



HLC Accreditation 2020-2021

## **Evidence Document**

---

Office of the President

John W. Bardo

---

**From the President:  
A Monthly Message from Wichita State University  
President John Bardo  
Academic Year 2016-2017**

---

**Additional information:** This evidence file replicates information for public viewing archived on the Shocker Open Access Repository web page:  
<https://soar.wichita.edu/handle/10057/10867> (accessed April 6, 2021).

## Table of contents

From the President, August 2016 .....	2
From the President, September 2016 .....	10
From the President, October 2016 .....	19
From the President, November 2016 .....	27
From the President, December 2016 .....	34
From the President, January 2017 .....	36
From the President, February 2017 .....	42
From the President, March 2017 .....	50
From the President, April 2017 .....	56
From the President, May 2017 .....	65



## President's Message: Starting anew, facing important issues for WSU's future

---

Posted: Monday, August 15, 2016 Posted: 1:17:37 PM CT



The beginning of fall semester is a traditional time of renewal on campus. No matter how many years you've worked here, the arrival of new students, faculty and staff and the return of others brings fresh energy and a sense of possibilities. We'll need both of those as we work this year to greatly increase enrollment. At a time of diminishing state support, enrollment growth is crucial. Faculty and staff must be part of the solution.

This Friday I hope to see as many of you as possible at the faculty-staff opening event from 2-4 p.m. in Beggs Ballroom in the Rhatigan Student Center. I plan to talk for 45 minutes and then respond to your questions. We can continue the discussion informally during a social hour to follow.

If you aren't able to attend, you can watch the event on WSUTV 13 on the Cox cable system or at <http://youtube.com/wichitastatetv>. Scroll down to where it says "Live Now" and click on the blue WSUTV Live Stream.

The theme of my presentation is "Student centered, innovation driven." Here are several topics we need to address with urgency this year:

- There's too large a gap between the number of prospective students who apply and are admitted and those who eventually enroll. Are we harming ourselves by creating barriers to enrollment?
- There's a concerning rate of attrition of enrolled students. What additional steps can we take to help students be successful and make good progress each semester toward degree completion?
- How are we doing on the details of the student experience? Are we providing advising in a timely fashion? Are we offering classes at the times that fit best into their work schedules and family lives? Are we opening up new sections of courses that are oversubscribed?
- Are we practicing smart inclusion in addressing the diverse needs of first generation, minority, adult, military veteran and online students? Are there support systems in place to aid the success of all students?
- Do we need to restructure our financial aid packages in light of rising tuition and fees? How do we reduce financial barriers?
- How do we continue to drive innovation with urgency, while treating each other with respect and kindness?

My goal in raising these questions is to start or continue discussions involving all of you. You'll have another chance to participate on Aug. 29, when the Strategic Enrollment Management study team holds an event to discuss its recommendations.

# A Shocker You Should Know: Sarah Sell

---

Posted: Monday, August 15, 2016 Posted: 1:19:29 PM CT



At Wichita State for just four years, Sarah Sell has already made quite an impact as director of Veteran Student Services.

It's a position she helped create after the Military and Veteran Student Center was opened in 2013. A 12-year military veteran working as a specialist in the Office of Student Success at the time, Sarah knew she could help lead the center as it continued its quick growth.

"I realized these students really needed a point of contact and intentional support," she says. "I pitched this position, and the timing worked well."

Sarah says she's impressed with the efforts being made at WSU to increase services for veterans and active military. That population of students, she says, needs targeted help because of their unique backgrounds and situations. And when they get that guidance, she says, they have the potential to be some of our top students – earning high GPAs and continuing on toward graduation.

*"I speak higher ed and military."*

Sarah came to Wichita State from her hometown of Topeka as an undergraduate and a member of the rowing team. She earned her bachelor's in sociology and masters of education in counseling and was highly involved in campus life during her stay. She says she knew early on that she wanted to work in a university setting.

"I love the atmosphere of a college campus, and I love WSU," she says. "One day I looked around and realized all these staff got paid to be here and I didn't want to leave."

Her entrance into the military was originally a tactic to help pay for college. It was also a bit of a family tradition -- her dad and aunt were in the military, and Sarah wanted to serve her country.

It didn't take long for her to build a strong sense of camaraderie in the military, and it eventually turned into a way of life.

Serving as a military police officer for the first 12 years of her military career, Sarah was deployed multiple times, including to Baghdad during Operation Enduring Freedom. She now deals with personnel issues for the 190th Air Refueling Wing and is the first woman in her squadron to reach the rank of master sergeant.

When not at work, Sarah spends time with her 6-year-old son, Braden, who is excited to start first grade.

Always up for a challenge, Sarah is starting in the MBA program this fall and is busy training Riley, a therapy dog that will soon be used at the Military and Student Veteran Center.

She calls her job the perfect blend of her two passions – higher education and helping veterans.

"Because of my background, I have an understanding of vets on a level that most civilians don't," she says. "It's kind of like being an interpreter; I speak higher ed and military."

# Research Grant of the Month: Invasive species research

---

Posted: Monday, August 15, 2016 Posted: 4:59:45 PM CT



Gregory Houseman, associate professor of biology, and Esra Buyuktahtakin, assistant professor of manufacturing and industrial engineering, recently received a \$430,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture grant for their research on weed management in Kansas rangeland systems.

The research encompasses studying the invasive weed sericea lespedeza throughout Southeastern Kansas and assessing its potential effects on natural plant life and grazing, as well as its economic impact on ranchers.

# A message from the assistant to the president for diversity

---

Posted: Monday, August 15, 2016 Posted: 1:18:47 PM CT

As we start the new academic year, I encourage you to remember that diversity responsibility belongs to all of us. Last year, faculty, staff and students made tremendous progress to ensure this campus is reflective of the community we serve, and we look forward to making a greater impact in the coming year.

The President's Diversity Council has been working diligently over the past several months, and I'm excited to share major plans for fall semester:



- Coordinated and consolidated university diversity mission statement
- Diversity survey
- DiverseCity Showcase
- Annual report
- Benchmarking analysis – WSU Strategic Plan
- Student town hall meetings
- Campus culture and student outreach committee report

We have heard from many throughout the campus and encourage each of you to [contact us](#) via email or phone.

I firmly believe the best is yet to come because of the unwavering commitment of those who want our campus to be a great place to learn, work, live and play.

Have an aWSUme semester!

Dr. Marché Fleming-Randle  
Assistant to the president for diversity

# What I'm Reading: "The Typical College Student Is Not Who You Think It Is"

---

Posted: Monday, August 15, 2016 Posted: 1:20:10 PM CT



Do you know who today's college students are?

The common assumption is that 40-60 percent of students are recent high school graduates enrolled in a four- year institution and living on campus. But that number is far from reality. Only 5 percent of students fit that description.

In The Atlantic's July article "The Typical College Student Is Not Who You Think It Is," Lumina Foundation President and CEO Jamie Merisotis argues that there's a real disconnect in the understanding of who today's students are.



## **President's Message: The university as an engine for economic development**

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:06:17 PM CT



I've been doing considerable reading, thinking and writing about how economic development has become a core function of research universities like ours. I've been pondering the question: How do we renew Wichita's promise as an economic engine for Kansas and the nation?

It's clear that the university is both a driver and beneficiary of the Wichita area economy.

As a high research university, WSU is of the type and mission class that nationally is driving economic development in many cities. And, because of WSU's links to this region, its long-standing programs in critical technical areas, and its renewed commitment to serving the people of the state, WSU is positioned to benefit the local community through not only the research of its faculty but the education of its students, who become contributors to the local economy and the Wichita area community upon graduation.

It is the historical role of public higher education to lift up the fortunes of entire communities. At no time in history has that mission been more important than it is today. The Kansas Board of Regents' [strategic plan](#) specifically highlights the importance of alignment of higher education with the economy, and WSU is dedicated to expanding this commitment, drawing on local knowledge and practices that have been found to be effective elsewhere.

KBOR's plan as the enabling document for WSU's work is consistent with similar efforts in most states that are pushing their universities in this direction.

One of the most important developments recently at the university has been the creation of the Innovation Campus. This campus is one of more than 170 research parks / technology parks and similar entities located at universities throughout the nation that are members of the Association of University Research Parks (AURP).



There are equivalent entities in other countries in North America, Europe and Asia. Many of the practices and the direction of WSU's Innovation Campus are based on lessons learned from other AURP members.

While a number of research parks have focused on new enterprises, some of them, including WSU, have been aggressively building a more complete integration of existing technology-based enterprises along with startups and young firms.

For example, the University of Missouri research parks house corporate headquarters, bank operations, federal agencies and technology-based businesses, in addition to incubators and startups.

It is clear that the nature of these parks is changing to meet the broad needs of the communities they serve, exemplifying economic development at its best. WSU's model of enhancing economic development involves more than creation of the Innovation Campus, however.

The university's focus is wide-ranging and includes efforts to increase the number of college graduates and the quality of their education; finding new approaches to education and skills enhancement that support well-paying jobs in the local workforce; expanding focus on "quality of life" elements of the educational mission; and expanding and supporting applied research and development that are so crucial to technology-based economic development.

The university also is examining services it delivers that affect the perception of the community. This includes a review of the university's athletics conference and its array of athletics programs with a view to enriching local life and enhancing the reputation of the university and the Wichita community.

For the past few months, I've been working on a major essay tentatively titled "Renewing Wichita's Promise: The University, the City, the Region and Economic Development."

# What I'm Reading: What does economic development mean?

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:07:45 PM CT



When I talk about economic development, I'm using a definition offered by Maryann Feldman, a public policy professor at the University of North Carolina.

She says:

“Economic development is the expansion of capacities that contribute to the advancement of society through the realization of individual, firm and community potential. Economic development is measured by a sustained increase in prosperity and quality of life through innovation, lowered transaction costs, and the utilization of capabilities towards the responsible production and diffusion of goods and services.”

# A Shocker You Should Know: Judy Espinoza

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:07:17 PM CT



As chief human resources officer at Via Christi, Judy Espinoza was once asked if she could work in any other field, where it would be. Her answer was emphatic: higher education.

“I love to see people ignite when they discover the thing that drives them to the next level,” she says.

Judy got her wish this summer when she came to Wichita State to take over as director of human resources from Frankie Kirkendoll, who retired after 35 years.

The 1989 WSU graduate is thrilled to be “back home” and returns to us with more than 26 years of human resources experience, including recruitment, conflict resolution, change management, benefits administration, employment law, compensation and employee relations.

*“When away, I often imagine clicking my heels three times so I can return as soon as possible.”*

As she gets to know campus again, Judy's goals are to partner with employees, faculty and administrative leaders to ensure a work environment with everything needed to be successful in actualizing WSU's mission, as well as making sure faculty and staff genuinely feel valued for the contributions they make.

