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The Guardian, Week of February 8, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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The Wright State GUARDIAN

MEDIA GROUP

Weekly Horoscopes
Star Signer
February 8, 2021

We all bring something special to our group of friends with our unique personality. Read here to discover what kind of friend you actually are based on your zodiac sign.

ARIES

Aries, you are the supportive friend. You value your friends like no other and do everything you can to support them in their endeavors, beliefs and futures.

TAURUS

Taurus, you are the motivational friend. You see the best of everyone and every situation. Oftentimes, your friends look to you to share your positivity and make light of a dark situation. You like to encourage others that they are capable of doing anything they set their mind to.

GEMINI

Gemini, you are the wild and fun friend. You are always willing to try something new, even if it is something you could never see yourself doing. You love to have a good laugh and you are carefree enough that your friends can always count on you to say “yes”.

CANCER

Cancer, you are the loyal friend. You are a constant in all your friends’ lives and you do your best to keep up with them and be there for them through everything they do. No matter what happens, you always bounce back from a fight and keep your promises.

LEO

Leo, you are the compassionate friend. You may not have a billion friends or be “the most popular” but you have the best relationships and that is all that matters. You are extremely compassionate towards all of your friends and they are always grateful for your generosity.

VIRGO

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Virgo, you are the problem-solving friend. You are the glue that holds your friend group together. Often the one to break up fights or keep them from happening, you often remind everyone why they are friends to begin with.

LIBRA

Libra, you are the hilarious friend. Everyone knows that when they are with you, they will be laughing. You tell the best jokes and overall just have a funny personality. You are crazy enough that you'll do anything to get a laugh.

SCORPIO

Scorpio, you are the dedicated friend. You are extremely passionate and know that friends are so important in life. You will do anything for your friends and know that they will do the same for you.

SAGITTARIUS

Sagittarius, you are the brutally honest friend. You are not afraid to say it like it is no matter what others think. All of your friends know that you won't sugar coat your opinion. They also know not to take your comments too personally.

CAPRICORN

Capricorn, you are the loud friend. Everyone hears you coming before they see you and recognizes you by the sound of your voice. It isn't uncommon for your friends to hear your obnoxiously loud and contagious laugh through the walls.

AQUARIUS

Aquarius, you are the emotional friend. You tend to take everything very seriously and feel your emotions very strongly. You have a great love for all of your friends and people often tell you that you wear your heart on your sleeve.

PISCES

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Pisces, you are the late friend. No matter who you go to spend time with or what you are doing, all of your friends know that you will be the last to show up. It is something that you can't help and your friends know. Everyone has accepted that you will be late, including yourself.

UAB Hosts Spirit Week With In-Person and Virtual Events

Maxwell Patton

February 8, 2021

The University Activities Board (UAB) is hosting Spirit Week featuring in-person and virtual events for students between Feb. 8 and Feb 12.

This set of events is being held as a way to get Raiders excited for the rest of the semester.

"Spring semester can be rough, so bringing in something to strengthen their Raider pride is what we tried to do," said UAB Vice President Cody Pack. "We do that through giving away a bunch of stuff and making students feel welcome on campus."

The schedule of events

The first event of the week will be a giveaway of iHeartWSU t-shirts on Monday at 11 a.m. This will be held in person and is Pack's favorite event of the week.

"You see them wearing [the shirts] on campus all the time and it's like 'okay, cool.'," said Pack. "We got them to wear that, and we gave it to them. It's just cool to see."

Though the event is not a part of Spirit Week, the UAB will also be hosting a Mystery Monday at 7 p.m. through WebEx where students can, according to the UAB Facebook page, "bring out [their] inner detective and sort through different unsolved case files."

Tuesday, there will be a virtual game of Kahoot at 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday both have in-person events at 11 a.m. where students will be able to build their own Rowdy Raiders and terrariums. The terrarium building is an activity that the director of April Craze Alexis Linden is looking forward to.

"We'll be providing all of the little containers and plants and rocks and stuff that can go into it," said Linden. "I've never made one, so I thought that was neat."

Finally, Friday is iHeartWSU Day, an online, all-day event where students can submit photos of themselves.

Running safe in-person events

The UAB is taking several precautions for Spirit Week events including wearing gloves, sanitizing and having a sign-in sheet for those who will be participating on campus.

One of the challenges that the UAB has had to face with putting together these events during the coronavirus pandemic has been determining how students can come to them, since, according to Pack, virtual events have not been as successful as in-person ones. To remedy this, they have been utilizing social media more and putting up flyers in student housing.

“We’re trying to do in-person safely, but it’s been difficult because things are constantly changing, and then also making sure everybody’s safe about it is hard too,” said Pack.

“A lot of students feel excluded from campus during this time,” said Pack. “We think that being able to come on campus, get something fun, get something that they can take home and keep and look back at will really help them feel welcome on campus again.”

The UAB is also looking to recruit new members during these events.

“Some of our directors will be graduating and moving on to more intense levels of their courses and won’t be able to really work anymore,” said Linden. “We need to bring in some fresh eyes and some new people.”

Interested students can follow the UAB’s social media accounts for more updates on the week’s events.

Is WSU Testing Your Poop?

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

February 8, 2021

In recent weeks, Wright State University (WSU) alerted students to five devices that were placed on campus that serve the purpose of detecting traces of the coronavirus in water waste within residential areas on campus.

Why water waste is being tested

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the federal government have partnered up to develop a way to test “water waste”, more commonly known as sewage water, for traces of the virus that causes coronavirus.

“Sewage testing over time can provide trend data that can complement other surveillance data that informs public health decision making. However, at this time, it is not possible to reliably and accurately predict the number of infected individuals in a community based on sewage testing,” said the CDC on their website at the end of 2020.

