President’s Agreements under Article III, shall perform those services and duties that are consistent with the position as Interim President of the University, that are required of the President of the University by law, and which may be assigned to her by or under the authority of the Board consistent with her position as Interim President, including the following:

- a. provide general leadership for the University;
- b. make recommendations concerning the mission, scope, and organization of the University and concerning plans and policies for the development and enhancement of University operations and activities;
- c. Administer and direct University plans, operations, programs, and activities in the areas of academic affairs, administrative and fiscal affairs, student affairs, and public affairs and development;
- d. serve, under the general direction of the Board, as the principal spokesperson and representative for the University with the Governor and General Assembly, Illinois Board of Higher Education, and other external constituencies;
- e. develop and maintain positive public relations, including establishment of rapport between the University and the regions in which it is located and the public which it serves;
- f. make recommendations concerning the initiation, continuation, or modification of University programs and activities;
- g. make recommendations concerning the operating and capital budget requests, appropriation requests, and internal budgets of the University;
- h. make appointments of such officers and employees as may be designated by the Board; and
- i. perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Board or established by statute of the state of Illinois or by the written rules, regulations, bylaws and policies of Western Illinois University.

02.04 Compensation and Benefits. As compensation for the services to be performed, the Interim President shall receive the following:

- a. Base Salary. The Board has offered the Interim President an initial annual base salary in the amount of \$300,000. At the Interim President's request, that amount has been reduced by 10% to support the University's financial sustainability. The Interim President shall thus receive an initial annual base salary in the amount of \$270,000, payable in equal monthly installments in accordance with the appropriate University payroll schedule. Salary shall include deductions for state and federal taxes and employee benefits. At any point during the term of this Agreement, the Board, in its discretion, may increase (but not decrease) the Interim President's base salary as set forth in subsection (b), below. In the event that the Board determines that an increase is warranted, such increased amount shall thereafter become the Interim President's base salary.

- b. Increase. The base salary provided for in Section 02.04.a of this Agreement shall be subject to such increases as the Board may determine from time to time. Any salary reviews may be based upon a determination by the Board during the Interim President's annual evaluation that the Interim President has attained substantial progress towards the satisfaction of the Interim Presidential goals/ accomplishments, which have been mutually agreed upon by the Interim President and the Board (or its designated committee) in writing.
- c. Evaluation of the Interim President. The Board is required by law to review the President's performance on an annual basis. The evaluation will occur in Spring Semester 2025, if Dr. Mindrup remains in position, with performance metrics to be determined at a later date in consultation with the Interim President and approved by the Board of Trustees.
- d. Retirement. The University will make contributions to the State University Retirement System on the Interim President's behalf pursuant to the schedule applicable to administrative employees of the University.
- e. Insurance. The Interim President shall receive health insurance benefits, life insurance benefits, workers' compensation coverage, and other such benefits accorded to administrative and professional employees of the Board that are authorized by law or rule.
- f. Sick Leave. The Interim President shall be entitled to sick leave benefits equal to one and one-half days per calendar month, which days may be accumulated up to the maximum number specified by the Board's Regulations, plus such non-cumulative days provided on an annual basis, as are specified by the Board's Regulations.
- g. Vacation. The Interim President shall be entitled to paid vacation consisting of two working days per calendar month, which days may be accumulated up to the maximum number specified by the Board's Regulations.
- h. Office. The Interim President shall be provided a private office, office support staff, and such other facilities and services suitable to the position and adequate for the performance of the duties of Interim President.
- i. University Residence. For the university's convenience, the Board shall provide the Interim President and her family and guests full access to the University President's residence during the term of this Agreement. The Interim President shall conduct such university business at the residence as she deems appropriate, including the hosting of official, university events, the catering costs of which, along with other reasonable, related expenses, shall be paid by the University. The Interim President shall review the nature, extent, and cost of any such official events periodically with the Chair of the Board.
- j. Automobile. The Interim President shall be entitled to an automobile for

University business and personal use. This automobile shall be maintained by the University. Fuel for business use thereof shall be paid by the University. The University shall be responsible for insurance coverage for the automobile. On a quarterly basis, the Interim President shall provide a record of the personal-use miles which shall be reported as income to the Interim President for tax purposes.