A passionate Shocker fan, Judy loves following WSU basketball and baseball. Interest in athletics clearly runs in the family; 23-year-old son Brett is a student in WSU's sport management program, and 26-year-old daughter Tayler lives in Tucson, where she is a high school athletic trainer and teacher.

Judy lives in Derby with her husband, Cosmo, who she met at Derby High School. Prior to living in Derby, though, Judy and her four sisters were Air Force brats, living in several places as they grew up, including Okinawa, Japan.

These days when not at work she's a bit of a homebody, although she doesn't like to sit idle, instead preferring to tinker around the house and taking her dogs out for walks and car rides.

# Diversity Update

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:06:54 PM CT

The President's Diversity Council proudly presents "DiverseCity: A Showcase of Diversity in Shocker Nation" the week of Oct. 3-7. DiverseCity will provide an opportunity for individuals, organizations and departments to showcase their successes that were made possible by diversity.

As a part of the DiverseCity Showcase, we would like to elevate the dialogue on campus and invite all faculty, staff and students to submit an example of diversity, or highlight successes related to diversity.

To participate, [submit your application](#).

This will be an open submission process, and all those who are interested should express themselves as creatively as possible.

**As a part of the DiverseCity Showcase week, we are also looking forward to:**

- Interfest (international food festival)
- RSC Unplugged: Tom Page Duo
- Brown Bag Diversity Discussion: Black, Brown and Blue, A Discussion with Police Officers of Color
- Pancakes & Pajamas

There will also be performances and appearances by Van Van, Lilly Tran, Kenon Brinkley and Malcolm Lynch.

As we get closer to the event, visit [wichita.edu/DiverseCity](http://wichita.edu/DiverseCity) and check WSU Today for additional details.

I am committed to providing leadership, being a resource and, I hope, a catalyst, to move inclusion to the next level at Wichita State University. I look forward to an exciting semester working with you on diversity.



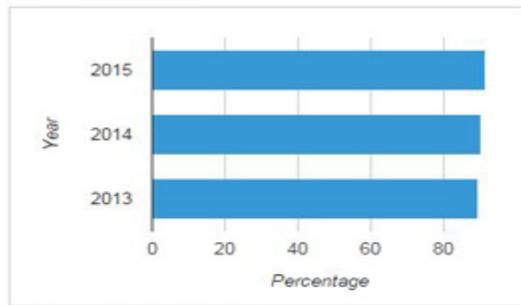
# Strategic Planning Dashboard: A metrics snapshot of WSU progress

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:14:18 PM CT

## GRADUATION COMPLETION

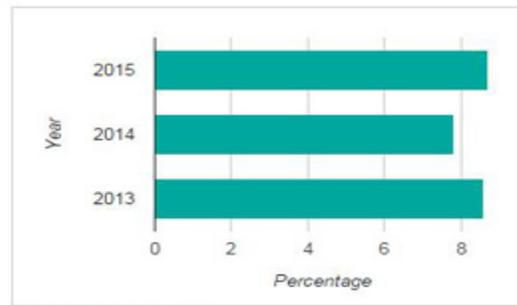
Percent of students graduating within 6 years of entering WSU



SOURCE: Student Information System

## DONATIONS

Percent of alumni who donated to WSU



SOURCE: WSU Foundation

Wichita State is a complex system with many components interacting to achieve the strategic goals of the organization. Monitoring and assessment of progress toward our strategic plan is necessary and requires many types of evaluations.

Quantitative metrics are one method of monitoring and assessment.

With this in mind, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee suggested to me the development of a University Strategic Planning Dashboard. They consulted with University Academic Affairs, including the college deans, to develop a university dashboard that intentionally gauges collective performance of WSU on representative meaningful metrics.

You can view our dashboard, which is being updated continuously with additional data for each metric, at [wichita.edu/dashboard](http://wichita.edu/dashboard).

Anyone can access and use this data. Graphical displays are used to categorize specific metrics for mission and vision. We will be using the dashboard to help visualize how we are achieving our mission and aspiring to our vision. Starting in the October President's Newsletter, a Metric of the Month will be highlighted to help you keep track of what we're doing.

— *Cindy Claycomb,*  
*assistant to the president,*  
*Strategic Planning*

# Research Grant of the Month: The monster beetle

---

Posted: Monday, September 12, 2016 Posted: 3:13:47 PM CT



When a monster beetle arrived in Hawaii and began chomping down palm trees, students with Wichita State University's Bug Lab took action.

*Oryctes rhinoceros*, also known as coconut rhinoceros beetles, have already decimated 50 percent of coconut palms in Guam. It's an ecological and economic disaster that has now spread to Oahu in Hawaii and is likely to continue its march to other nearby tropical areas.

But WSU graduate students Josh Dunlap, Jackie Baum and Emmy Engasser – guided by associate entomology professor Mary Liz Jameson – hope to stop the spread of this destructive species through the creation of a website and mobile app that helps the public identify the invasive pests and notify proper authorities.

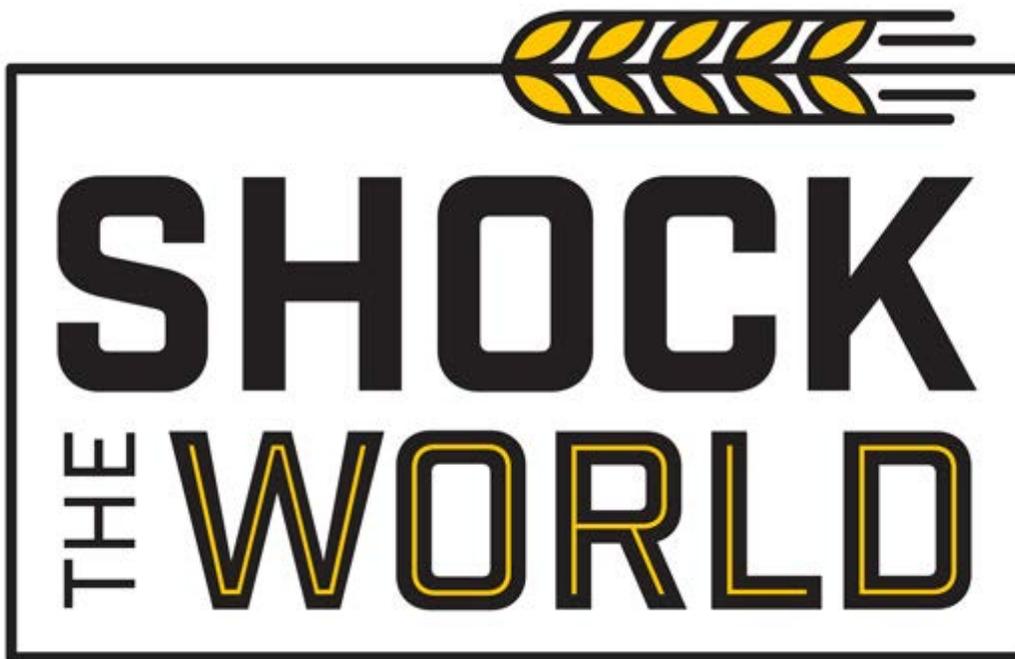
The website and Hawaiian Scarab ID app, available for iPhone or Android, were developed in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). They were the brainchild of Dunlap as part of his master's thesis. Dunlap graduated from WSU in May and has since been hired full time at the USDA.



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

---

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

---

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

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

---

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



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

---

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

---

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



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

---

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.

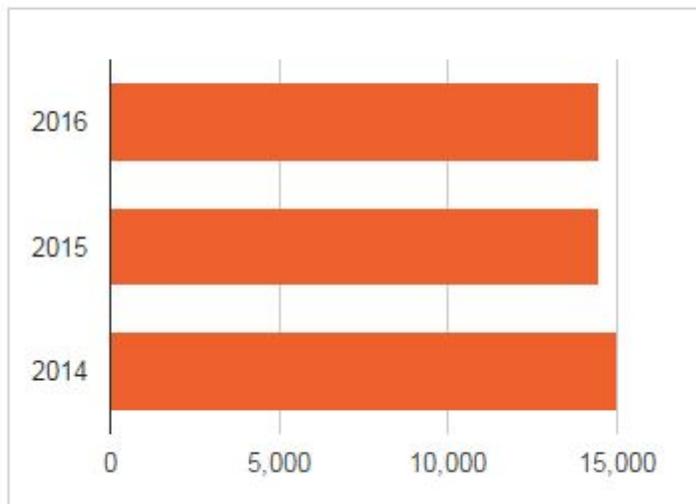
The highlighted metric for this month is enrollment.

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



## President's Message: November

Posted: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 Posted: 9:19:04 AM CT



Our strategic plan, actions and communication are moving us towards the goal of becoming an Innovation University. Starting this week, we're delivering that message through a multimedia campaign that touches the head and heart by focusing on the individual journeys that begin at WSU.

The campaign, called "Our Time," will include traditional newspaper and television advertising, as well as significant web-based advertising and new content on WSU's website and social media channels.

The campaign includes a new TV spot, which is airing locally on broadcast TV stations, the Cox Kansas network and on ESPN, Fox Sports and CBS during national broadcasts of WSU basketball games.

Most of our university marketing efforts are focused on specific outcomes, such as increasing enrollment in the university or a single program. This takes a broader approach, encouraging all who encounter the message to think about WSU as a launch pad for successful lives.

I love the feel of this campaign. To me it says there is tremendous momentum at WSU because of our emphasis on innovation, creativity, technology and entrepreneurship.

It is our time. Whether you're a traditional student, returning adult, veteran or pursuing your degree online, Wichita State is the place for you.

The campaign was developed by the university's Strategic Communications staff and especially by its Creative Services team, led by Craig Lindeman. The TV spot was shot under Craig's direction by the Media Resources Center staff.

Advertising Director Amy Schafer developed a media placement plan that ensures WSU messages will be seen millions of times between now and next summer.

According to Chief Marketing Officer Barth Hague, “Our aim is to help audiences connect the innovation university concept with outcomes like better life opportunities, a better educational experience, more jobs and more stable economic growth.”

Each of the two previous WSU major brand marketing campaigns, “Do more, be more,” and “Wherever you go, there we are,” have run for about three years, with new material being added along the way. I would expect the same to be true in this case.

It’s my hope that the campaign will encourage critical thinking about Wichita State and what we can offer as anInnovation University. After you’ve had a chance to see the new campaign and reflect on the messages, please share your thoughts with Lou Heldman, VP for Strategic Communications, [lou.heldman@wichita.edu](mailto:lou.heldman@wichita.edu).