This is not the first time water waste has been used to detect an illness within households and buildings in the United States.

“Sewer water testing has been used in the past for detection of diseases such as polio,” said the CDC.

Both asymptomatic and symptomatic coronavirus patients can have traces of SARS-COV-2 in their fecal matter, and with the majority of American bathrooms being linked to municipal sewage collection systems, the United States is repeating history by utilizing the bathroom to end the fight against a disease.

Water waste surveillance at WSU

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The project began at WSU in November of 2020, with five autosampler devices being placed throughout the residential portion of campus, including one on Lake Campus.

“The autosamplers use a peristaltic pump to collect the wastewater from a sewer line into a hose to plastic sample container that is securely enclosed in an insulated study collection vessel,” said WSU Director of Environmental Health and Safety Marjorie Markopoulos.

WSU was one of fifteen colleges throughout the state to receive a grant and partake in the water waste testing program. Students at WSU are also able to help in the research efforts, as the WSU Biological Sciences and Environmental Health and Safety departments play a big role in the project.

“We are doing this [project] as a way of guarding against outbreaks,” said Assistant Research Professor Abimbola Ola Kolawole in a recent WSU Newsroom interview. “[Students] are very excited to go out and collect samples themselves.”

The water waste testing is expected to go on for at least the next six months, as that is how long the grant WSU received is estimated to last.

“Please do not disturb this delicate equipment so it can help continue our successful efforts to reduce COVID on campus,” said Community Director Ryan Winget in a public message to students.

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Breaking: WSU Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator Stepping Down
Nicolas BenVenuto
February 8, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator Ms. Debra Monk will be stepping down from her position as Title IX coordinator effective Feb. 19.

Serving as Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator for WSU since Nov. 16 of last year, Monk said she is extremely saddened to be leaving the Raider community.

“My resignation stemmed from a health related issue,” Monk said. “I assure you my experience here at Wright State has been nothing but positive. I have been welcomed in as a part of a family and I am truly sad to be saying goodbye. I wish everyone at Wright State the best!”

Monk’s role as Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator was created in order to investigate and adjudicate reports that violate the university policy “Sex/Gender Harassment and Discrimination”, which includes behavior that violates Title IX.

“Title IX says that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance,” Monk said in an interview with the Wright State Guardian last November.

Prior to accepting the position of Title IX Coordinator and Equity Investigator at WSU, Monk most notably served as Associate Dean of Students and Director of Community Standards at the University of Dayton for 18 years.

“Debra’s choice to resign is a personnel matter and therefore not something the university will comment on,” WSU Spokesperson Seth Bauguess said. “We wish her all the best and plan to fill this important position as soon as possible.”

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Men's Basketball Snatches Two Wins From Robert Morris

Noah Kindig

February 9, 2021

The men's basketball team beat the Robert Morris Colonials in two games over the weekend on Friday, January 29 (79-70) and Saturday, January 30 (86-56). The men's team has now won their last 5 games in the Horizon League, and are only one loss behind first-place Cleveland State.

The players to watch for the weekend's games were Wright State's Grant Basile and Loudon Love who both had career high points, with Basile scoring 29 on Friday and Love scoring 34 on Saturday. For Robert Morris, Kahliel Spear had 22 points and 13 points over both games.

Game One

Loudon Love won the tip ball, and put in a quick basket in the paint for the first points on the board. But Robert Morris showed up ready to play and hit the Raiders with fast breaks for a 12-2 lead.

WSU hit back after a timeout from coach Nagy, using three-pointers to tie the game at 17-17. Neither team could gain an edge on the other, with WSU's lead only at 31-28 at the half.

After the break, Wright State improved their lead little by little with a three-point play from Tanner Holden and a dunk from Loudon Love bringing the game to 40-33.

Robert Morris was able to tie the game again with four players scoring 14 or above on Friday, this time at 42.

"When they have their offense in front of their bench, they do a good job," Nagy said. "They run it very efficiently."

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The Raiders used a mix of quick and patient offense to keep RMU guessing, with drives from Holden and points in the paint from Grant Basile pushing their lead to 58-48.

“We had a lot of really good guys on the post,” Grant Basile said after the game. “This team has a lot of talented players... it makes it easy for everyone when we can throw the ball, get away, and just space the floor.”

Basile continued his great performances from the previous week against IUPUI, with 29 points over the whole game giving the Raiders a 9-point lead with 3 minutes left to play.

Robert Morris called a full-court press to try and save the game, but a foul shot from Wright State secured the win 79-70.

Game Two

Just like in game one, Love won the tip ball and put in a basket up close for an early Wright State lead.

The Raiders hit hard from range, with three pointers from Trey Calvin and Tim Finke in the first six minutes giving them a 16-7 lead. After a RMU timeout, Wright State was then able to score up close, with Basile and Love both scoring twice in the paint and extending their lead to 24-11.

WSU continued to dominate Robert Morris everywhere, winning rebounds 26-15 and shooting 43% from distance in the first half for a big 42-23 lead.

“The first half was obviously the back-breaker,” Nagy said. “I was really pleased defensively.”

The Colonials fought back hard after the break to try and bring back the game, but Loudon Love continued to score in the paint, keeping the raiders at a 54-38 lead with 13:30 left to play.

“The depth of the offensive production we have on this team... It can come from anywhere,” Love said in a post-game interview. “It puts a lot of stress on the defense.”

Wright State had no intentions of losing that lead, with points from Love, Holden, and Basile pushing the lead to 73-42 with seven minutes left. With Love’s 34 points and 11 rebounds breaking apart the RMU defense and offense, the Raiders earned their fifth win in a row, ending the game 86-56.

