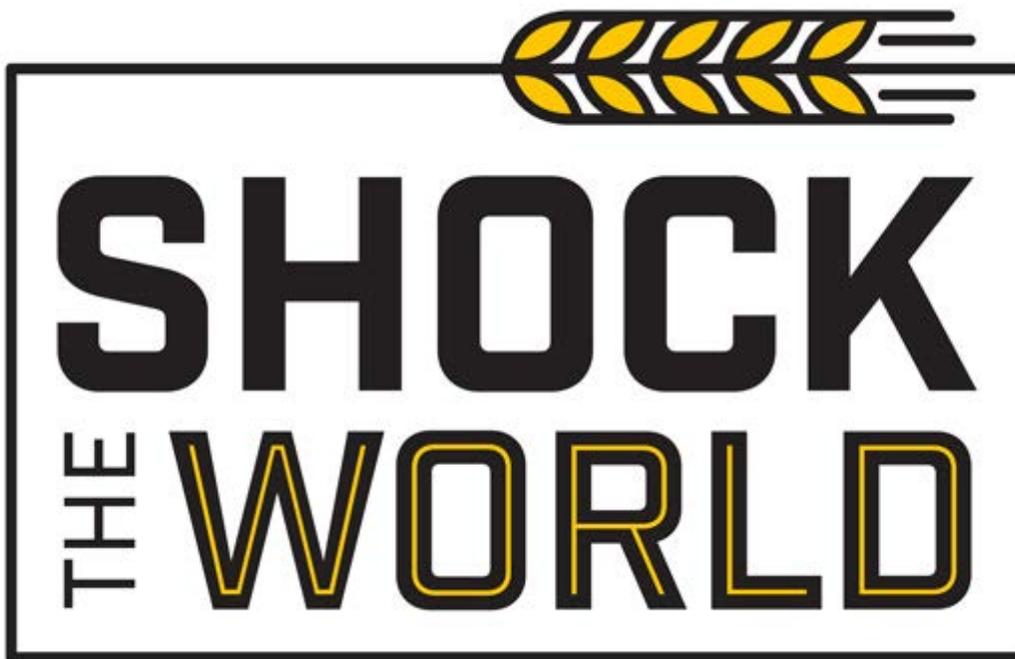




## **President's Message: Shock the World campaign critical to future success**

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Posted: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 Posted: 12:58:20 PM CT



The WSU Foundation recently announced a \$250 million campaign to help the university achieve its vision as an Innovation University.

This campaign, called Shock the World, focuses on the people of Wichita State – students, faculty and staff.

We have the opportunity to improve the lives of our students, to make them more competitive, help them contribute to the world and to have a core of ethics and responsibility. But that requires the right faculty, staff and facilities.

**The money raised in the campaign will provide:**

- \$115 million for student and faculty support. Scholarship and fellowship awards for students will increase by 80 percent, and 20 new endowed chairs and professorships will be added to the 36 distinguished faculty positions already in existence.
- \$101 million to build or renovate facilities. These include a new home for the W. Frank Barton School of Business on the Innovation Campus; an Ideas Lab for artistic innovation inside a completely renovated Henrion Hall; equipping labs in the new Experiential Engineering Building; renovating Charles Koch Arena and building a new Wichita State Athletics Student Center adjacent to it; and completing the final phase of an improvement project for Eck Stadium.
- \$34 million for Excellence Outside the Classroom initiatives such as a Leadership Academy in the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College; support for the WSU Career Development Center, the Shocker New Venture Competition and the Koch Innovation Challenge; and field study opportunities for students in geology, biology, anthropology and other disciplines.

These improvements are critical to helping the university to continue to attract and retain the top students and faculty.

The campaign couldn't come at a better time as higher education continues to move from being on the edge to being in the middle of the future of prosperity and quality of life in metropolitan areas.

It's about how we as a university can create a future where we contribute to the ways in which people will live in our community.

Asking you to consider donating to the campaign may seem inappropriate when we've been through years of slow or no salary growth, open positions and declining state support.

And yet, I think of the F. Scott Fitzgerald quotation, "The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function."

For many of us, the university has been a wonderful place to work. It has provided lifelong friendships, stimulating work and personal and professional fulfillment.

If you have the means to give to the campaign, even a small amount will be welcome.

All who contribute are making a difference that will help make a good university great.

**18%**  
OF FACULTY AND STAFF DONATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY.  
NOTABLE DONATIONS INCLUDE:

ESTATE GIFTS / PLANNED GIVING

- ➔ Erach Talaty - *Chemistry Department*
- ➔ Robert and Liz Workman - *Ulrich Museum of Art*

SCHOLARSHIPS:

- ➔ Ro Scudder - *Communication Sciences and Disorders*
- ➔ Ken Miller - *Math*
- ➔ Marty Perline - *Economics*
- ➔ Atul Rai - *Business*
- ➔ Sandra Bibb - *Health professions*

# Diversity Update

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Thank you for making Wichita State's first DiverseCity Week a tremendous success! Faculty, staff and community members supported many different activities and enjoyed lots of food and fun.

From veteran documentaries to Banda Hispanica, DiverseCity Week brought attention to key social issues in addition to highlighting cultural treasures within the WSU community.

As we strive to become a campus that is reflective of the community we serve, I hope that you will take time to explore the many wonderful opportunities diversity affords us on campus. Diversity surrounds us, and we have to be willing to educate ourselves and embrace new opportunities to grow.