- k. Travel. The University shall pay reasonable travel expenses, hotel bills, and other necessary and proper expenses for the Interim President while she is traveling on University business, including the reimbursement of mileage for one weekly round-trip drive between the Macomb and Quad City campuses if made in the Interim President's personal vehicle. The University shall also pay the reasonable travel expenses for the Interim President's spouse to accompany the Interim President on no more than two out-of-state professional business trips per year.
- l. Professional Organizations. The University shall reimburse the Interim President for dues and costs of membership for any professional or civic organizations to which the Interim President may from time to time belong. Such costs shall be reviewed periodically by the Chair of the Board.
- m. Entertainment. The University shall pay for or reimburse the Interim President for all official entertainment, the nature, extent, and cost of which shall be reviewed periodically with the Chair of the Board.
- n. Outside Activity. Although the Interim President shall devote substantially all of her business time and efforts to fulfilling her duties as Interim President, she may serve on two (2) outside compensated boards that do not compete or present a conflict of interest with respect to the University, subject to the prior written approval of the Chair of the Board of Trustees. Such approval shall not to be unreasonably withheld. In addition, other outside commitments (whether paid or unpaid) that may require a substantial amount of the Interim President's time must be approved in advance and in writing by the Chair of the Board of Trustees. The Interim President may not engage in any outside activity that the Board of Trustees reasonably concludes presents a conflict of interest or would otherwise materially impair her ability to perform her official duties under this Agreement. All compensation received by the Interim President in connection with approved outside activities shall be paid to and retained by the Interim President and reported in accordance with applicable tax law and University policies as they exist from time to time, with no effect on the amount of salary, benefits, or other compensation to which the Interim President may be entitled under this Agreement. By contrast, all honoraria, gifts, or other payments received for activities conducted in the Interim President's capacity and in the performance of her duties as Interim President shall be remitted to the University. Whether such standard is met shall be subject to a good-faith determination by the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Article III

THE INTERIM PRESIDENT'S AGREEMENTS WITH THE BOARD

03.01 Discharge of Duties. The Interim President agrees as Interim President of the University to discharge the authority and responsibilities delegated by the Board. The Interim President agrees to remain responsible to the Board for the execution of the Board's Governing Policies and Regulations as they exist or may, from time to time, be amended. The Interim President agrees to discharge the authority and responsibilities delegated to her by the Board and to consult with the Board and such constituencies as are appropriate.

03.02 Board Review. The Interim President shall assist the Board in conducting annual performance reviews by furnishing such oral and written reports as the Board may from time to time request.

Article IV

THE MUTUAL AGREEMENTS OF THE INTERIM PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD

04.01 Interim Term. This interim appointment will begin on April 1, 2024, and will end upon the appointment of and commencement of employment by a permanent president, no earlier than June 30, 2025.

04.02 Termination. Notwithstanding the termination date set forth in Section 04.01, this Agreement may be terminated by any of the following:

- a. the mutual agreement of the parties;
- b. the resignation of the Interim President;
- c. the mental or physical disability or incapacity of the Interim President;
- d. termination for "cause," in accordance with the provisions of Section 04.03 of this Agreement; or
- e. termination or reassignment of the Interim President without "cause," in accordance with Section 04.04 of this Agreement.