“I’m happy for [Loudon], really,” Nagy said. “He’s been frustrated with his play for most of the year, and seeing the way he played today, I’m happy for him.”

Diverse Romance Books To Read on Valentine's Day

Ariel Parker

February 9, 2021

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, so here is a list of romances to prepare for the holiday.

“A Princess in Theory” by Alyssa Cole

After receiving a slew of emails for weeks claiming she is the lost betrothed to an African prince, a mysterious man enters Naledi's life and makes her feel like she can love again. This book will be sure to put you in the romantic spirit from the start.

“The Kiss Quotient” by Helen Hoang

Hoang's debut follows Stella, an autistic woman who hires an escort to explore intimacy with other people. This book and its sequel, “The Bride Test,” took the romance world by storm and will be sure to leave you warm and fuzzy.

“Ladies Guide to Celestial Mechanics” by Olivia Waite

This sapphic historical romance for fans of Jane Austen and the movie “Portrait of a Lady on Fire” follows Lucy as she goes to the Countess of Moth's estate to translate complicated French astronomy text. As time goes on, their feelings for each other cannot be ignored.

“Mrs. Martin's Incomparable Adventure” by Courtney Milan

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Another historical romance, this story follows a spunky 73-years-young Beatrice Martin who runs into and teams up with 56-year-old Violetta to kick her Terrible Nephew out of her rooming house. A novella in the Worth Saga, this short read will sweep you away.

Women's Basketball Moves into First Place After 2-0 Weekend Against Milwaukee

Noah Kindig

February 9, 2021

The Wright State Raiders took on the Milwaukee Panthers in two very important games on Friday, Feb. 5 and Saturday, Feb. 6.

Coming into the weekend, the Raiders were 11-3 and the Panthers were 12-2 in the Horizon League. With these two wins, the Raiders' 13-3 record has moved them into first place in the Horizon League with only four games left to play in the season.

The players to watch over the weekend were Wright State's Angel Baker, with 55 points over both games, and Milwaukee's Brandi Bisping, with 22 points and rebounds over both games.

"We had a plan, and this is the first time top to bottom that everyone was bought in and executed the game plan," Head Coach Katrina Merriweather said.

Game One

Tyler Frierson won the tip ball, and Emani Jefferson started the Raider scoring with a drive in the paint. Milwaukee's scoring started with a quick point from Brandi Bisping, but four points from Angel Baker and a shot in the paint from Frierson gave WSU an 8-2 lead.

The Raiders were ready to play as soon as the game started, with 11 points from Baker in the first quarter tearing apart the Milwaukee defense for a 20-6 lead.

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“The conversation simply was ‘It’s time for you to show up’,” Head Coach Katrina Merriweather said. “It’s time for us to play well collectively not on different nights, but on the same day.”

The panthers hit back with points from Bisping and Bre Cera, but the Raiders still led 22-14 at the end of the quarter.

Milwaukee was able to lock down defensively in the second quarter by putting more pressure on Baker, as points from Kendall Nead and Emma Whitmerhaus brought the Panthers within three of the Raiders 35-38.

A last-second three from an open Angel Baker gave the raiders a 42-37 lead coming into halftime.

The teams started even in the third, but back-to-back points from Baker and Frierson extended their lead to 53-43. They drew even throughout the rest of the quarter, with a layup from Milwaukee’s Alyssa Moore bringing the score to 56-47.

The Panthers fought hard to try and gain on Wright State’s lead, but points from Baker and Jefferson continued to deny them as the raiders drained the clock.

“I’m very pleased with our defensive effort today,” Merriweather said. “We got some big minutes and big plays, especially defensively, from a lot of people.”

Patient defense and offense put all the pressure on Milwaukee, and Wright State secured the important win 67-58.

Game Two

Frierson won the tip, and Jada Wright put the first point on the scoreboard. Both teams played solid defense throughout the game, and made their shots count.

The teams were evenly matched throughout the first half, with points in the paint from both teams tying the game at 10 and 18. But, a layup from Kendall Nead at the buzzer gave Milwaukee a 3-point lead at the half 26-23.

Jada Roberson started the scoring for the Raiders in the third quarter, but Megan Walstead punched back with a quick three, bringing the score to 25-29.

A steal into a quick basket from Jada Roberson changed the momentum of the game, starting a 14-point run for the raiders that continued into the fourth quarter, giving the raiders a 10-point lead 44-34.

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A technical foul finally stopped WSU's run, and Milwaukee brought the score back to 44-38 with five minutes to play.

The Raiders slowed down the game to waste Milwaukee's time, with an Angel Baker basket at the shot clock giving them a 49-41 lead.

Milwaukee applied a full-court press to try and get back into the game, but smart play from the Raiders secured their 2-0 weekend and moved them into first place 56-49.

\$17 Million in Emergency Relief Funds Allocated to WSU

Nicolas Benvenuto

February 10, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) has received notification of its Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) allocation for the second time since the start of the coronavirus.

Broken down into two categories, WSU is allotted \$5,070,423 by way of Student Aid Portion Funds and \$12,301,669 by way of Institutional Portion Funds.

"We are now seeking further detail and understanding from the Department of Education (DOE) before finalizing plans for use of the funds," WSU said in a statement provided to *The Wright State Guardian Media Group*. "All of the universities in Ohio sought additional guidance on the use of the initial allocation, and we found that supplemental information very helpful."

WSU is expecting to receive a second round of insight on the appropriate use of HEERF II funds allocated for institutional purposes in the weeks forthcoming.

DOE guidance

Initial guidance from the DOE states that in regard to Student Aid Portion Funds, institutions must make financial aid grants to students, which can be used for any component of the student's cost of attendance or for emergency costs that arise due to coronavirus.