## Holiday Celebration

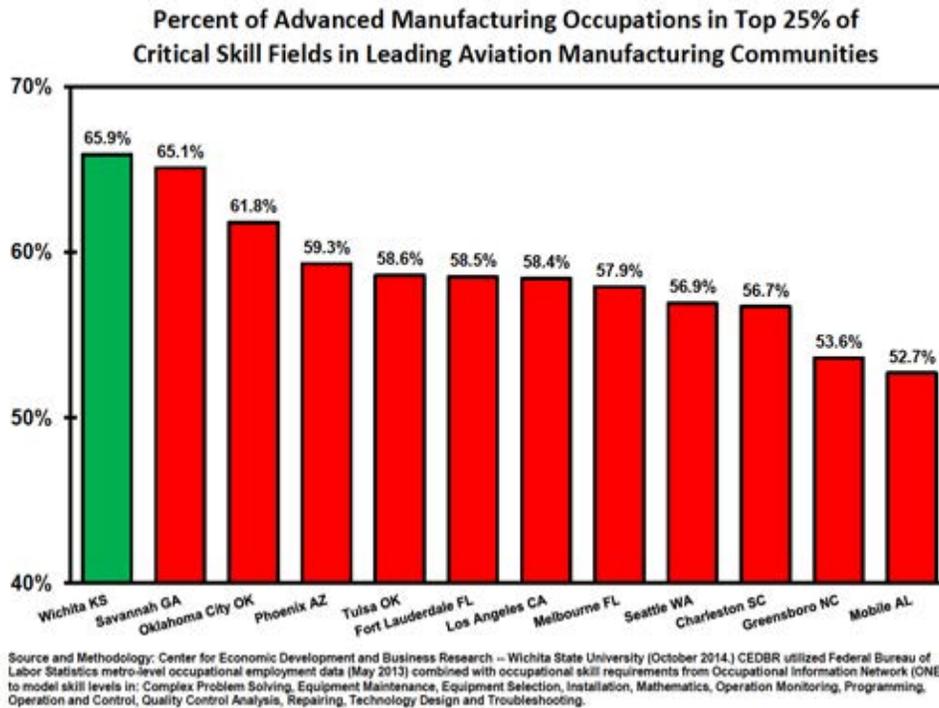
---

Posted: Friday, November 07, 2014 Posted: 10:22:21 AM CT

Mark your calendar and plan to join the Executive Team, Deborah and myself for this year's employee holiday reception. It will be from 2:30 - 5 p.m., Wednesday, December 10, 2014, in the RSC Shirley Beggs Ballroom.

# Advanced Manufacturing Process Labs

Posted: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 Posted: 9:48:54 AM CT



Have you ever heard of nanoindentation tests, ductile damage, tensile tests, cold rolling and metallographic studies? These are words thrown around (with precision) every day in our Advanced Manufacturing Process Labs (AMPL).

Wichita State University is in the unique position of being able to lead the world in aviation engineering. Wichita is one of the world's few cities that lead in advanced manufacturing occupations within aviation manufacturing communities. As reported by the WSU Center for Economic Development and Business Research, with 50,000 skilled manufacturing jobs, Wichita has the highest concentration of those types of jobs in the U.S. at 65.9 percent. Savannah, Ga., places a close second at 65.1 percent and Oklahoma City is listed as third with 61.8 percent. Wichita has a world-class workforce and many are being produced by WSU's innovative programs that are graduating students ready to put their skills to use.

In order for companies to stay ahead of the growth in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), they must be futuristic in their thinking and plan well in advance for the innovations that will be needed 5, 10, 15 and even 20 years out. This is where Wichita State can help. It is absolutely necessary to lead the ever-occurring change in technology. Educators must continue to plan and prepare for not only current, but future innovations. The seeds of the next innovation must be planted long before the current innovation hits the market. To contribute to the job growth of the city, community and state is part of WSU's strategic plan, and it pleases me that it is steadily moving forward, as it is imperative for WSU's continued success and that of its students and alumni.

Dr. Vis Madhavan, director of AMPL says of interest to those who are involved in, or want to be involved in advanced manufacturing will be the experimental capabilities available in the Advanced Manufacturing Processes Lab. Included are process optimization, geometry and surface topography measurement of complex surfaces such as cutting tools, nanoindentation and nanoscratch testing, and for measuring the temperature, strain rate, and strain distribution on surfaces at micro to macro scale resolution, during quasistatic and high speed events.

Among the machines and instruments available in the lab are a Mazak Integrex 200-IV CNC mill-turn, Zoller Genius 3tool presetter, ADE PhaseShift Micro-XAM profilometer, custom-built LaVision 3D StrainMaster system, Pi-MAX ICCD camera, PAT Photon 6000 high speed IR camera, Hysitron UBI-1 nanoindenter, MTS 22-kip universal testing machine, Kistler 9272 dynamometer, and a Sentrotech high temperature vacuum furnace.

These are complemented by access to other machines, analytical instruments, FIB milling, PVD and CVD coating systems, etc., available at the National Institute of Standards and Technology through an on-going collaboration, and by software capabilities for process modeling using a variety of general purpose finite element analysis software, as well as specialized packages such as AdvantEdge, MATLAB and LabVIEW. For additional details please visit

[http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=vmadhavan&p=/AMPL/2\\_EquipmentList/](http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=vmadhavan&p=/AMPL/2_EquipmentList/)

Wichita is a prime provider of manufacturing, especially aerospace manufacturing. Wichita State is a prime provider of learning, research, product development and feet-on-the-ground, ready-to-work, well-trained human power. As we begin development of the Innovation Campus and completion of its first building, the Experiential Engineering & Maker Labs, our commitment and stake in the community grows exponentially. It is exciting for WSU to be in the middle of this robust growth cycle. View the Manufacturing Processes Research Lab website: [http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=VMADHAVAN&p=/AMPL/1\\_Home/](http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=VMADHAVAN&p=/AMPL/1_Home/)

# Wichita State's Fourth Annual Technology Fair

Posted: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 Posted: 10:33:06 AM CT

The technology available to the Wichita State University community is truly amazing -- as proven by the 40 booths at the fourth annual Technology Fair held recently in the Rhatigan Student Center. What was once tagged as a vivid imagination is now reality.

Do you know you can measure your eye/hand coordination with a device used while playing ping pong? A special paddle, a camera attached to the table and an automatic ball feeder records it all. Why would these be important research gadgets? Its precise measurements are used to compile data on speed and reaction accuracy for a study in aging with the ultimate goal of improving health for the aging. To become a part of this study contact the Visual Perception & Cognition Lab ([wichita.edu/vpclab](http://wichita.edu/vpclab)).

On the other side of the age spectrum we have Wu Bot. Wu Bot is an app-controlled robot being used in the College of Health Professions' clinic to help motivate children's communications. The iPad app can be downloaded for free so that participants can remotely communicate with CHP professionals.

It has long been known that a strong wireless foundation is a necessity for the mobility needed in today's tech world. Networks must be mobile, secure and accessible and able to collaborate between devices. Students demonstrated how devices collaborate and communicate both smarter and faster.



For faculty, staff and students interested in research, [WSU's High Performance Computing Center \(HiPeCC\)](#) is a great resource for research in science and industry as well as academia. You can find answers to hardware technology questions, software solutions and expertise from the HiPeCC personnel. The center is a gateway to accessing national supercomputing center data and can help you get started on Internet2 research.

Though a part of our life for several years now, [Internet2](#) is an amazing technology that connects people to information, allowing one to engage in real-life experiences through the world of virtual reality. From museum educational materials to deep-sea expeditions to searching languages, massive amounts of content is now available at the click of a mouse. The economy of knowledge, a driver of the financial economy, is limitless with the connectivity of Internet2.

This year's technology fair showcased the intelligence of the WSU community and opened the eyes of attendees to the potential that is the future of Wichita State. Imagine and do!

# All About Adult Learners

Posted: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 Posted: 10:52:04 AM CT



## Adult Learner Scholarship Opportunity

The Osher Reentry Scholarship Program began in 2012 with a \$50,000 grant from the Osher Foundation. In the 2014-15 academic year, 21 WSU students, ranging in age from 26 to 57, received scholarships through the Osher program.

The Bernard Osher Foundation provided a wonderful opportunity for returning students when its Board decided to increase that amount and awarded Wichita State University a \$1 million grant to endow the university's two-year-old Osher Reentry Scholarship Program.

Wichita State has always been proud of its adult student population. Our goal to increase the percentage of adult learners is closer to being met because of the generosity of the Osher Foundation and this tremendous gift. We hope it will inspire many to return to school to pursue an education that will help them reach their career goals. The new grant will provide a permanent endowment for this purpose, and the program will award \$50,000 each year in scholarships for 20 to 25 students. Scholarships are awarded up to \$2,500 per student.

If you, or someone you know are 24 years old or older, take a look at all the information available for continuing your education at WSU. You can learn about adult learner advising, special scheduling and online learning. There are also other scholarships available for returning adults.

Many students in this category utilize our satellite campuses. The satellite campuses have an interesting and diverse student population including high school guest students, regular university students, returning adults, and seniors. This mix gives our students a unique learning environment.

### [West Campus:](#)

If interested in completing a degree you once started, the [WSU Complete](#) is an adult degree completion program that may be just the program for you. It is a program that enables students to earn a degree by completing coursework in eight-week classes on evenings and weekends. Program classes will be sequenced so you should be able to take two classes every eight weeks going two nights per week. These are the same courses and programs as on the main campus, but they are scheduled in a way that allows working adults to continue with their work and family obligations and still return to school. With WSU Complete you can complete a degree in criminal justice, sport management, business administration or general studies through eight-week courses.

The West Campus, visible from north Maize Road, is located at 3801 N. Walker Ave., Maize, Kan., 67101. You may call them at 316-978-6777.

### **South Campus:**

WSU's South Campus offers general education classes and professional programs such as the [Accelerated Nursing Program](#) that confers the students a bachelor's degree in nursing in just 13 months. It also offers an [Elementary Teaching Degree Completion Program](#) from the College of Education that trains students to become elementary school teachers.

The South Campus is located in Derby at 200 West Greenway, Suite 15A, Derby, Kan. 67037. You may contact them at 316-978-8000.

## **Analyzing Learning Enhancements**

Posted: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 Posted: 10:39:43 AM CT

WSU is constantly looking for ways to enrich the education of our students and to ensure their success upon graduation. Following are two programs currently being analyzed for their effectiveness if implemented:

### **Service-Learning**

The strategic plan researched and formulated in 2012, and released in April of 2014, after co-chairs Ed O'Malley and Cindy Claycomb with the assistance of Dianne Coleman met with numerous faculty, staff and community leaders, calls for every student to have an applied learning or research experience.