04.03 Termination for Cause. The Board may, by agreement of majority vote of the full Board, terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the Interim President prior to the expiration of the term of this Agreement. If the Board terminates this Agreement for cause,

the Board shall have no obligation to pay the Interim President any salary or benefits after the effective date of the termination of the Interim President's employment, except any accrued but unpaid salary and benefits as of the date of the Interim President's termination. As used in this Agreement, cause includes but is not limited to:

- a. violation of any material provision of this Agreement;
- b. material acts of dishonesty or disloyalty in the conduct of the affairs of the Interim President;
- c. falsification or intentional misrepresentation of material information concerning the University's affairs, as reasonably requested by or under the authority of the Board, or failure to disclose to the Board material information concerning the University's affairs;
- d. conviction of a crime involving acts constituting fraud, intentional dishonesty, moral turpitude, or any other activity that materially compromises the reputation of the Board or the University;
- e. violation of any material policies or procedures, now existing or hereafter established, by the Board; or
- f. being under the influence of any illegal controlled substances while performing the functions of the office of President or conviction of any offense involving alcohol or illegal controlled substances and the operation of a university vehicle.

Provided further that, before termination for cause is effective, the Board will give the Interim President a meaningful opportunity to be heard, present written position papers, and present testimony and other evidence at a hearing called by the Board to consider termination of the Interim President's employment.

04.04 Termination Without Cause. The Board may, by agreement of majority vote of the full Board, terminate this Agreement without cause or reassign the Interim President without cause. The effective date of any termination or reassignment under this section shall be no less than thirty (30) days after the date of termination or reassignment vote. The parties acknowledge the provisions of Section 35-190 of the Western Illinois University Law, 110 ILCS 690/35, and 5 ILCS 415/10, governing severance pay. If the Board terminates this Agreement and the Interim President's position as Interim President without cause at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Interim President will be entitled to receive: (i) any accrued benefit time and benefits and (ii) last paycheck, in accordance with the University's normal payroll practices, equal to her then-current presidential base salary (less applicable deductions).

In addition, if the Board terminates the Interim President without cause, the Interim President shall be entitled, at her sole discretion, to join any administrative unit of the University that is

determined by the Interim President, in consultation with the Board Chair and the relevant administrative-unit head, to have operational need for additional staffing. In such an event, the Interim President shall receive the salary and benefit structure previously associated with such a position. Any such reassignment shall be consistent with the terms of Article 24.3 of the 2023—2026 WIU/UPI Agreement.

04.05 Resignation. The Interim President may terminate this Agreement and her appointment as Interim President by providing the Board with at least ninety (90) days prior written notice. In the event the Interim President resigns from the Interim Presidency, the Interim President will not be entitled to any further compensation or benefits as Interim President other than any accrued rights or benefits. During the period from the notice of Interim President's resignation through her last day serving as Interim President of the University, the Interim President shall fulfill her duties as Interim President and shall cooperate and provide reasonable assistance in the transition to a new University president.

In addition, if the Interim President terminates this Agreement under this section, she shall be entitled, at her sole discretion, to join any administrative unit of the University that is determined by the Interim President, in consultation with the Board Chair and the relevant administrative-unit head, to have operational need for additional staffing. In such an event, the Interim President shall receive the salary and benefit structure previously associated with such a position. Any such reassignment shall be consistent with the terms of Article 24.3 of the 2023—2026 WIU/UPI Agreement.

04.06 Permanent President Named. The selection of an individual other than the Interim President to serve as the University's permanent president shall be deemed a termination without cause and be subject to Section 4.04.

In the event that such a permanent president is named, the Interim President shall be entitled, at her sole discretion, to join any administrative unit of the University that is determined by the Interim President, in consultation with the Board Chair and the relevant administrative-unit head, to have operational need for additional staffing. In such an event, the Interim President shall receive the salary and benefit structure previously associated with such a position. Any such reassignment shall be consistent with the terms of Article 24.3 of the 2023—2026 WIU/UPI Agreement.

04.07 Dispute Resolution. The Parties agree to make a good-faith effort to resolve any dispute arising from the Interim President's employment or termination of employment in an amicable fashion.

- a. Mediation. To the extent that any dispute arising from the Interim President's employment or termination of employment cannot be resolved amicably, the Parties agree to submit the dispute to non-binding mediation. Mediation shall be conducted within the state of Illinois by an experienced mediator selected jointly by the Parties. The mediator's fee shall be shared equally between the Parties. Mediation shall occur within thirty (30) days of the date of selection of the mediator.