Emergency costs may include but are not limited to tuition, food, housing, health care or child care.

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Unlike the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) requires that institutions prioritize students with exceptional need, such as students who receive Pell Grants, and authorizes grants to students exclusively enrolled in distance education.

“CRRSAA continues to support the important work of addressing students’ unmet needs by providing a minimum amount of funding that each institution must devote towards financial aid grants to students,” said the DOE in a press release announcing support to higher education in January of this year.

The DOE describes Institutional Portion Funds as those used to defray expenses associated with coronavirus including but not limited to lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with a transition to distance education, faculty and staff training and payroll.

Funds received in the first round of HEERF dollars were utilized by WSU to upgrade technology in 119 classrooms on the Dayton campus and 10 rooms on the Lake campus, as well as the purchasing of headsets, laptops and mobile hotspots ensuring the university would be up-to-date for remote delivery teaching methods.

Institutional funds may also be used to make additional financial aid grants to students.

Faculty response

The complexity of applying for and receiving federal funds for WSU’s students and the institution as a whole is a daunting task.

Faculty President Laura Leuhrmann gives credit to President Sue Edwards and her administration for the work that has continued to transpire that benefits the WSU community in truly unprecedented times.

“I think we all recognize that this money is absolutely fundamental,” Leuhrmann said. “This money helps make sure that we have all of the technology needed in classrooms to support remote learning as well as taking the pressure off of students who may have increased costs due to coronavirus emergencies. This money is absolutely critical.”

Associate Professor at WSU Lake Campus and Faculty Senator Dr. Megan Faragher echoed the importance of Wright State receiving federal relief funds.

“Students in college now are facing a challenge that is truly unprecedented in the history of higher education. They should not be punished by circumstances for their efforts. I am amazed

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at the resilience of our students every day and I only hope funding like this can help students achieve their education goals,” said Faragher.

Volleyball: Double Sweep v.s. Northern Kentucky

Noah Kindig

February 10, 2021

The Women’s volleyball team swept Northern Kentucky 3-0 in matches on Monday and Tuesday at home. The team has not only won all four of their games so far this season, but has yet to drop a set against any opponent.

The Players to watch over the weekend were Northern Kentucky’s attacking duo of Abby Kanakry and Reilly Briggs with 34 kills over both games. Where for WSU, Libero Jenna Story with 35 digs and Setter Lainey Stephenson with 47 assists made the difference.

Game One

The game started even with two errors for each team, and continued to a 6-6 score line. Two kills from Teddy Sauer and a service ace from Ellee Ruskaup got through the NKU defense, and forced a timeout at 10-6.

After the timeout, a saved point from Jenna Story and kills from Sam Wolf and Nyssa Baker extended the Raider lead to 18-13, forcing another timeout. The Raiders fought hard for every point, with digs and blocks securing their defense and forcing errors on NKU’s side, as a kill from Nyssa Baker won the 25-16 set.

The Norse were disorganized after losing set one so dominantly, with a preventable error and a service ace giving WSU a quick 2-0 lead. NKU punched back with three, but smart court vision

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from Celia Powers and kills from Teddie Sauer gave Wright State five in a row, forcing a timeout at 7-3.

Northern Kentucky drew relatively even after the timeout, but Wright State were still able to extend their lead to 16-9.

A long rally going Wright State's way and a duo of kills from Megan Alders pushed the Raiders to set point, and Teddie Sauer finished it at 25-15.

The Norse hit hard after losing set two, forcing a Raider timeout at 5-2. After the timeout, a series of errors from NKU's defense and kills from Sam Wolf gave the Raiders back the lead at 11-10, and they continued to lead.

Three blocks from the Raider defense to a 19-13 lead, as they looked to close the game. But, NKU refused to go down without a fight, as kills from the Norse's Abby Kanakry and Anna Brinkman brought the set to 23-22 after a very hard-fought point.

A timeout from Coach Matters and a kill from Nyssa Baker secured the win for the Raiders 25-23, as they continued their season without dropping a set.

Game Two

The teams drew 2-2 at the start, but early kills from Celia Powers, Sauer, and baker gave Wright State a 8-3 lead. A pair of blocks from Megan Alders and Sauer broke NKU's offense, and forced a timeout at 11-4.

The Raiders never looked back, pushing their lead to 20-7 with more blocks from Alders and Sauer. NKU fought back with a service ace and forcing WSU errors, but a service error from the Norse paired with a kill from Alders finished the set 25-11.

A pair of kills from NKU's Reilly Briggs and a service ace from Raider Sam Wolf split the teams at two once again, and the tie continued to six.

Two hard serves from Ellee Ruskaup and attack errors from the Norse gave the Raiders a 10-6 lead, forcing a timeout for NKU to try and regroup. But, service aces from Ruskaup and Lainey Stephenson as well as more forced errors gave WSU an edge, with the Raiders scoring six in a row for a 20-9 lead.

The Norse started a comeback, with blocks and kills from Abby Kanakry getting them to 18, but a dig from Powers followed by a kill from Grace Hauck gave the Raiders set two 25-18.

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A kill from Briggs started the scoring in NKU's favor, but another service ace from Ruskaup followed by a pair of kills from Lainey Stephenson forced an NKU time-out at 8-4.

NKU fought desperately to try and stop a repeat of the first two sets, but hard-hit serves from Ruskaup and Stephenson haunted them all set, bringing the score to 19-9.

Points from the Norse's Briggs and Kanakry tried to bring the game back, but smart court vision from Stephenson with an NKU error cemented the win 25-17.

SGA: All Gender Restrooms and Raider Food Pantry
Tracy Evatt
February 10, 2021

The Student Government Association had a meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. During the meeting, Resolutions 21-06 and 21-07 were passed.