Rick Muma, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, began working with faculty and staff to formalize the concepts of Service-Learning. Service-Learning utilizes a method that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience for students. Muma states that Service-Learning has been around for a number of years, but has never been formalized at WSU. Beyond being a learning modality, it also serves to enhance student's critical thinking skills, which is an expected general education outcome for all students. Initial meetings kicked off in 2012 and continue. Rhonda Lewis, professor of psychology and Natalie Grant, assistant professor of social work, were appointed Service-Learning faculty fellows for the 2014-15 academic year. They are working with Chelsea Redger, assistant director, Student Involvement; and Nick Messing, coordinator, Student Involvement, to formalize WSU's Service-Learning activities. It is anticipated that the learning activities will involve hands-on experience at job locations throughout the community providing students with the necessary skills to transition from student to employee.

### **Credit for Prior Learning and Competency-Based Education**

The Division of Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate are hosting a series of workshops and webinars for faculty and staff to learn more about Credit for Prior Learning and Competency-Based Education. In the spring a meeting will take place for faculty and staff to discuss the topic, as well as opportunities on how to expand on the ideas behind credit for prior learning and competency-based learning. To participate call the Office of Academic Affairs, 316-978-3010.



## President's Message: Special Budget Advisory Committee

Posted: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 Posted: 1:35:33 PM CT

As I announced at our recent open budget forum, I am establishing a special budget advisory committee to encourage open communication with the campus regarding potential budget cuts.

This committee will begin meeting in January. It is charged with four substantial tasks to aid and advise the president's Executive Team:

- Suggest budget priorities that are consistent with the institutional strategic plan in the event that there is another reduction in state appropriations.
- Gather information regarding areas where long-term budget efficiencies might be achieved while increasing effectiveness in achieving strategic goals.
- Suggest areas that might result in increased income that are consistent with the strategic plan.
- Communicate regularly with the campus regarding ideas and discussions.

The committee will focus on the WSU funds in greatest jeopardy, those known as the State General Fund, representing about \$72 million in appropriations made to the university by the governor and Legislature for the current fiscal year.

I've asked Provost and Senior Vice President Tony Vizzini to co-chair the committee along with Werner Golling, our new vice president of finance and administration. The committee will meet beginning in January.

**2017 PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SENATE REPS**  
*Johny Buchanan-Spachek*  
*Becky North*  
*Bayram Yildirim*

**FACULTY REPS**  
*Ken Kriz*  
*Lisa Clancy*  
*Masud Chand*  
*Jeff Pulaski*  
*Mike Ross*  
*Ward Jewell*  
*Mary Walker*  
*Pingfeng Wang*

**DEANS**  
*Shirley Lefever*  
*Royce Bowden*  
*Anand Desai*

**FINANCE**  
*David Miller*  
*Lois Tatro*  
*Troy Bruun*

**HUMAN RESOURCES**  
*Judy Espinoza*

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**  
*Shelly Coleman-Martins*

**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**  
*Cindy Claycomb*

**STUDENT REPS**  
*Jason McCarty*  
*Ashwin Govindarajan*

## **Reminder: Holiday Reception, Mary Herrin retirement party**

---

Posted: Thursday, December 08, 2016 Posted: 9:46:11 AM CT



As we begin to wrap up the year, don't forget to attend the events we have slated for Friday, Dec. 9.

From 2-4 p.m. in 208 Morrison Hall, we'll honor Mary Herrin, vice president for Administration and Finance, at her retirement reception.

Mary will retire on Dec. 31, after 43 years of service to Wichita State.

Faculty and staff are also invited to the President's Holiday Reception from 3-5 p.m. in the Shirley Beggs Ballroom, third floor, RSC.

Enjoy a chance to socialize, eat good food and look back on 2016.

Capture the occasion with a fun holiday photo in the photo booth. Photos will be made available for digital download after the event at [wichita.edu/holidayreception](http://wichita.edu/holidayreception) after the event.

Thank you once again for helping make 2016 an amazing year to be a Shocker!



## President's Message: Living the values in our strategic plan

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 10:51:55 AM CT

As we begin 2017, I'm encouraged by major developments to align faculty and staff evaluations and awards with the core values of the university's strategic plan. The values are:

- Seizing opportunities
- Success for all stakeholders
- Diversity of culture, thought and experience
- Adaptive approaches
- Teamwork
- Positive risk-taking

The annual Faculty Activity Record this year, for the first time, includes a major section on positive risk-taking.

In the same spirit, the Office of Academic Affairs has created two annual risk-taker awards that come with \$2,000 grants for faculty "who can demonstrate that they have taken an individual risk (or risks), that eventually led to success and learning."

One is for full-time faculty in their first six years; the other for those beyond six years. Here's how risk-taking is defined for award consideration:

*"Indicators of risk-taking include: developing unique applied learning or research experiences for students; pioneering interdisciplinary curricula with others outside of the nominee's college; capitalizing on relevant trends that increase quality educational opportunities in a distinctive way; accelerating the discovery, creation or transfer of new knowledge via inventions, innovations or technologies that are market-driven; empowering students to create a campus culture and experience that meets their changing needs; and enhancing learning via the creation of a campus that reflects – in staff, faculty and students – the evolving diversity of society."*

**➔ VISION**  
Wichita State University is internationally recognized as the model for applied learning and research.

**➔ MISSION**  
The mission of Wichita State University is to be an essential, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good.

**➔ VALUES**  
At Wichita State University, we value...

- ➔ Seizing opportunities
- ➔ Success for all stakeholders
- ➔ Diversity of culture, thought and experience
- ➔ Adaptive approaches
- ➔ Teamwork
- ➔ Positive risk-taking

The university core values are supported by competencies measured in staff evaluations throughout the university. The annual performance review measures competencies in areas tied to strategic values – adaptability, customer focus, initiative, position knowledge, teamwork and inclusiveness.

Last month, the Unclassified Professionals Senate [revamped its annual awards](#) to align with the strategic plan values. Nominators will be asked to provide specific examples of how their nominees have exemplified at least one of the six values.

The University Support Staff Senate is also considering revising its constitution and by-laws to be aligned with the university strategic plan.



The strategic plan values were at the forefront for me in the selection of two members of the executive team who started their jobs this week. I feel confident they share these values and will use them to set expectations for their teams.

**Werner Golling**, vice president for finance and administration, comes to us from Emporia State. His career includes work with a private biotechnology company, as well as university assignments.



**Teri Hall**, vice president for student affairs, joins us from Towson State, the second largest public university in Maryland, where she held a number of roles working with students in a growing university.

At an executive team retreat at the end of this month, we plan to devote a significant portion of our time to an overview of the university's mission and values and how we can better live those values in the way we manage and lead.

I want the managers reporting to me, and those reporting to them, to model these values and to recognize and reward faculty and staff who do likewise. This isn't about surrounding ourselves with people who do what we say. It's about having productive employees at every level who exhibit professional ability and great personal dedication to WSU's students, strategy, community, goals and mission.

The Human Resources staff this year introduced a revamped orientation for a new employee that includes an overview of the university's strategic plan goals and the mission, vision and values that drive us. All employees will eventually receive a handy wallet card with that information.

If you have questions, or good examples of WSU employees living our strategic values, I'd be happy to hear from you. Email [president@wichita.edu](mailto:president@wichita.edu).

Best wishes for a great new year.

# A Shocker You Should Know: Garret Moyer

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 10:52:17 AM CT



If you've been on campus long enough, you probably recognize Garret Moyer's face. Moyer has served with the WSU Police Department since 2000 and is known as an affable and helpful guy.

As administrative sergeant, his responsibilities include a variety of jobs, from maintaining the UPD's business continuity plan and organizing overtime events to providing supervisory responsibilities and relief on weekends.

He also occasionally has the dreaded task of pulling someone over on campus. But even then, it's hard for people to be too mad at him.

"I was raised in a family environment where I learned how to respect people. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," he says. "The key I found is simply showing people dignity, respect and empathy no matter if it's talking to a student about a homework assignment in the library or giving someone a ticket for running a stop sign."

Moyer's time at WSU has also led to his desire to continue his education. He received his associate's degree in science from Butler Community College and his bachelor's in criminal justice from Friends University.

Now Moyer is working toward his master's in criminal justice at WSU. This semester he's starting his thesis research studying the effectiveness of critical incident stress management, specifically looking at police officers who have been involved in officer involved shootings.

It's a challenge that hasn't been easy.

Moyer is open about his lifelong struggle with dyslexia. Growing up was hard to go to school each day knowing the teacher might call on him to read in front of the class. He struggled with peer acceptance and has carried

some of that with him, almost choosing not to enroll in grad school.



Challenged by UPD Chief Sara Morris to have faith in his ability to reach his goals, Moyer forged ahead and is now an A student with a 3.90 GPA.

Morris says she has always recognized Moyer's potential to overcome obstacles and reach his goals. It's been great, she says, to see his enthusiasm, making it easy to encourage him to go for it.

"When Garret sets his mind to accomplish a task, I can guarantee you, the task will be completed and he will be successful," Morris says. "The expression on his face when he came in to tell me that he had achieved a 3.90 GPA was priceless. Watching Garret address the challenge of his dyslexia and accomplish what he does both in his schooling as well as on the job, well, it's just great to get to be a part of it."

## Diversity Update: Broadening the impact of diversity

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 10:56:45 AM CT

Happy New Year, Shocker Nation!

We are excited to start 2017 with the opportunity to build on previous successes, and we appreciate all of the faculty, staff and student support.

Over the past year, we have developed new resources while continuing to strengthen existing services. As we continue to prioritize diversity and build a campus that is reflective of the community it serves, I encourage each of you to be intentional in expanding diversity and inclusion in order to broaden the impact and reach the entire WSU community.

As you consider new programs, projects or processes, please take a moment to reflect on the following:

- How have I engaged the loudest and quietest voices?
- Have I considered the impact of the decision on underserved or underrepresented groups?
- How will this strengthen my team and organization in a way that creates an environment of inclusiveness?

The beauty of diversity and inclusion is that we should never stop reaching for new heights. All of us reap the benefits, and our community is better as a result.

As Maya Angelou said: "We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.

In 2017, I challenge you to continue to strengthen the fabric of the Wichita State University community by ensuring our efforts to expand diversity and inclusion are intentional, meaningful and create value for those near and afar.

I wish you an aWSUme semester and remember diversity is everybody's responsibility.

*"The time is always right to do what is right." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

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



# Grant of the Month: Catherine Searle's \$150,000 NSF math grant

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 11:05:40 AM CT

Catherine Searle, an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics, was awarded a \$150,000 National Science Foundation grant for her research, "Lower Curvature Bounds, Symmetries and Topology."

The work focuses on the study of classification problems in the area of differential geometry. Curvature, or how a space "bends," is a fundamental geometric invariant of a space. In particular, Searle studies Riemannian manifolds and one of their generalizations, Alexandrov spaces.



Searle earned her Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Maryland at College Park and has been at Wichita State since August 2014.

# Metric of the Month: Undergraduate and graduate job relevance

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 11:07:07 AM 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.