- b. Arbitration. If the mediation is unsuccessful, the dispute will be submitted to arbitration, initiated and conducted according to either the JAMS Streamlined (for claims under \$250,000) Arbitration Rules and Procedures or the JAMS Comprehensive (for claims over \$250,000) Arbitration Rules and Procedures of JAMS or its successor, except as modified herein, in effect at the time the request for arbitration is made. The arbitration shall be conducted within the state of Illinois before a single neutral arbitrator appointed in accordance with the JAMS Arbitration Rules. The arbitrator shall follow Illinois law and the Illinois Rules of Evidence in adjudicating the dispute and shall retain jurisdiction to oversee the enforcement of any award. Subject to the ability of the Parties hereto to vacate a decision or award under the Federal Arbitration Act, any decision or award of the arbitrator shall be final, binding, and conclusive on the Parties hereto and their respective affiliates, as applicable. The Parties agree to divide the cost of any arbitration administrative fee and the compensation of the arbitrator equally.

04.08 Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code. This Agreement is intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (“Section 409A”). Accordingly, all reimbursements and benefits provided under this Agreement will be made or provided in accordance with the requirements of Section 409A.

Article V

OTHER MUTUAL AGREEMENTS

05.01 Notices. All notices required or allowed by this Agreement must be hand delivered or mailed by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. Unless and until changed by a Party giving written notice to the other, the addresses below will be the addresses to which all notices required or allowed by this Agreement must be sent:

If to the University:

Chair of the Board of Trustees
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455

If to the Interim President:

Dr. Kristi Mindrup
Western Illinois
University
Office of the President
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455

Delivery of any such notice shall be deemed to occur on the earlier of actual receipt or tender and rejection by the intended recipient.

05.02 Invalidity. If any provision of this Agreement is adjudged to be void or otherwise unenforceable, in whole or in part, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Agreement. This provision applies even if, by statute or rule, part of the arbitration provisions of this Agreement are unenforceable.

05.03 Non-Appropriation. Obligations of the Board shall cease immediately without penalty or further payment being required if, in any fiscal year, the Illinois General Assembly or federal funding source fails to appropriate or otherwise make available funds for this Agreement, or if the appropriation is not sufficient. In such a circumstance, the Board shall notify the Interim President and the Interim President shall have the right immediately to terminate this Agreement.

05.04 Professional Development. The Interim President shall be entitled to expend up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) annually in payment for professional development activities to ensure her fulfillment of the presidential duties relating to the mission of the

University. The amount can be expended in the Interim President's discretion, subject to appropriate expense documentation being submitted to the Board Chair.

05.05 Full Understanding. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the Parties hereto and supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous representations or agreements, whether written or oral, between the Parties, and cannot be changed or modified (except by operation of Section 04.07) unless in writing signed by the Parties hereto.

05.06 Illinois Law. This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Illinois, which shall be the forum for any lawsuit arising from or incident to this Agreement.

05.07 No Waiver. No delay or failure to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall constitute a waiver or limitation of rights enforceable under this Agreement.

05.08 No Assignment. This Agreement is not assignable but shall be binding upon the heirs, administrators, representatives, and successors of both Parties.

05.09 Disability. The provisions of the Board's regulations concerning compulsory disability leave shall apply to the Interim President and this Agreement may be terminated in accordance therewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Interim President and the authorized representative of the Board have executed this Agreement on the day first written above.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

INTERIM PRESIDENT

BY: _____
Carin Stutz, Chair

Dr. Kristi Mindrup

Date: _____

Date: _____

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/2 -- Fiscal Year 2024 Preliminary Spending Plan

Resolution:

WHEREAS Western Illinois University prepares a preliminary spending plan prior to July 1 for State Appropriated, University Income, Auxiliary and All Other Funds for the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois State Legislature and the Governor; and,

WHEREAS this spending plan seeks Board of Trustees approval prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS this spending plan reflects Western's tradition of strong, conservative fiscal management and resource allocation to support goals and priorities stated in *Higher Values in Higher Education* and Western Illinois University's *Mission Statement*:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the FY2025 spending plan as presented in the FY2025 spending plan document, and be it further resolved that the President be authorized to make technical adjustments in these budgets if necessary.