Resolution 21-06

The passing of Resolution 21-06 marks a victory for those in the non-binary and transgender communities.

“A resolution supporting the increase and implementation of inclusive, all-gender restrooms. Whereas, all gender restrooms are desired by many students of differing backgrounds, expanding opportunities to all individuals,” said Jonathan Ciero.

After initial efforts to change bathrooms to gender inclusive, some bathrooms were reverted. This will undo those bathrooms that were changed back.

Resolution 21-07

“A resolution advocating for Raider Food Pantry to include food for students with emotional support and service animals. Whereas Wright State University has a food pantry aimed at ending food insecurity in the lives of WSU students so that they may focus on their academic endeavors,” said Lacey Loges.

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The passing of this legislation will aid those with service and emotional support animals.

“And whereas properly taking care of these animals involves purchasing feeding and grooming supplies and other hygienic products for animals,” said Loges

Those with service and emotional support animals will have more peace of mind knowing their animal will be taken care of.

SGA meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. via WebEx. All Wright State students are welcome to attend.

Dayton's Not Dead: Twisted River Coffee Roasters
Nick Wood
February 11, 2021

Twisted River Coffee Roasters is a family-owned, small-batch coffee roaster based in Dayton, OH, bringing people together one cup of coffee at a time.

An unpretentious approach

In 2015, Dan Clayton started Twisted River Coffee after almost 20 years in the coffee business. Through his experience, Clayton was provided with unique opportunities and friendships which gave him a passion for coffee he wished to share with the community.

“I just fell in love with it, I’ve met so many interesting people through coffee,” Clayton said. “That’s what inspires me to this day...reaching out to people, connecting with people all over a cup of coffee still amazes me.”

Using coffee to bring people together is what drives Twisted River. The Head Roaster at Twisted River, Dan’s son Owen Clayton, takes pride in the business’s emphasis on coffee’s social aspects.

“There’s been a trend towards pretentiousness in coffee and that’s not what we’re about,” Owen said. “We want to be able to provide good coffee for an affordable price and use coffee to bring people together.”

A family business

The unifying potential of coffee has carried over into the Clayton family as they run Twisted River. Dan and Owen Clayton are a father-son duo carrying out business operations together, along with the help of other family members and close friends.

Embarking on this experience together has strengthened the Clayton's family bond by giving them a better understanding of each other, on top of something tangible they can all feel pride in knowing they helped create.

"I don't think I would have the passion for coffee that I have without his [Dan Clayton's] passion for coffee," Owen Clayton said. "It's really infectious and I'm excited to see where this business goes and to help carry it into the future."

Community involvement

Twisted River is a small batch coffee roaster, meaning they source coffee beans from around the world, roast them in batches of about 25 lbs., then sell their roasts wholesale or by the pound. As of now, Twisted River does not have a cafe or coffee shop of their own, aside from their roasting facility.

The business initially gained exposure through customer interactions at local farmer's markets. This allowed them to get to know members of the community, as well as connect with other local vendors. Since then, Twisted River has come to utilize other small businesses throughout the Dayton area to carry and sell their products.

"There's a tight-knit community with small business owners," Dan Clayton said.

This fact was made evident throughout the coronavirus pandemic as well. To promote fellow business owners, many local businesses took to social media to provide members of the community with information on how and where to safely shop local.

Dan Clayton feels this aspect of the small business community comes from an overarching drive to see Dayton succeed. Beyond the pandemic, Dayton has undergone several hardships which have tested the resiliency of the community. Small businesses, like Twisted River, are a reminder that, in spite of everything, Dayton still has the potential to thrive.

"There's a grittiness to Dayton," says Dan Clayton. "No matter what hits us, you can't bring us down."

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For more information on Twisted River Coffee Roasters and where to find their products visit <https://www.twistedrivercoffeeroaster.com/>

Musical Theatre Students Looking Forward to Drive-in Performances

Tracy Evatt

February 11, 2021

Musical Theatre, along with other majors such as costume design, has been heavily impacted by the coronavirus. With shows halting for nearly a year, adaptation to a new norm has had some growing pains.

Making adjustments

“It’s changed a ton, obviously everything has to be virtual, streamed, or recorded which is so different from a live theatrical experience,” said sophomore musical theatre major Sydney Freihofer.

Classes have had to transition from in-person to online, which has impacted Freihofer.

“When it comes to more hands-on experiences like improv and movement, I think it’s been more detrimental,” said Freihofer.

According to Freihofer, those classes being online is difficult because the teacher is not able to see everyone’s movements, which is critical for learning.

Benefits

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Costume design major Carrie Wieland has found that the pandemic has aided her work in some ways.

“It’s definitely given me time to like work on my own personal projects and get better at the crafts itself,” said Wieland.

While she finds her own work improving, Wieland still yearns for that personal connection with her peers.

“I just wish we could all work together. Because, you know, theater is like a team effort,” said Wieland.

Shows will be returning both virtually and in-person, including a drive-in show this semester. The drive-in show will be distanced, but still provide a rare in-person experience.

No impact

Samantha Stanton found that her education remained unchanged as she is a stage management major.

“It’s sort of like the same process for me as a stage manager because I just sit there and I just listen,” said Stanton.

According to Stanton, a lack of shows had an impact on her department, but not on her education.

Looking forward

With shows now happening, both virtually and in-person, Wright State University (WSU) students have a lot to look forward to.

The drive-in show will provide a sense of normalcy as WSU looks to safely transition into socially distanced shows for musical theatre.



Understanding Faculty Senate Elections

Nicolas BenVenuto

February 11, 2021

The nomination period for Wright State University (WSU) Faculty Senate is set to begin on Monday, Feb. 8 with approximately half of the seats up for re-election.