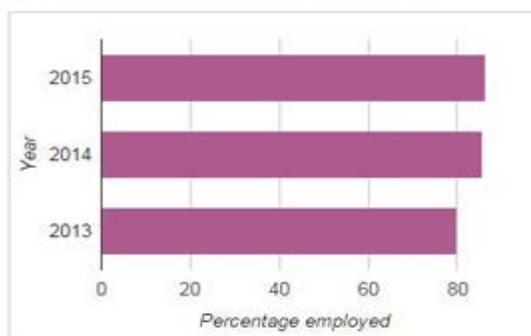
The highlighted metric for this month is undergraduate and graduate job relevance.

One of the key outcomes associated with WSU's mission to serve as an economic driver and its emphasis on applied learning is that graduates are able to find employment in areas that are related to their field of study.

Students employed in a job that relates to their field of study correlates to applied learning opportunities and capitalizes on relevant existing and emerging societal and economic trends. The identified linkage may be either direct or indirect, such as cases in which graduates are applying competencies gained through their field of study to their work in a different area (e.g., a sociology graduate working in marketing research).

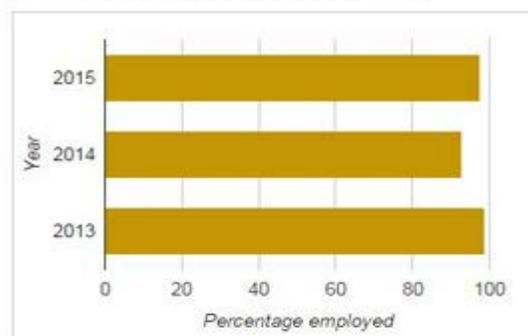
## UNDERGRAD JOB RELEVANCE

Percent of employed students working in a job directly or indirectly related to their field of study



## GRADUATE JOB RELEVANCE

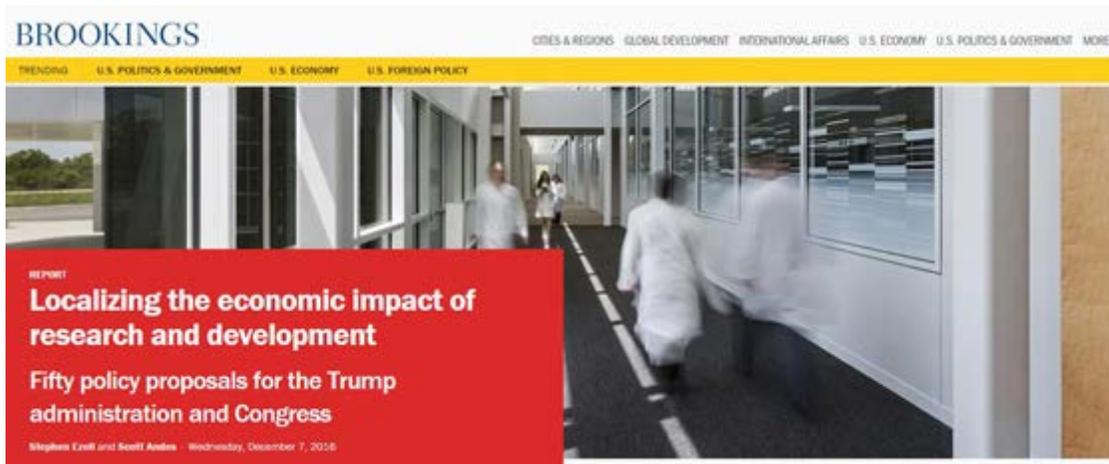
Percent of employed students working in a job directly or indirectly related to their field of study



# What I'm Reading: Localizing the economic impact of research and development

---

Posted: Friday, January 06, 2017 Posted: 11:09:56 AM CT



Half of America's economic growth can be attributed to scientific and technological innovation.

But investments government and businesses make in basic and applied research and development are only one component to the future success of technologies, products, firms and industries.

Along with expanded federal support for research, the U.S. government needs to improve the efficiency of the process by which federally funded knowledge creation leads to U.S. innovation and jobs.

Read more about 50 policy actions the Trump administration and Congress can take to bolster America's technology transfer, commercialization and innovation capacity.



## President's Message: Value, honor and respect

---

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:29:33 AM CT



As family lore goes, in the late 1800s my grandmother, her two sisters and brother slipped across the Canadian-American border looking for work in the mills around Boston.

They were young, Catholic, orphaned Irish-Canadians with no prospects. At that time, some people wouldn't hire Irish people, and my grandmother found it was helpful to claim to be of English ancestry since her last name could be found on both sides of the Irish Sea.

She ended up getting a job as a "bolt carrier" in a sewing shop—she carried large bolts of cloth to the cutting table. She and her future husband went on to establish a business that employed many dozens of people in Cincinnati, Columbus and St. Louis.

I'm writing this to fulfill a promise I made to an impressive group of Wichita State students who arrived in our country as children, not knowing they had a place in history as part of a wave of undocumented immigrants who would spend years in the political spotlight.

I met with these students in my office recently, along with Teri Hall, vice president for student affairs.

The four WSU students are part of a group of 750,000 young people across the country who are registered in a federal program known as DACA – Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

In exchange for registering, they have been given temporary relief from the possibility of deportation and are eligible for two-year renewable work permits.

Because this program was created by an executive order of President Obama, these students fear the program could be dissolved by an executive order from President Trump.

In that respect, they join those affected by the recent travel executive order and LGBTQ people who worry that their advances in recent years may also be reversed by federal action.



I want to make it clear that Wichita State stands with the DACA students and the others who add so much to the energy and intellect of our campus and the future of our democracy and economy.

We value, honor and respect the talent and perspectives that people of all races, nations and cultures bring to our campus.

I'm not one for signing petitions; I've seldom done so. But I'm proud to be among more than 600 college presidents across the country who have signed a petition originated at Pomona College in support of DACA students. It's called the "Statement in Support of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program and our Undocumented Immigrant Students."

You can [read the language here](#).

Whether you agree or disagree, I'd be interested in hearing your thoughts.

Email me: [president@wichita.edu](mailto:president@wichita.edu).

## A Shocker You Should Know: Lisa Hansen

---

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:29:49 AM CT



Less than three years from its creation, OneStop Student Services has already outgrown its space in Jabara Hall and is ready to expand. Leading the charge is Lisa Hansen, director of OneStop.

Lisa has been director of OneStop since June 2015. She says she's always thinking about what it's like to be a student navigating the often scary process of enrolling in college.

OneStop works to answer the everyday, frontline questions, reducing processing time and increasing specialized attention in the functional areas of Admissions, Registration, Financial Aid, Student Accounts and Advising.

Lisa and her staff help to make sure the processes of those offices are easily understood by students. As it moves to a new location in Jardine Hall this spring, OneStop will expand its staff and services, most notably growth of OneStop's advising and pre-enrollment services offered to first-year students.

Lisa says the goal is to create a convenient enrollment process for students in their first semester here and a common experience for all first-year traditional freshman students.

***“I knew that if I was coming home, this was the only place I would want to come back and work.”***

***– Lisa Hansen***

Their new location will move them closer to the offices they currently support that are already located in Jardine Hall – Registration, Financial Aid, Student Accounts and Graduate Admissions – and allow for more visibility of OneStop for students on campus.

“Our No. 1 goal is to serve the students,” says Lisa. “We’re just there to help them through the process.”

Lisa stays busy outside of the office, as well. She and her husband, Keith, are constantly on the go with Kolten, 6, McKinley, 4, and Benjamin, 10 months. And to add to the workload, the family will be closing on a new house at the same time as OneStop moves offices.

They are active in their church’s weekly bible study group, and she sings on the worship team. They also teach Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace class at least once a year together.

Lisa is a 2007 WSU graduate. Before coming to WSU, she worked in banking for nine years. After college, she worked as an admissions representative, office supervisor and assistant director in Undergraduate Admissions before moving out of state in 2013 for her husband’s job.

Thankfully, she quickly returned the next year to be a OneStop representative before moving into the director’s role.

She says she’s forever grateful she was able to come back to Wichita State.

“The day we decided we were moving back to Kansas, I got on the website and looked for positions open at WSU. I knew that if I was coming home, this was the only place I would want to come back and work,” she says. “I never realized how impactful that decision would be. My passion for helping others and serving this university is completely fulfilled by my job. The energy on this campus right now, and the positive changes that are happening, make it exciting to come to work each day. It truly is a great time to be a Shocker.”

## Diversity Update: Black History Month, President's Diversity Council anniversary

---

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:30:05 AM CT

I hope your semester is off to a great start and you are honoring our diversity! February is Black History Month and Wichita State's one-year anniversary of the President's Diversity Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee members for their hard work and commitment to diversity.

On behalf of President John Bardo and myself, we thank you for your service and look forward to another year of moving the university toward a more diverse environment. I look forward to sharing many experiences, and I encourage each of you to reach out to others from different cultures as we build a culture of inclusiveness.

During February, there are a number of [President's Diversity Council](#) and [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#) activities we would like to share.



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

Of the many special events, Robert Weems, Willard W. Garvey Distinguished Professor of Business History, will present the Black History Month keynote speech, "Whatever Happened to Black Insurance Companies? The Decline and Disappearance of an African American Community Institution," at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in 208 Hubbard Hall.

For more information, contact the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, 978-3034 or go to <http://www.wichita.edu/odi>.

***"The time is always right to do what is right."  
— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.***

## **Grant of the Month: Fuel-grade ammonia research**

---

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:30:54 AM CT

Wichita State is developing a new technology that may affordably produce fuel-grade ammonia using only air and water as ingredients.

The project has received an \$855,000 federal grant from U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) – the first of its kind awarded to a Kansas institution as the lead.

Shuang Gu, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is the principal investigator of the project, "Alkaline Membrane-Based Ammonia Electrosynthesis with High Efficiency for Renewable and Scalable Fuel Production."

The research team also includes two collaborative researchers: Stuart Licht, professor of chemistry at George Washington University and Wenzhen Li, associate professor of chemistry at Iowa State University.

The team will demonstrate a method for creating ammonia from air using a hydroxide-exchange membrane (HEM) powered by renewable electricity. Current methods of generating ammonia are energy-intensive and suffer from inefficiencies that drive up costs.

“Our recent breakthroughs in electrochemical materials enable us to demonstrate a novel technology with a great potential and a logical pathway of efficiently producing ammonia as liquid fuels from renewable energy sources,” said Gu.

## Metric of the Month: Intellectual property disclosures

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:31:35 AM 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.