The *Fiscal Year 2025 Preliminary Spending Plan* for State Appropriated, University Income, Auxiliary and All Other Funds is displayed in the table below.

	State Appropriated Funds	University Income Funds	Auxiliary Facilities System Funds	Other Non- Appropriated Funds	Total
Personnel Services	\$ 54,081,700	\$ 14,655,833	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 13,000,000	\$ 90,737,533
Medicare	800,000	197,604	120,000	1,750,000	2,867,604
Contractual Services	-	12,624,069	14,500,000	14,000,000	41,124,069
Travel	-	175,000	35,000	400,000	610,000
Commodities	-	750,000	1,100,000	1,600,000	3,450,000
Equipment	-	1,250,000	100,000	1,500,000	2,850,000
Awards & Grants and Matching Funds	-	14,000,000	1,300,000	19,700,000	35,000,000
Telecommunication Services	-	110,000	1,000	200,000	311,000
Operation of Automotive Equipment	-	112,700	70,000	275,000	457,700
Permanent Improvements	-	100,000	75,000	500,000	675,000
CMS Health Insurance	1,944,800	-	-	1,350,000	3,294,800
Other	-	-	9,799,000	2,125,000	11,924,000
Total FY2025 Operating Budget	\$ 56,826,500	\$ 43,975,206	\$ 36,100,000	\$ 56,400,000	\$ 193,301,706

As of May 29, 2024, the Illinois General Assembly passed an operating bill for Illinois higher education. Therefore, the University's FY25 preliminary spending plan for state appropriated funds is presented at passed appropriation of \$56,826,500. This is a 2% increase from FY24 state appropriated funds.

The Income Fund budget reflects the necessary projected FY25 salary and operating obligations. In order to balance this spending plan with projected revenue for FY25, the University would need to identify further expense reductions.

Western Illinois University's *Fiscal Year 2025 All-Funds Operating Budget* will be presented to the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees in September 2024 and will include income projections based on fall enrollment.

Table 2
Western Illinois University
Fiscal Year 2022 Through 2024 All-Funds Budget

