



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## First Tuesday

A MONTHLY MESSAGE  
FROM WICHITA STATE  
PRESIDENT JAY GOLDEN

July 2020

### **University welcomes back students, celebrates 125 years**

I hope this note finds you and your families doing well and that you are healthy and in good spirits. It is hard to believe that in just over a month's time that our students will be back on campus. I know they are very excited to come back and be with their friends, and we are excited to welcome students back, too.

This is exemplified in the fact that we are only 3% below last year's enrollment, which was the fourth year in a row of sustained enrollment growth. Importantly, Wichita State continues to be a national leader in providing access and affordability to higher education. In fact, in fall 2019, 44.5% of our undergraduate degree seeking students were first-generation.

Also in 2019, we led Kansas research universities with 76.8% of our graduates employed in Kansas after college. This is critical as we continue to recruit talent from our state and the I-35 corridor and develop innovative programs, including our focus on applied learning, to retain talent in our state.

While reopening our physical campus is exciting, I also know and respect that many of us are anxious as we prepare for the new semester. There is no doubt that it is going to take a lot of hard work and a strong commitment to each other's health and safety to make the semester happen in a way we all want to achieve. I am very appreciative that a broad segment of our campus community has been engaged and active in planning for our reintegration and providing critical input. You can learn more about that plan at [www.wichita.edu/shockersunited](http://www.wichita.edu/shockersunited) .

This fall I'm honored to begin the academic year with Shocker Nation as we celebrate our 125th year. In September 1895, Fairmount College, the forerunner of Wichita State University, held its first classes at the corner of 21st and Hillside streets. Now, 125 years later, we celebrate the ever-expanding role of our institution as a pillar of cultural and academic excellence, a vital engine of economic growth and a positive force in the lives of millions.

[Read more of Dr. Golden's message ...](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Golden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

*Jay Golden, Wichita State President*

**In the News at Wichita State**



## Undergrad builds organization around social-impact engineering

Carlos Gatti, a junior biomedical engineering student at Wichita State University, is building a student organization that provides affordable assistive devices to people in need. Right now, the team works remotely and is designing a device for a client who plays the cello and one for a client who wants help with tasks such as cooking.

[Read more about how Carlos is giving back to others with help from Wichita State .](#)



## University awarded \$37K grant to make more PPE

Wichita State University's Office of Tech Transfer and Commercialization has received a \$37,000 grant that will go toward making more personal protective equipment (PPE) to health care workers with low supply caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. The grant is from NetWork Kansas, with funding provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas. The grants are being awarded to colleges and small businesses in Kansas that are making PPE for the health care industry during this time.