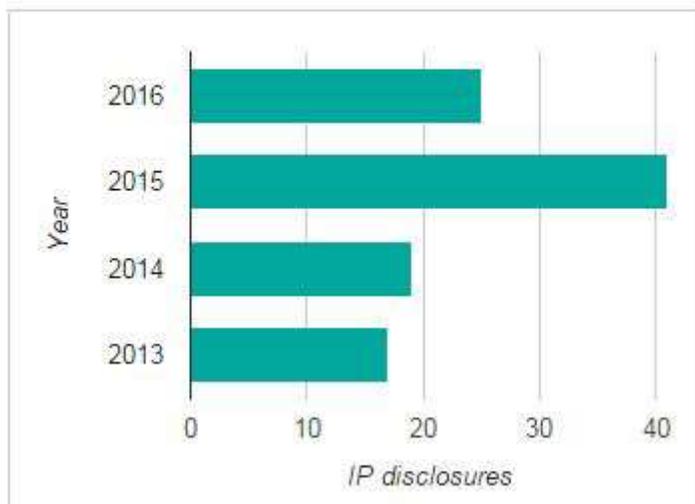
The highlighted metric for this month is intellectual properties disclosures.

The number of intellectual property disclosures relates to numerous WSU strategic goals, including the discovery, creation and transfer of new knowledge. The number of IP disclosures pertains to WSU's mission of being an educational, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good. Intellectual property disclosures are one of the many outcomes associated with WSU's emphasis on creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Click on the graph below to see a more detailed breakdown.

### IP DISCLOSURES

Number of intellectual property disclosure forms received, fiscal year.



SOURCE: WSU Ventures

## What I'm Reading: 'What's the value of a \$10,000 degree?'

---

Posted: Friday, February 03, 2017 Posted: 11:31:48 AM CT

Even with scholarships and loans, cost remains a key barrier to higher education. Gov. Brownback's State of the State message last month included a challenge to Kansas public universities to produce a \$15,000 four-year degree.

That's probably possible for a very committed student with the right combination of college credits earned in high school and community college, prior to attending a four-year Regents school.

Florida's workforce-oriented bachelor's degree programs are a model that suggests that lower-cost, less-selective pathways to a bachelor's degree can serve students, at least when it comes to getting a first job.





## President's Message: Status update on campus Wellness Center and YMCA

Posted: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 Posted: 4:32:31 PM CT



I wanted you to know that a Wellness Center and campus YMCA are still under active consideration. I'm looking forward to additional input from faculty, staff and students to help us find a positive way forward.

These facilities are important enough to the future of the university that I've asked members of our team to keep exploring the idea, despite a vote last week by Student Government Association to oppose it.

Thanks to the hard work of a number of people on campus, a year ago the Wellness Services portfolio was created within Student Affairs and placed under the leadership of Dr. Maureen Dasey-Morales, better known as "Dr. Mo."

Wellness includes Campus Recreation, Counseling and Testing, Student Health Services and Child Development.

When she was promoted last year to associate vice president, Mo spoke powerfully about the importance of these services at the university. She said:

"If you're a resilient person, if you're energetic in your work and interact positively with others, and if you care for your mind and your body, you're going to be a more successful person in your career and your degree. You'll be more successful in creating things and innovating things. That's part of your education."

The new 60,000-square-foot Wellness Center and Y contemplated for Innovation Campus would bring together and allow the expansion of:

- Student Health Services, now inadequately housed on the second floor of Ahlberg.
- Counseling and Testing, now in Grace Wilkie.
- Drop-in childcare services, that don't currently exist on campus. The Child Development Center, which serves a different role, would continue in its current facility on 21st Street.
- A full-service modern fitness center.

Under the plan being discussed, Campus Recreation would continue and likely grow. Dr. Mo has been talking with the Campus Recreation staff this week and they've got cool ideas for expanding their services in new directions. Overall student employment in fitness and recreation jobs would grow. International students could be employed at the new facility, just as they are now at Heskett and Rhatigan.

A campuswide committee including students, faculty and staff, as well as Y staff, would make sure we're making complementary use of all campus recreation and fitness facilities.

The part of the plan that has drawn the most fire is the estimate of a \$7.75 student credit hour fee. We're now exploring funding alternatives that will still provide the needed funds to operate the facilities.

Student fees in some form will be needed to finance these operations. That's exactly the way it's done at other Kansas Regents universities because these are services that primarily serve students.

KU, K-State and Pitt State all have much more modern facilities to show prospective students and parents, and the other universities would still be charging higher student fees for the same types of services.

A big advantage here is that under the agreement being discussed with the Y, our students would have access not just to the campus Y, but also to each of the nine Y branches in Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey counties. That would begin as soon as the fee went into effect, meaning that those paying the fee would get immediate benefit.

Thanks to all of you who have shared your thoughts and questions on a campus Y and Wellness Center at the recent town hall or information tables at the Rhatigan and Heskett.

There are questions we don't know enough yet to answer, such as what will faculty and staff pay to use a new Y. That depends on factors yet to be determined, but we will get you answers when we know them. For a list of frequently asked questions, go to [www.wichita.edu/ymca](http://www.wichita.edu/ymca).

Please email your thoughts and questions to me, [president@wichita.edu](mailto:president@wichita.edu). And for those of you who may be taking time off next week, have a wonderful spring break.

# A Shocker You Should Know: Scott Jensen

Posted: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 Posted: 4:33:02 PM CT

Change is a concept Scott Jensen has grown quite accustomed to. Since coming to Wichita State as director of Housing and Residence Life in July 2015, Scott has dealt with the daily challenges of a new residence hall – Shocker Hall – and is now taking on a partnership with the developers of the first apartment complex on campus, The Flats at WSU.

Scott says at WSU, he has two main goals: continue to make positive connections between Housing and the rest of the university; and constantly look for ways he can be more efficient with the use of department funds to ensure as many resources as possible are used to better the student experience.



“We believe Housing and Residence Life should provide students access to the great resources WSU offers its students,” he says. “Students who live on campus are more likely to join a student organization, work out at the Heskett Center, attend a late night event at the RSC put on by ODI or Student Involvement, utilize the resources at the Student Health Center or Counseling and Testing, or take advantage of all the academic support services available around campus. Our job in HRL is to make sure our students are aware of those resources and to know our students.”

Scott says he and his staff continue to fine tune the Living Learning Community program in Shocker Hall, are looking to grow the summer intern and conference program, and are implementing a new housing software program that will streamline HRL’s work.



Scott says he’s excited for the opportunity to work with The Flats at WSU. Housing is taking on property management of the complex, and Scott hopes the additional housing will help further create a community in that area and build on the energy Shocker Hall has added to campus.

“We know our current on-campus housing does not meet the needs of many of our students who desire to have a more traditional apartment experience where they can cook their own food and enjoy a little more space,” he says. “We hope this partnership with The Flats at WSU will allow us to create a place on campus where students

continue to enjoy the convenience and community aspects they enjoy in their current on-campus college experience.”

This is Scott’s first time taking on a director role. Prior to arriving in Wichita, the Washington state native spent 13 years in housing-related positions, most recently at the University of Utah.

In just 1.5 years in Wichita, Scott and his family – wife, Theresa and 8-year-old Lucas – have genuinely enjoyed their new home. Scott’s mom was born in Wichita, so he says living here was always on his radar, and he jumped at the change to work at WSU when the job became available.

“During my interview, I was struck by the strong feeling of community at WSU and the pride the community had in the university,” he says. “When I was offered the job, it was an easy decision for me to join the Shocker family.”

## Diversity Update: Women's History Month

Posted: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 Posted: 11:07:45 AM CT

In March, we celebrate Women’s History Month to recognize and celebrate the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society.

Our history is filled with hidden figures who persevered to promote equity for women in our nation and community.

One of the ways we celebrate the progress and contributions of women in history is through on-campus events.

On March 8, the Center for Women’s Studies and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion presented keynote speaker Sen. Oletha Faust-Goudeau to discuss women’s political leadership in Kansas and the United States.

I encourage you to attend “Ain’t I a Woman” at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 27, in Wiedemann Hall, presented by the President’s Diversity Council and the School of Music.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate the 2017 President’s Distinguished Service Awardees:

- Krysti Carlson-Goering, Information Technology Services
- Deanna Carrithers, President's Diversity Council
- Janet Ives, School of Music
- Kayla Jasso, College of Education
- Krishna Krishnan, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
- Rhonda Lewis, Psychology
- Gayle Martin, Public Policy and Management Center
- Jordan Oleson, Graduate School
- Jean Patterson, Counseling, Leadership, Educational and School
- Psychology Stacy Salters, Alumni Association



*"As we celebrate Women's History Month this March, it's important to remember the key role women have played in promoting a better understanding and relationships between our country and the rest of the world." — Elaine Chao*

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

# Grant of the Month: Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Posted: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 Posted: 4:33:27 PM CT

The National Science Foundation awarded a grant of \$323,899 to Vinod Namboodiri, associate professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department (EECS).

The grant will fund a three-year program for research in computer networks, mobile computing, wireless communications and information security and privacy.

As part of the program, Namboodiri and the College of Engineering will host 10 undergraduate students for a summer computer science research program. The students will spend nine weeks working with faculty researchers from EECS, living and working at WSU and earning stipends of \$4,500.



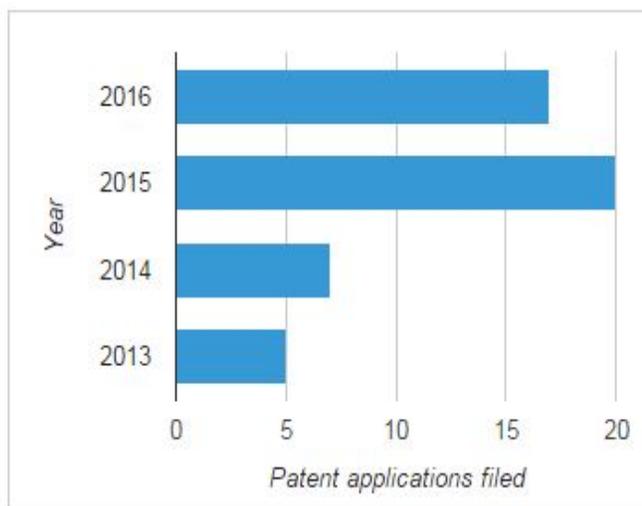
# Metric of the Month: Patents filed

Posted: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 Posted: 9:20:18 AM 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 patents filed.

The number of patents filed relates to numerous WSU strategic goals, including the discovery, creation and transfer of new knowledge and applied learning experiences for students. Patents filed also pertains to WSU's mission of being an educational, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good and are one of the many outcomes associated with WSU's emphasis on creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship.



# What I'm Reading: 'The accelerating pace of change in higher education'

Posted: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 Posted: 4:35:38 PM CT

In my years in North Carolina, I got to know Gov. James G. Martin as a big thinker in the world of higher education. In this article, the institution named after him – the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal – takes on the accelerating pace of change in higher education.

There is a considerable body of opinion that systemic problems such as diminishing tax-funded support and rapidly escalating costs are so wired into the collective that only extreme measures can break through institutional logjams.