	State Appropriated Funds	University Income Funds	Auxiliary Facilities System Funds	Other Non- Appropriated Funds	Total
Fiscal Year 2022					
Personnel Services	\$ 46,843,200	\$ 30,656,800	\$ 8,960,000	\$ 12,100,000	\$ 98,560,000
Medicare	800,000	800,000	120,000	150,000	1,870,000
Contractual Services	-	10,600,000	14,250,000	13,850,000	38,700,000
Travel	-	300,000	37,500	350,000	687,500
Commodities	-	1,680,200	350,000	2,000,000	4,030,200
Equipment	-	2,250,000	100,000	2,825,000	5,175,000
Awards & Grants and Matching Funds	-	13,850,000	1,800,000	25,000,000	40,650,000
Telecommunication Services	-	250,000	20,000	175,000	445,000
Operation of Automotive Equipment	-	150,000	70,000	300,000	520,000
Permanent Improvements	-	375,000	300,000	300,000	975,000
CMS Health Insurance	1,944,800	-	-	1,200,000	3,144,800
Other	-	-	10,792,500	250,000	11,042,500
Total FY2022 Operating Budget	\$ 49,588,000	\$ 60,912,000	\$ 36,800,000	\$ 58,500,000	\$ 205,800,000
Fiscal Year 2023					
Personnel Services	\$ 49,322,600	\$ 28,177,400	\$ 9,500,000	\$ 12,200,000	\$ 99,200,000
Medicare	800,000	800,000	120,000	225,000	1,945,000
Contractual Services	-	12,350,000	15,350,000	12,950,000	40,650,000
Travel	-	250,000	33,000	300,000	583,000
Commodities	-	900,000	1,000,000	1,600,000	3,500,000
Equipment	-	2,247,200	250,000	3,025,000	5,522,200
Awards & Grants and Matching Funds	-	20,983,000	1,300,000	24,750,000	47,033,000
Telecommunication Services	-	150,000	2,000	275,000	427,000
Operation of Automotive Equipment	-	175,000	70,000	300,000	545,000
Permanent Improvements	-	100,000	275,000	275,000	650,000
CMS Health Insurance	1,944,800	-	-	1,200,000	3,144,800
Other	-	-	9,800,000	400,000	10,200,000
Total FY2023 Operating Budget	\$ 52,067,400	\$ 66,132,600	\$ 37,700,000	\$ 57,500,000	\$ 213,400,000
Fiscal Year 2024					
Personnel Services	\$ 52,967,400	\$ 27,532,600	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 13,500,000	\$ 104,000,000
Medicare	800,000	800,000	120,000	250,000	1,970,000
Contractual Services	-	12,250,000	15,750,000	13,500,000	41,500,000
Travel	-	360,000	35,000	300,000	695,000
Commodities	-	975,000	1,085,000	1,500,000	3,560,000
Equipment	-	2,000,000	100,000	2,200,000	4,300,000
Awards & Grants and Matching Funds	-	15,300,000	1,300,000	22,000,000	38,600,000
Telecommunication Services	-	150,000	-	175,000	325,000
Operation of Automotive Equipment	-	235,000	85,000	300,000	620,000
Permanent Improvements	-	180,000	75,000	175,000	430,000
CMS Health Insurance	1,944,800	-	-	1,100,000	3,044,800
Other	-	-	9,550,000	1,400,000	10,950,000
Total FY2024 Operating Budget	\$ 55,712,200	\$ 59,782,600	\$ 38,100,000	\$ 56,400,000	\$ 209,994,800

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/3 -- New Degree Program – BA in Public Relations

Resolution:

WHEREAS, Governor JB Pritzker’s vision for creating an economy in Illinois that works for everyone, *A Plan to Revitalize the Illinois Economy and Build the Workforce of the Future* (October, 2019) (<https://dceo.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/dceo/documents/illinoiseconomicplan2019-10-9-2019.pdf>) states, “A well-trained, diverse, and skilled workforce is key to attracting new businesses and helping current Illinois businesses thrive”; and

WHEREAS, Goal 3 of *The Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success* is to “increase the number of high-quality post-secondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy and an increasingly global society”, and Recommendation 3 is to “Increase the number of postsecondary degrees in fields of critical skills shortages” (https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/070109_PublicAgenda.pdf); and

WHEREAS, Goal 1 of Western Illinois University’s Strategic Plan, “Higher Values in Higher Education 2022–2027,” (https://www.wiu.edu/aasp/university_planning/pdfreports/plansandupdates/HVHE-2022-2027.pdf) is to Enrich Academic Excellence, and Action 7 is to “Enhance and deliver accessible academic programming within and across disciplines”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations degree program is composed of courses from the Broadcasting and Journalism discipline and the Communication discipline; and

WHEREAS, the School of Communication and Media was created by merging the Department of Broadcasting and Journalism with the Department of Communication (effective July 1, 2024) to facilitate collaboration between related disciplines; and

WHEREAS, prospective students attending Discover Western programs who intend to become public relations specialists have frequently expressed their disappointment that WIU does not offer an autonomous degree program in Public Relations because they prefer a degree program with the Public Relations title, and have therefore decided to seek this degree at other institutions; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated need for a Public Relations undergraduate degree program in the region, and the public relations specialist field is projected to grow 6% faster than the average for all occupations from 2022 to 2032, as indicated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/public-relations-specialists.htm>):

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University approves the Bachelor of Arts degree program in Public Relations as presented.