What is the faculty senate

The Faculty Senate currently houses 28 senators, a parliamentarian, vice president and president.

The number of senate seats for each constituency is determined by the number of faculty members in that particular college. For every 30 members of faculty in each college, there is one senate seat available.

Currently, the College of Liberal Arts (CoLA) holds the largest number of senators with six, and the School of Professional Psychology holds the lowest number with just one senator.

Senators must be fully-affiliated members of the university faculty and should hold the rank of university professor, professor, associate professor, assistant professor, senior lecturer, lecturer, instructor or clinical assistant professor.

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Per the Faculty Senate Constitution, senators are elected for two-year terms with approximately one-half of the representatives in each constituency being elected each year.

“This is so that everyone in the Senate doesn’t leave at the same time,” Faculty President Dr. Laura Leuhrmann said. “Sometimes you might see a senator only serve one year due to someone accepting an administrative position or retiring during their service as Senator, but it’s safe to say that approximately half of the Senate will be up for re-election each year.”

Leuhrmann also said that in April of this year, she will be stepping down as faculty president, leaving a vacancy to be filled in that position as well.

“Much of my decision to step down is based on my feelings that there needs to be circulation of positions in terms of perspective, however I also have a book contract that is due in December,” Leuhrmann said. “I know full and well the time serving as faculty president takes and when I signed my book contract, I promised the publisher I would meet my deadline. This requires me to step down.”

Leuhrmann said that without a doubt being involved in the Faculty Senate has been her favorite service at the university.

“Serving in the Faculty Senate puts you in touch with many of the people around campus who are so passionate about their students, teaching, research and the university as a whole. I’ve met some of the best people at Wright State through my engagement in the Faculty Senate,” Leuhrmann said. “I have been afforded the opportunity to not only call these people colleagues, but friends.”

Importance of the Senate

As with any institution scaling the size of a university, it’s crucial to have a meeting body composed of members from each constituency that debate and discuss the proceedings that affect those within each constituency.

Leuhrmann says that the importance of the Faculty Senate lies in the representation and ideas that are presented from different perspectives of those who inhabit the university.

“We have a central structure that helps facilitate these conversations, and when a decision is made it’s not just the decision of one person or a small group of people,” Leuhrmann said. “Things may not always be unanimous, but it will be the sense of the body saying this is what we need to do in order to respond to this curricular need or whatever the case may be.”

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Faculty Senator Dr. Megan Faragher said that being a representative of the Lake Campus in Faculty Senate meetings is something that she feels proud to be a part of.

“If you’re going to be a part of an institution, you owe it to the institution to do what you can to improve it and make it better for those who come after you,” Faragher said. “I’m always invested in thinking about how we can improve the curriculum for the students and future of the university as faculty members.”

WSU Senior Lecturer in the Department of English Language and Literatures and Faculty Senator Sarah McGinley said that advocating for each college and hearing different perspectives from other colleges as well is critical for the growth of the university.

“When I first became a Senator, I was somewhat intimidated by the proceedings and how much institutional knowledge was on display,” McGinley said. “Over time I got over that and I realize that I am not in that meeting as an individual, but rather a representative of my college. It’s up to me and my CoLA colleagues to speak up, ask awkward questions as needed and press for answers.”

The Faculty Senate Constitution, future meeting dates and list of current Senators may be found [here](#).



BREAKING: Dr. Chaney Named Vice President for Inclusive Excellence

Jamie Naylor

February 11, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) President Sue Edwards announced Dr. Matthew C. Chaney's appointment to the position of Vice President for Inclusive Excellence in a campus-wide communications email on Thursday afternoon.

Overview

As the Vice President for Inclusive Excellence, Dr. Chaney will oversee the Intercultural Centers and work for minority recruitment.

Emily Yantis-Houser, the Intercultural Specialist for the Office of LGBTQA Affairs on campus, extends her welcome to Dr. Chaney.

"Congratulations to Dr. Chaney on his appointment as the first VP of Inclusive Excellence. Dr. Chaney has an extensive and successful history working for and with diverse populations and will be an asset to the Wright State community. We look forward to him joining the Wright State family in June and fostering an institutional culture of equity and inclusion with him for many years to come," Yantis-Houser said.

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Prior to serving as Vice President for Inclusive Excellence, Dr. Chaney served as the Leader and Assistant Leader of the Office of Multicultural Student Services at Ferris State University and working in many areas of intercultural advocacy.

Dr. Chaney received his Ed.D. in community college leadership and a master's degree in career and technical education, a bachelor's degree in public relations and marketing, and an associate degree from Ferris State.

The Position

Vice President for Inclusive Excellence, previously named "Chief Diversity Officer," has been held by many. This position was previously held by Matt Boaz and was recently vacated by Lindsay Miller in Aug. 2020. Miller held the position in the interim as a result of Boaz's resignation in Feb. 2019.

Among others in campus inclusivity offices, this vacancy called for an extensive search of leaders that spanned all of the fall semester and continued into the spring.

Interviews and public forums for the position of Intercultural Specialist, Asian and Native American Center will begin on Feb. 11 and finish on Feb. 15.

Goals

Though Dr. Chaney will not start his new position until June 1, 2021, he already has a plan for the position.

As outlined in the announcement, Dr. Chaney will serve under the President's Office to boost minority and underrepresented students' recruitment and retention.

This is essential as WSU's enrollment and retention numbers are below state averages for a public university. According to WSU, fall semester enrollment numbers were at 12,234, which is lower than that of fall 2019, which showed enrollment at 13,724 students.

Currently, only 21.6% of the student population hold minority status.