This list provides a framework for the conversations to come.





## President's Message: Collaborative retention efforts

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:57:21 AM CT



As we complete the academic year, I'm encouraged and grateful for the collaborative work being done across campus to boost our retention efforts.

Retention is important for overall enrollment. It's not just about students choosing Wichita State – it's about keeping them here to complete their programs well prepared for life and work.

One of the most positive moves toward reaching our retention goals has been the reconfiguration of OneStop, led by Lisa Hansen, to include first-year freshmen advising. This new enrollment process for traditional freshmen has been led by the Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) Team chaired by Rick Muma and collaboration between OneStop, college academic advisors, the Office of Student Success (OSS), the Office of the Registrar and Information Technology Services.

Students answer an online questionnaire about class and personal preferences, and then a OneStop advisor builds a potential schedule. Students can either accept the schedule or talk with an advisor to continue the enrollment process.

We're already getting good feedback on this new system that eases the process for new freshmen and allows them to enroll earlier. So far, 700 students have completed the questionnaire. Of those students, OneStop has built almost 600 schedules, and close to 450 students have confirmed their schedule for the fall semester.

As a result of our SEM Plan, many of our retention activities are centered on goals within the OSS headed up by Kim Sandlin.

Nearly every area in OSS has seen change recently – all with an eye toward a more coordinated retention plan.

Through a SEM subcommittee, a faculty toolbox has been created. The toolbox, which you can see at [wichita.edu/facultytoolbox](http://wichita.edu/facultytoolbox), is a collection of resources, behaviors and ideas that support retention.

Tools include top 10 tips for teaching face-to-face classes and online classes, as well as weekly guides to help students with subjects from time management to preparation

Faculty are provided with these tools via messages from Tony Vizzini, WSU Today and the [WSU One blog](#). These tools equip faculty to provide students the guidance they need to succeed.

OSS has also created a new retention faculty fellows program. This group is intended to meet the objective of SEM Goal 3: Increase retention rates of degree-seeking, underserved student populations by 2.5 percent yearly through fall 2020. Their work focuses on helping retain currently enrolled undergraduate students.

The fellows will complete projects including multiple outreach campaigns to students using the Student Success Collaborative platform, hosting social opportunities for students and sharing information about retention services and resources with other faculty within their own departments and colleges.

**Retention fellows are:**

- Laura Zellers, School of Accountancy
- Shaunna Millar, School of Social Work
- Moriah Beck, Chemistry
- Abu Asaduzzaman, Electrical and Computer Science
- Danette Baker, Theater
- Cathy Durano, Curriculum and Instruction
- Lisa Belt, Dental Hygiene



Among the programs to come out of the retention fellows program so far are Pop-Up Test Prep parties and Enrollment Prep Pop-Up lunches. These meetings are planned for high-traffic areas, such as Shocker Hall and outside of specific classrooms after class. The goal is to meet students where they are.

Not only do these pop-ups help answer questions about enrollment and prepare students for tough classes, they build awareness with students that our faculty and staff care about their success.

Coming this summer will be a concentrated effort in Student Affairs, led by new VP for Student Affairs Teri Hall, in developing additional retention plans from a student affairs perspective.

These are just some of the efforts that have grown out of the SEM process, and I'm thankful to everyone who has taken part.

If you want to learn more about SEM, go to [wichita.edu/SEMplan](http://wichita.edu/SEMplan).

Our [most recent statistics](#) show that retention is slowly but surely growing, and with continued collaborative work, I believe we'll see those numbers continue to rise.

# A Shocker You Should Know: Pamela O'Neal

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:57:41 AM CT

When Pamela O'Neal talks with current and prospective students about what it takes to succeed as an adult learner, her advice comes with 15 years of first-hand experience.

All set to start college straight out of high school in 1989, Pamela's course quickly changed when she tore her ACL weeks before she planned to enroll in Sterling College on a volleyball and softball scholarship.

"I was to have surgery the day classes were to start and was told that I was going nowhere for a year," she says. "I was devastated. All my friends were leaving to go to college and I was going nowhere. After that year passed, I felt I just couldn't play anymore."



Pamela opted to join the workforce, getting a job at Rand Graphics. But, she says, she never forgot about college, and in 2002, mustered the courage to take her first class at WSU. English 101 led to English 202 – and she was hooked. Five years later, working the whole time at Rand, she graduated with a bachelor's in communication and English literature.

Pamela's dream was to write for a newspaper, but in 2007, nobody was hiring. A professor suggested she get her master's in communication.

"I remember thinking to myself, 'Can I honestly do that? Am I smart enough to get my master's degree?'"

Best decision ever, she says.

While in grad school, Pamela taught public speaking as a GTA, lectured after she graduated and started working for Communication Upward Bound. She earned another degree in that time – a master's in public health from the KU School of Medicine.

Through her work in health care, Pamela made connections that led her back to Wichita State as communications, public relations and recruitment specialist for WSU's School of Nursing.

She worked there for three years before making the switch to the Office of Adult Learning, where Pamela now works as the office and communications manager. After all her years engrossed in higher education as a student and working adult, this is where Pamela feels most at home.

“I do what I can to encourage and help students who want to get their degree. I know what it’s like. I’ve been there. It’s scary, it’s intimidating and as an adult, their time is limited,” she says. “They are often working full time, married and taking care of children. It’s good to be able to tell them that I can help. Often they appreciate hearing from someone who is a returning adult student.”

Not content with her three degrees, this summer Pamela will start work on her Doctor of Education Leadership degree. She’s a little scared, but says she’s seen other adult learners overcome bigger hurdles.

***“When I tell students we exist, and that they have a place where they can go to find other students like themselves, you can almost see a weight being lifted off of them.”***

***– Pamela O’Neal***

And if there’s one thing Pamela is used to, it’s hard work. Growing up on a dairy farm a few miles north of Conway Springs, the cows had to be milked every day – weekends and holidays included. It’s here, she says, where she developed such a strong foundation. A tightknit family that includes three older brothers and two younger sisters also played a vital role.

Nearly 30 years after that fateful day in high school, Pamela has a perspective that often only comes with experience.

“When I tore my ACL, I thought my life was ruined. Looking back, it may have been one of the best things that happened to me,” she says. “I came back to school at 32 years of age. I was a lot more mature and really ready to learn than I would have been at 18.

“I knew what it was like to work, and my future looked gloomy, to say the least, without a college degree. My whole outlook changed when I enrolled for classes and learned that I was smart enough and that I could indeed get a degree.”

Pamela says she would have killed to have an Office of Adult Learning when she was an undergraduate at WSU. Just knowing you have an office where there are others like you, she says, is one of the biggest advantages WSU’s adult learning services can offer.

“When I tell students we exist, and that they have a place where they can go to find other students like themselves, you can almost see a weight being lifted off of them,” she says. “WSU is a very special place to me. It’s helped me grow and become a better person.”

# Diversity Update: The advancement of diversity and inclusion

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:57:54 AM CT

The advancement of diversity and inclusion is an ongoing discussion that progresses through a shared understanding of challenges and commitment to growth. Last month, the university Strategic Planning Forum featured an update on the state of diversity on campus. As we make progress, we should be proud of our efforts as the forum highlighted improved coordination and the many Shockers who go above and beyond to create a culture of diversity and inclusion.

Within the WSU community, we recognize progress is made by creating opportunities for shared experiences. One recent example was the performance of *Ain't I A Woman*. In collaboration with the President's Diversity Council, English Department and USD 259, the School of Music provided a unique experience that explored African-American history through the lens of four prominent African-American women. This is one of the numerous opportunities that WSU offers, and I encourage faculty, staff and students to take advantage of these opportunities.



I would like to thank Alex Chaparro and Traniece Bruce for their service to the President's Diversity Council. Both of these outstanding colleagues have made a tremendous contribution to diversity and inclusion on campus and are pursuing new opportunities. They will be missed and we appreciate all of their efforts.

Please go to the [President Diversity Council website](#) for updates, training and programs on diversity.

*"We are all different, which is great because we are all unique. Without diversity life would be very boring." — Catherine Pulsifer*

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

# Grant of the Month: Zheng Chen's CAREER grant

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:58:09 AM CT



Zheng Chen, an assistant professor of electrical engineering and computer science at Wichita State's College of Engineering, has been named a National Science Foundation CAREER Grant Award winner.

Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program grants are the most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of their organizations.

Chen received a \$500,000, five-year NSF CAREER Award for his project "Artificial Muscle Based on Dielectric Elastomers for Dexterous and Compliant Prostheses," which will begin this May. The ultimate goal of the project is to achieve dexterous, lightweight and energy-efficient prostheses using DE-based artificial muscles, in contrast to the heavy and inefficient electric motors of the current generation of robotic arms.

The project incorporates aspects of bio-inspired design, device fabrication and dynamic modeling, sensing and control. The success of this project will help provide affordable, reliable and comfortable prostheses to the estimated 2 million military veterans and civilians who have lost hands, arms or legs to accidents, natural disasters, wars, diseases or aging. This project will also train the next-generation workforce with skills in the dynamic modeling, control and fabrication of devices based on smart materials and structures.

"Dr. Chen's novel approach to artificial muscles has significant potential to help populations who have suffered the loss of a limb due to trauma, infection, diabetes or other diseases," said Jan Twomey, associate dean for graduate studies, research and faculty success in the College of Engineering.

This is the fourth CAREER Award winner in four years for the WSU College of Engineering.

# Metric of the Month: Licensing agreements

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:58:29 AM 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.

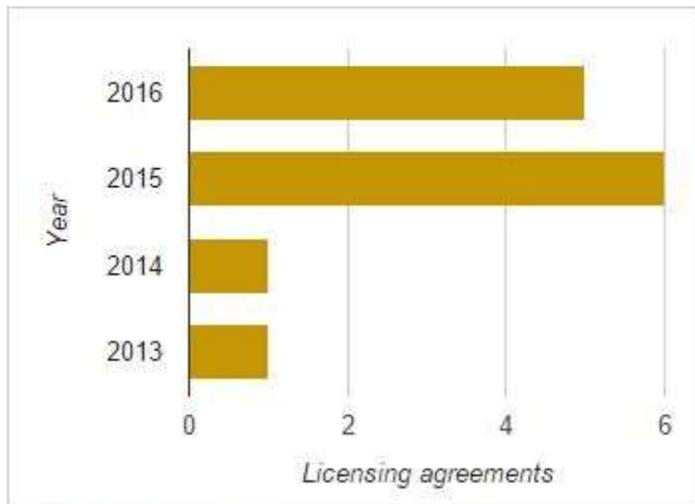
The highlighted metric for the month is licensing agreements.

The number of licensing agreements relates to numerous WSU strategic goals, including the discovery creating and transfer of new knowledge. Licensing agreements also pertain to WSU's mission of being an educational, cultural and economic driver for Kansas and the greater public good.