The Bachelor of Arts degree program in Public Relations is designed to provide an autonomous, dynamic, and popular major which is of interest to current students and has the potential to attract new students to WIU who may otherwise decide to attend other institutions. The objectives of the degree program are to prepare students who, upon successful completion of this program, will be able to:

- demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental theories, principles, and practices of public relations, including its historical development, ethical considerations, and its role in society;
- acquire knowledge of the specific processes involved in public relations campaigns across various contexts and for diverse publics, including problem definition, strategy and tactic development, and evaluation;
- develop effective writing skills essential for successful public relations practices across diverse media platforms;
- develop skills in conducting both quantitative and qualitative research, along with data analysis; and
- demonstrate an understanding of the ethical principles and legal regulations governing public relations practices.

Western Illinois University currently offers an Advertising and Public Relations option within the B.A. in Broadcasting and Journalism degree program. The proposed degree program elevates this option to an autonomous degree program and focuses on the Public Relations aspect. In conjunction with approval of the proposed degree program, the existing option will enter phase-out.

Students who wish to be admitted to the Bachelor of Arts degree program in Public Relations must satisfy the standards for admission to Western Illinois University. The degree program requires students to complete 120 semester hours, including 33 s.h. of core courses and 9 s.h. of directed electives.

Initially, this degree program will be offered at the Macomb campus as a face-to-face program. Growth opportunities to expand to the Quad Cities campus and/or an online offering will be re-evaluated when staffing levels are sufficient to merit such consideration.

The degree program will be administered by the newly formed School of Communication and Media within the College of Fine Arts and Communication. It is anticipated that 10 students will enroll in the degree program during its first year of operation. By the fifth year of operation, the program is anticipated to grow to approximately 25 program majors with 8 degrees awarded annually.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/4 -- Tenure Recommendations for 2024-2025

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the attached tenure recommendations are in accordance with Article 20 of the 2023-2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement with UPI Local 4100 and applicable Board Regulations:

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University approves, as presented, the tenure recommendations for 2023-2024.

Tenure Recommendations - June 8, 2023 BOT Meeting

TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS			
NAME	DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL	DEGREE	RANK
Arts and Sciences			
Determan, John J.	Chemistry	Ph.D.	Associate
Business and Technology			
Chauhan, Haritima S.	Accounting, Finance, Economics & Decision Sciences	Ph.D.	Associate
Henning, Shelby	Agriculture	Ph.D.	Associate
Hsu, Yu-Ping	Engineering and Technology	Ph.D.	Associate
Shamsuddoha, Mohammad	Management and Marketing	Ph.D.	Associate
Education & Human Services			
Daugherty, Glenn R.	Law Enforcement and Justice Administration	Ph.D.	Associate
Rockwood, Pamela R.	Education	Ph.D.	Associate
Narvaez, Miguel	Kinesiology	Ph.D.	Associate
Fine Arts and Communication			
Chin, Hong-Da	Music	Ph.D.	Associate
Cox, Julie L.	Speech Pathology and Audiology	Ph.D.	Associate
Gardner, Jena E.	Music	Ph.D.	Associate
Kamminga-Peck, Hadley	Theatre and Dance	Ph.D.	Associate
Lewis, Adam	Theatre and Dance	M.S.	Associate
Library			
Dean and Admin			
NEGATIVE TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS			
NAME	DEPARTMENT/UNIT	DEGREE	RANK
None			
13 candidates recommended			