In order to better guide his goals, one of the first tasks he sets out to achieve is a diversity climate survey. This survey will help better guide the needs and wishes of the minority communities at WSU in an effort to better foster inclusivity amongst the Raider community.

Divine Nine Plots: What Are They and Why Are They Important?

Roxanne Roessner

February 12, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) members are currently attempting to secure funding for Divine 9 plots. While the location is still undetermined, the support from the community and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is unwavering.

NPHC

NPHC is a coalition of the nine largest historically African American Greek-letter sororities and fraternities.

Initiate of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc and current President of the Association of Black Business Students (ABBS) Dai'Shanae Moore is active within the WSU community through her sorority.

“NPCH not only promotes education and achievements in every field, it also bears witness to social injustice. The Divine 9 fraternities and sororities are collaborated together to try and bring a sense of community for minorities at Wright State,” said Moore.

Divine 9 plots

According to Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc initiate and Student Government Association (SGA) President Adrian Williams, the Divine 9 plots would be a way for WSU to have a dedicated space on campus for minorities.

“I think it’s important to have space that minority students can go on campus and know that it’s a place they can be proud of. It would be a place they can have events, they can use for programming and they can take their kids to when they graduate,” said Williams.

While Moore is a legacy of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc, they are still trying to push for the plots to show representation at WSU and have a space for mentorships to feel welcome.

The Divine 9 plot will feature an open area with a flag and a plaque. Though the plans are not finalized, each organization would have their own area and share the space for yard shows.

“We would be the first public and predominantly white institution in Ohio to have a Diving 9 plot,” said Williams.

According to Williams, the plots would honor all of the previous NPHC members and current member’s accomplishments throughout the years.

Bumps in the road

According to Moore, one of the biggest issues currently is seeing things through on both sides. As in, what NPHC wants and what WSU wants.

Fall 2019 initiate of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc and University College senator for SGA Jeff Shehee has also noticed this situation.

“We’ll state our problems and say what’s wrong, but then what will happen is the university will say, ‘Okay, we recognize those problems’ and we’ll hold meetings and then we’ll hold sessions talking about those problems and rather than the university helping us come up with a solution, they just say, ‘We recognize your problems,’ and they stop there,” said Shehee.

According to Williams, they place no blame on the university, however, there are always things in the background that people do not think of that the university has to. WSU is taxpayer funded, so those funds and everything is accountable to someone.

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“It just takes a long time and it’s a slog, and I think the only reason we were able to break through this semester is just because of the perfect storm of everything working together,” said Williams.

If readers wish to donate to the Divine 9 plot funds, email Greek Advisor Gina Keucher at gina.keucher@wright.edu.

Raider Sports: Weekend Look Ahead and Predictions
Noah Kindig
February 12, 2021

ESPN and WWSU106.9 Sports Broadcaster Shea Neal contributed to this article.

Looking ahead through the weekend of February 12, Men’s Basketball hopes to continue a seven-win streak versus Milwaukee at home, Women’s Basketball will try to cement the first-place finish at Northern Kentucky, and Volleyball hopes to continue an undefeated season at home against Youngstown State.

I’ve got my own opinions about how the games will go, but it never hurts to have another sports nerd help me out. These are my takes and WWSU’s Shea Neal’s takes on how the weekend of February 12 looks for Raider Athletics.

Men's BB v.s. Milwaukee: Will the Raiders make it nine in a row?

Noah: This Men's side has won seven in a row, and will probably make it nine after this weekend. Milwaukee is a middle of the pack team, but recently lost two games by about 15 points each to Northern Kentucky.

Te'Jon Lucas and DeAndre Gholston have been good attacking threats for the Panthers, but with Love, Holden, and Basile all in top form for the Raiders, Wright State is on too much of a roll right now to be stopped by Milwaukee. 2-0 for the Raiders.

Shea: Te'Jon Lucas is a great guard with almost 1,000 career points for the Panthers and DeAndre Gholston has been a great scoring threat all year to give Milwaukee their middle of the league record.

But, they lack the big guys to challenge the Raiders in the paint with Loudon, Grant and Tanner. It's gonna be a 2-0 for me just because of the matchups in the paint being in Wright State's favor.

Women's BB v.s. Northern Kentucky: The Lady Raiders won't let their lead slip.

Noah: This weekend will basically decide the first place finisher for this year, and the Lady Raiders aren't about to let that slip. I doubted them and predicted a 1-1 versus Milwaukee, but the Angel Baker show proved me wrong, and I won't let that happen again.

NKU lost their last two against Green Bay, a team that is 10-4 but is not at the level that Wright State is at right now. Even though the games are away, it's way more likely it's a 2-0 weekend for Wright State rather than a 1-1.

Shea: I agree it's a 2-0 here as well. NKU has a great frontcourt in Lindsey Duvall and Ally Niece, Wright State has proven in the last few weeks that they can gameplan around the talented forwards in the conference.

Angel Baker will most likely continue her hot streak and the duo of Frierson and Hale in the paint will control the rebounding game in a weekend that will state why this team is the best in the league.

Women's Volleyball: They'll slide past the penguins for an 8-0 season start.

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Noah: I'm predicting no losses across all sports and the one I'm most confident in is this one. The Penguins have some threats with Josi Borum, Margaux Thompson, and Alexia Byrnes, but they are 2-4 and those four losses were all sweeps.

With two sweeps from UIC and two from IPFW, we'll most likely see a sweep for at least one game if not two, especially with how dominant this Wright State side is looking. I mean, just to lose a single set this season Oakland had to take a 3rd set to 38 points.

Shea: Volleyball will probably sweep Youngstown both days. The attack that the Raiders bring to the table is too strong for a YSU lineup that lacks depth and experience. The combination of Alders, Baker, Sauer, Wolf, and Powers is the best the HL has seen in a long time.