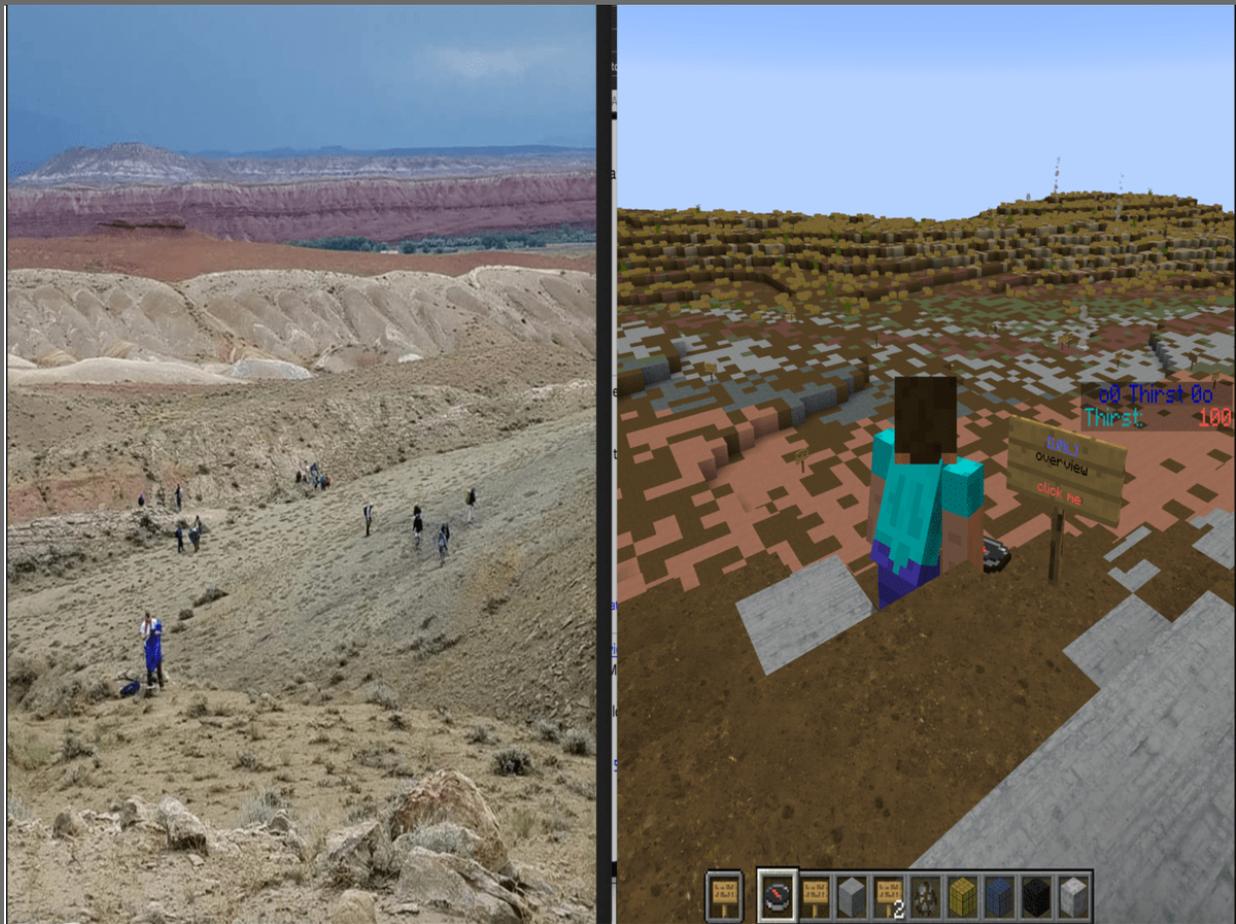
[Read more about Wichita State is helping our community through this grant.](#)



## Clinic in a Can fills health care gaps across globe

Shocker alumnus Michael Wawrzewski embodies Wichita State's entrepreneurial spirit through his business, Clinic in a Can, which builds customized medical units in shipping containers that provide access to health care for patients on every continent. [Read more about this Wichita-based company and it's helping in the fight against COVID-19.](#)

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## Professor uses Minecraft for of geology field camp

Will Parcell, a Wichita State University professor, created a virtual version of geology field camp. The camp uses Minecraft so students can map the terrain. The terrain will be based on actual locations in Montana and Wyoming.

[Read more about how geology meets innovation at Wichita State.](#)



## Online or in-person, our faculty, students thrive in the classroom

In these uncertain times, you can count on your Shocker family. Whether it be online or in a classroom, Wichita State University faculty will deliver the exceptional educational experience our students have come to expect.

[Hear from the Shocker community about how they're thriving during in a virtual environment.](#)

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## Ulrich begins larger-than-life community outreach campaign

The Ulrich Museum of Art is closed until at least January, but the museum has truly reached a high point in community engagement. Literally. Look up in around dozens of neighborhoods across the city, and you'll be inspired by the Ulrich + Artists + You community billboard project. Throughout the rest of 2020, the museum is sharing pieces from its 6,700-piece collection on visually compelling billboards displayed in various strategic spots throughout Wichita. The Ulrich is partnering with the Smartify app to give billboard-gazers complete information about the project and the individual artwork being featured as they drive past. [Read more about how the Ulrich Museum is expanding its horizons to meet reach the community.](#)

## Connect with the President

### Featured Tweet



**July 1:** This year, Wichita State turns 125! We invite all [#Shockers](#) to join us in recognizing the university's 125-year history and the people and events that created so many memories. Read more: <http://wsu.news/125>

### Featured Facebook post

**June 25:** Visit [#WichitaState](#) anytime from anywhere with our interactive campus map.

<http://wsu.news/map>



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