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/5 -- Release of Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University must comply with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act requires public bodies periodically to review their closed session written minutes on at least a semi-annual basis to determine what parts of the minutes should be made available to the public because they no longer require confidential treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the closed-session written minutes of September 27, 2018; October 3, 2019; December 12, 2019; December 13, 2019; April 30, 2020; June 11, 2020; November 5, 2020; December 17, 2020; March 25, 2021; June 10, 2021; September 9, 2021; December 1, 2021; March 10, 2022; June 9, 2022; November 30, 2022; March 23, 2023; June 7, 2023; October 12, 2023; December 4, 2023; and March 21, 2024, to determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists with respect to all or part of the minutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act permits the Board of Trustees to approve the destruction of the verbatim record no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the verbatim record of the closed sessions held on June 9, 2022 and November 30, 2022, to determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists and whether to destroy the verbatim audio recordings;

THEREFORE, be it resolved as follows:

1. The Board has determined that the need for confidentiality of the closed-session written minutes dated September 27, 2018; October 3, 2019; December 12, 2019; December 13, 2019; April 30, 2020; June 11, 2020; November 5, 2020; December 17, 2020; March 25, 2021; June 10, 2021; September 9, 2021; December 1, 2021; March 10, 2022; June 9, 2022; November 30, 2022; March 23, 2023; June 7, 2023; October 12, 2023; December

4, 2023; and March 21, 2024, still exists and the written minutes shall be retained as confidential pending further review in the future to determine their eligibility for release.

2. The verbatim audio recordings of the closed-session meetings held on June 9, 2022, and November 30, 2022, are approved for destruction.

The Board will review the closed-session written minutes and verbatim record on at least a semi-annual basis.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/6 -- Elect Trustee to Serve on State Universities Civil Service Merit Board

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the State Universities Civil Service Act (110 ILCS 70) established a State Universities Civil Service System under the control of a Board known as the University Civil Service Merit Board (hereafter referred to as the Merit Board); and

WHEREAS, the State Universities Civil Service Act (110 ILCS 70/36c) states that:

“The Merit Board shall be composed of 11 members, ... one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University”; and

WHEREAS, the State Universities Civil Service Act (110 ILCS 70/36c) further states:

“The members of the Merit Board shall be elected by the respective Boards in which they hold membership and they shall serve at the pleasure of the electing Boards”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees Bylaws, Section IX.F., states:

“Representatives of the Board to serve on other boards, commissions, and similar bodies shall be designated as required by statute”

THEREFORE, be it resolved that _____ was elected at the June 4, 2024 meeting of the Board of Trustees to serve as the representative of Western Illinois University to the Merit Board.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/7 -- Election of Officers of the Board for July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Western Illinois University Law, 110 ILCS 690/35-25, states:

“Members of the Board shall elect annually by secret ballot from their own number a chairman who shall preside over meetings of the Board and a secretary”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees Bylaws, Section VII.A.1., further states:

A Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary who shall be voting members of the Board. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary shall be elected annually by secret ballot by a majority of the voting members of the Board then serving and shall hold office until their successors are elected. Trustees who are elected to serve as the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary may be elected to those positions for one successive term, after which an intervening term must occur before re-election to the same officer position. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary may be removed from office during a term by the affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the Board then serving. Vacancies in these offices shall be filled by election for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(History of Officers of the Board Attached)

and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees at its July 25, 1997, meeting, agreed to elect officers in conjunction with the fiscal year; and the Western Illinois University fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the individuals elected at the June 4, 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees shall serve as the officers of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees for the period July 1, 2024—June 30, 2025.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 4, 2024

Resolution No. 24.6/8 -- Recommendation for the Naming of a University
Building

Resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section VI.C.1 of the Board of Trustees Regulations, the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University reserves the right to name all buildings belonging to the University; and

WHEREAS, the President shall make recommendations to the Board regarding the naming of University property; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Performing Arts began in 2002 and is the first state-funded building on the Macomb campus since 1974; and

WHEREAS, the building is a LEED Certified Silver, state-of-the-art, 100,000 square-foot, \$119 million-dollar iconic performance and academic building scheduled to be completed by 2025;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees hereby names the Center for Performing Arts _____ in honor of _____ . BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees directs that an appropriate ceremony be held to mark the naming of the building.