A special thanks to Sodexo, President's Diversity Council, liaisons and the marketing and communication committee for all their efforts toward DiverseCity Week. I would like to thank the committee members, including Sarah Sell, Kennedy Musamali, Alex Johnson and Krishna Krishnan for the countless hours of preparation and time.

Looking ahead, November is a month for thanking those who have supported us. We will celebrate our service men and women who sacrifice to secure our freedom. Without them, diversity would not be possible, and we look forward to celebrating them in the coming month.

Keep an eye on WSU Today for future details.

I'd also like to extend a congratulations to Danielle Johnson from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. She received the National Association for Advancement of Colored People Chester I. Lewis Distinguished Service Award.



— Marché Fleming-Randle, Ph.D.  
assistant to the president for diversity  
Wichita State University

*“Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization.”  
- Mahatma Gandhi*

# Shocker You Should Know: Chris Purdum

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When Chris Purdum came to Wichita State from Norfolk, Nebraska, he didn't know anyone. So he got busy, getting involved as a tour guide, president of the Fairmount Towers Activities Council and a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

And as luck would have it, he actually met his future wife on his first day of orientation. The two spent the next four years taking in the college experience.

By the time Chris graduated in 2007 with degrees in finance and international business, was a committed Shocker.

"I had a wonderful undergraduate experience from both an academic and extracurricular standpoint and that was due in large part to the advisors, staff, professors, alumni and my peers," he says. "Because of those people and the experiences we shared, we continue to be as involved as we can with the university."

That involvement led Chris to his new position as chairman of the board for the Alumni Association.

His goals include achieving meaningful growth in paid membership and continuing with the success of the Drive Your Pride WSU Scholarship Kansas License Plate Program.

Also important to Chris is getting the message across that the Alumni Association isn't just for former students. Faculty, staff and other WSU supporters are welcome to join and participate.

Drive Your Pride has provided more than \$500,000 in scholarships since its inception, and other scholarships are available through the association, such as the Wallace Alumni Legacy Scholarship and the Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship.

Chris serves as vice president for commercial banking at Commerce Bank and cherishes time with his family – wife, Ashley, 2- and 4-year-old boys and another on the way this fall.



Ashley also stayed close to WSU after graduation, working as a speech-language pathologist and clinical educator in the Evelyn Hendren Cassat Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.

“She is an amazing wife, mother and professional and extremely supportive of my involvement on campus and in the community,” Chris says. “We make a great team.”

Outside of the association and work, Chris – a huge baseball fan who first heard about WSU because of its baseball tradition – spends time with his family attending Shocker sporting events. He and Ashley also enjoy traveling, trying new restaurants and finding hidden gems on Netflix.

# What I'm Reading: The barriers that colleges create

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Posted: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 Posted: 12:58:20 PM CT



At a time of growing public pressure to improve the percentage of students who graduate in a reasonable time, universities and community colleges may be inadvertently creating hurdles to completion.

WSU is working on eliminating such barriers.

# Grant of the Month: Smart skin biomedical sensor

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The research team of Kim Cluff, Anil Mahapatro and Jeremy Patterson, along with the help of nearly a dozen WSU students, are creating a smart skin biomedical sensor that could someday be used by NASA.

If the sensor does what they expect, it would be able to measure multiple physiological parameters that NASA is interested in, including blood flow, intercranial pressure, blood health, blood gas levels and muscle degeneration.

Based on early research, the team has been awarded with a \$1.125 million NASA grant to continue development of the sensor.

*If you would like to submit a nomination for the next Research Grant of the Month, send an email to [lainie.mazzullo@wichita.edu](mailto:lainie.mazzullo@wichita.edu).*

# Metric of the Month: Enrollment

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Posted: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 Posted: 12:58:20 PM CT

The Strategic Planning Steering Committee, in consultation with University Academic Affairs and the college deans, has developed a university dashboard that intentionally gauges collective performance of WSU on representative meaningful metrics.

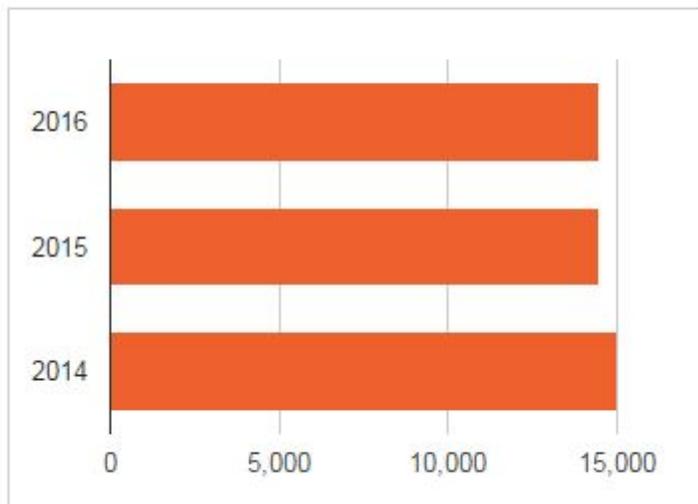
The highlighted metric for this month is enrollment.

While numerous metrics (e.g., student credit hours) relate to enrollment growth, the annual enrollment figure based on the fall census is the most widely recognized and reported.

The graph below shows numbers for the past three years. Click on the image to see a more detailed breakdown.

## ENROLLMENT

Fall census (unique headcount)



SOURCE: WSU Student Information System