See the graph below for details.

## LICENSING AGREEMENTS

Number of agreements signed



SOURCE: WSU Ventures

# What I'm Reading: '6 Reasons You May Not Graduate on Time'

---

Posted: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 Posted: 9:58:44 AM CT



Graduating from a four-year college in four years may sound like a straightforward venture, but only 41 percent of students manage to do it.

And unfortunately, the longer it takes, the less likely a student is to make it to graduation.



## President's Message: Preparing students for the world

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:30:24 PM CT

We recently bid farewell to professor Dharma deSilva, who died last month at age 83, still tremendously active in his 42nd year as a WSU faculty member.



Long before 2013, when the university adopted the Strategic Plan Vision of being “internationally recognized as the model for applied learning and research,” Dharma had that vision and was making it real.

From 1976, when he co-founded the World Trade Council of Wichita until his death, Dharma worked tirelessly on campus, in the local business community, and internationally, to make applied learning part of the business education curriculum.

His colleagues and his former students around the world speak with great affection and respect about his vigor and single-mindedness in creating opportunities for students to interact with professionals in ways that often led to job offers and thriving careers.

Connie Dietz is another WSU leader long devoted to the professional success of our students. During Connie's 22 years at WSU, most recently as executive director of the Career Development Center, she and her staff have built a strong ecosystem benefitting students and employers.

***Applied learning is the differentiator in the best experiences we can offer our students.***

As we prepare for Connie's retirement this summer, the executive team has been discussing work-based learning and the university's role in career development.

Part of the issue is vocabulary. Historically, we've used terms including internship, co-op and part-time job.

All those terms are inadequate for describing the best system that has actually evolved, giving students meaningful professional work experiences that relate to their career aspirations.

At the same time, companies, non-profits or government agencies benefit from the opportunity to form lasting relationships with students beginning as early as the freshman year.



Applied learning is the differentiator in the best experiences we can offer our students. If we can forge clear connections between classroom learning and workplace learning, we will equip our students with important tools for success.

Here's the definition of applied learning used in our 2016 accreditation documents: Applied learning occurs when students develop knowledge, skills and values from personal direct experiences that go beyond the traditional lecture or lab. Applied learning encompasses a variety of activities including service learning, undergraduate research, theses, dissertations and other creative (e.g., live performances) and professional services (e.g., practicums, internships, clinical rotations and cooperative education).

If you have examples of where this is working well, or suggestions for improvement, please send your thoughts to me, [president@wichita.edu](mailto:president@wichita.edu).

*The president's Newsletter will resume fall semester. Have a great summer.*

# Diversity Update: Candid conversations, expanded opportunities

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:32:06 PM CT

As the end of the semester approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past year and say thank you to the members of the WSU community, especially the President's Diversity Council that worked tirelessly to advance diversity and inclusion on campus and the greater community. This has been a wonderful year and we have had many candid conversations that resulted in many successes and expanded opportunities.



## Highlights from this year include:

- One-year anniversary of the President's Diversity Council (PDC)
- First Annual Positive African-American Student Leadership Conference with USD 259
- Developed an official pipeline and connection with all university divisions and colleges through the President's Diversity Council
- Celebrated first annual DiverseCity Week
- Kansas Hispanic Education and Development Foundation Scholarship Recognition Dinner to be held in May
- Established a scholarship with the Greater Wichita Ministerial League
- Wichita Business Journal's Leaders in Diversity Award
- Increased recruitment and diversity on the WSU cheer and dance squads
- Inter-organizational collaboration with the School of Music for "Ain't I A Woman"
- PDC / LAS Black History Month keynote address with David Embrick
- Climate Survey Collaborator
- State Tilford Conference Keynote Address
- Facilitated student-centered focus groups related to diversity related topics

Although all accomplishments are not included, all of the hard work is recognized, and I look forward to working together again in the fall.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Alicia Sanchez, director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, for being a 2017 Wichita Business Journal 40 Under 40 Honoree.

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

# A Shocker You Should Know: Kathy Downes

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:31:47 PM CT

Last week it was announced that Kathy Downes had been named dean of University Libraries. Kathy brings with her nearly 40 years of extensive experience, along with a fresh view and an eye to the future.

Kathy is responsible for the overall direction and development of library services, collections and facilities. This involves working with campus leaders, academic units, students, the community and library employees to ensure that the University Libraries is not only supporting the university's goals, but advancing them.

Wichita State is all about innovation, and University Libraries is no exception, she says.

“This is an exciting time given all the technological innovations that have provided new ways for people to conduct research, interact with information and engage in learning,” Kathy says. “Since coming to WSU, I’ve had the opportunity to be part of an institution that has never stopped advancing.”

Being a part of, and contributing to that growth has been deeply rewarding, Kathy says.

One of the advances she’s enjoyed most being a part of was when she served as library construction coordinator during Ablah Library’s expansions in the mid-1980s and late 1990s. The experience gave her an appreciation of architects, all of the building trades and awoke an interest in how environmental design can enhance educational experiences.

That interest continues to today. Kathy has recently been involved in restructuring Ablah Library’s public spaces to better support the ways today’s students study and use information resources.

While the basic role of the library hasn’t changed in her time here, Kathy says how they achieve their goals has.

Technological advances have provided opportunities for academic libraries to explore new modes of research and learning with their campus colleagues.

Advances in publishing and information systems have allowed libraries to provide access to a greater number and variety of information resources, as well as enhanced services unrestricted by the walls of the library.



But even with these advances, use of services in the physical library remains strong, she says. Last year, on the average, every 30 seconds a person walked into a WSU library facility.

Although she has stayed in Wichita since 1979, Kathy was born in the small coastal town of Newburyport, Massachusetts, into a military family. She lived in 10 states and Japan growing up.

She says she has great memories of her different homes, and each place has its own charm.

These days Kathy gets her traveling fix by exploring national parks. She's been to more than 25 parks and national monuments; favorites include Arches, Zion and Yellowstone national parks, as well as multiple parks in Colorado.

“For me, they are good places to recharge one's batteries.”

Learn more about University Libraries services at <http://libraries.wichita.edu/ablah/>.

# Grant of the Month: NASA Advanced Composites Consortium

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:33:54 PM CT

Four grants totaling more than \$225,000 have been awarded to the National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) as part of the NASA Advanced Composites Consortium.

Senior Research Engineer Waruna Seneviratne is the lead for the following projects:

- **Progressive Damage Analysis:** The research team will develop strength and life prediction analysis tools for complex advanced composite structures and standardize procedures for their reliable use. The framework and development of procedures will reduce design iterations and expedite building blocks of analysis and certification testing for advanced composite structures. Grant cost is \$100,549.
- **Rapid Tools:** The team will develop and validate design tools for producing more realistic and robust preliminary designs that are less prone to costly changes that lead to program delays later in the development cycle. Research includes evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of these tools for design criteria associated with damage tolerance, bonding and automated manufacturing processes. Grant cost is \$25,994.
- **Laminate Cure Defects Process Model Development:** The team will develop and demonstrate new computational methods to relate manufacturing parameters to defect formation, and connect to commercial design and analysis software to allow structural optimization, while resolving predicted manufacturing issues. The outcome of this research will lead to fewer manufacturing iterations and quality issues, better process control supporting product certification and improvements to preliminary design. Grant cost is \$37,581.



Gerardo Olivares, senior research scientist and director of the Crash Dynamics & Computational Mechanics Laboratory, is the lead on the following project:

- **High Energy Dynamic Impact:** Extensive use of composite materials in aircraft structures now requires analytical tools with the capacity to capture a range of deformation, damage and failure mechanisms for an expanded design space. In some

cases, such as high energy dynamic impact related events, the lack of fully validated and standardized analysis approaches has led to increased use of testing to evaluate the structure's response. This testing is expensive and time consuming, so a need exists for well validated analysis tools in which the overall strengths and weaknesses of the analysis methods are well understood and documented. The goal is to develop analytical models that accurately predict the physical response, damage and failure modes of large scale composite structures. Grant cost is \$62,851.

The NASA Advanced Composites Consortium is a public-private partnership that seeks to develop and transition technology to enable a reduction in the time required to develop and certify new aircraft structures that utilize advanced composite materials.

The consortium includes NASA, the Federal Aviation Administration, Aurora Flight Sciences, The Boeing Co., Collier Research, General Electric Aviation, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Orbital ATK, University of South Carolina, McNair Center, United Technologies Corp., Spirit AeroSystems, Wichita State University and the National Institute of Aerospace.

# Metric of the Month: Businesses Launched

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:33:39 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.

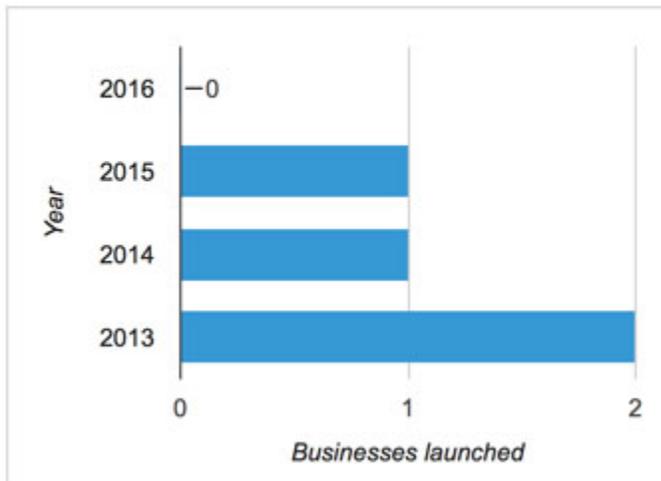
The highlighted metric for the month is businesses launched.

The number of new businesses launched relates to numerous WSU strategic goals, including the discovery, creation and transfer of new knowledge.

See the graph below for details.

## BUSINESSES LAUNCHED

Number of new companies launched with WSU technology



SOURCE: WSU Ventures

# What I'm Reading: 'Education and the Human Capital Challenge'

---

Posted: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Posted: 2:34:09 PM CT

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GROWTH 1980 - 2014



There's no doubt Wichita has a formidable higher education community capable of competing with nearly any other city its size. But, according to the Chung Report, while the number of people graduating from high school and going on to college has increased across the country, Wichita has failed to keep up with its peer cities.

Recent research shows a decline in Wichita's educational attainment – statistics that track the highest levels of education attained by a specific population – compared with the national average. This is a reversal from the 1980s, when Wichita's percentage of residents with at least a bachelor's degree was 15 percent greater than the rest of the country's.

We aren't doing enough to provide opportunities to use higher education degrees in a productive, fulfilling way. If we can't offer these jobs for our graduates, other cities will.  
» [Read more about this trend and what can be done to stop it.](#)