I expect the Lady Raiders to be 8-0 after two sweeps this weekend for sure.

Are us Raider Sports podcast nerds right, or are we way too biased towards the Raiders? Only time will tell!

Could Future Election Days be University Holidays?

Brandon Sutherland

February 12, 2021

On Jan. 12 the Wright State University (WSU) Student Government Association (SGA) voted on and passed Resolution 21-02, stating that Election Day should be recognized as a university holiday.

Why Election Day

President of SGA Adrian Williams sees the importance of participating in the democratic voting process. Having the chance to guide the future is something he is trying to accomplish as an undergraduate.

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“In the spirit of trying to promote civic engagement among the campus community and making students available for things like serving as poll workers and volunteering for ‘get out and vote’ drives, we decided this would be a good initiative to pursue,” Williams said.

Other universities across the nation have similarly ruled in favor of Election Day as a university holiday, and WSU’s SGA noticed this change and knew it was possible for Raiders as well.

Williams only concern on the matter is time.

“The fact that the university’s academic calendars are usually published two to three years in advance is my only concern,” Williams said.

Realistically, Williams believes that Resolution 21-02 will be enacted by the next presidential election.

A change in schedules

If Resolution 21-02 is enacted and Election Day becomes a university holiday at WSU, faculty may have to alter class schedules accordingly.

Associate Professor at WSU Jung-Soo Yi said that changes to schedules may have to occur, but that isn’t necessarily a bad thing.

“The democracy of elections could be well celebrated by making it a university holiday,” Yi said.

“I do not have any problems or issues if it is well agreed upon by the educational community. I do not think it will negatively affect classes or students, since academic schedules can be adjusted accordingly,” Yi said.

Students See the Benefits

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. member Jayshuan Gaddis participated in different facets with his chapter throughout the most recent presidential election.

Throughout 2020, Gaddis and the Phi Phi chapter hosted a voter registration drive and pushed voter awareness continuously through social media and campus.

Having the resolution passed would help benefit the work Gaddis and the Phi Phi chapter conduct during Election Day.

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“If Election Day were a university holiday, I feel that it would allow room for more students to be civically engaged in the political process. If universities scheduled no classes or at least half a day of classes, then students can take advantage of the opportunity to vote in the elections,” Gaddis said.

For more information on Wright State SGA and Resolutions passed by the body, click [here](#).

International Students and the Biden Administration

Olha Zuban

February 12, 2021

The new Biden administration brings hope for international students who want to study in the U.S. With the new administration, changes have been made and opportunities have opened up for international students.

Changes

International students may have noticed how difficult it was to come to the U.S. during the past four years. There were some visa-issuing difficulties, travel restrictions, limited immigration

policies and other obstacles. But finally, America has become the top destination for getting a higher education once again.

In the next couple of years, more things will begin to change, because President Biden has already implemented a new proclamation canceling travel bans for people from several Muslim countries, and he [sent a bill](#) to Congress on Jan. 20 with intentions of changing the immigration system as well.

Immigration system

Earlier President Biden mentioned that he wants to pay attention to all international students who earn their graduate degrees in science and engineering fields. STEM workers are essential for the U.S. economy, and it would be beneficial to create clear pathways to help them stay in the country after their graduation.

“Biden believes that foreign graduates of a U.S. doctoral program should be given a green card with their degree and that losing these highly trained workers to foreign economies is a disservice to our own economic competitiveness,” according to President Biden’s [campaign platform](#).

Student opinion

As an international student in the STEM field at Wright State, I think that these regulations will be a great step ahead for all current and prospective students in the U.S. It will help international students understand more accurately all possible ways of obtaining a job after graduation and give them a more “welcomed” feeling from the country where they decide to get a degree.

International students will not be stressed out about what to do after getting the diploma, but instead they can focus more on research and projects. They won’t have to worry that one day their optional practical training (OPT) may be canceled.

Eventually, new foreign students who decide to come to the U.S. in the future could contribute more to their campus community with their unique cultures and experiences.



Raider Strong: Sports Broadcasting During a Pandemic
Maxwell Patton
February 13, 2021

WWSU sports director and ESPN broadcaster Shea Neal joined DJ Patrick Schmalstig on the radio show "Raider Strong" to discuss how the coronavirus pandemic has impacted college sports and his recent experiences on Feb. 3.

One of the topics that Neal referenced was how he would like to improve his coverage of certain sports for the university.

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“I’d love to do more soccer and volleyball broadcasts here at Wright State, and start to sound like an actual soccer announcer or an actual volleyball announcer and give people the same experience they would get watching a volleyball or soccer game on TV,” said Neal.

Solid performances

As of Feb. 3, the women’s volleyball team at Wright State University (WSU) is undefeated. The other sports teams at WSU have also been performing well over the past few months, with the men’s and women’s basketball teams both sitting in second place in their respective conferences.

“Our sports teams are having an incredible year when you consider the circumstances where they went six months not being able to work out together, not knowing when their season was going to begin and not knowing when they were going to be able to practice together,” said Neal.

Neal praised the coaches for the work they have accomplished during this time, mentioning that they have one of the hardest jobs in the NCAA currently. The coaches direct their players on the floor but also keep an eye on the mental health and academics of these students.

“The last eight months have been brutal for a lot of people obviously, but especially these college athletes, where once you get to campus, it’s almost like you’re isolated from the rest of society because you have to be in that bubble,” said Neal. “I think that the coaches really have done a remarkable job because these athletes are still performing at a high level.

Broadcasting in a pandemic

All of the sports games that WSU has been broadcasting during the coronavirus pandemic have been shown on ESPN3, a decision that Neal agreed with.

“I think that’s a great resource because with people not being able to get into the Nutter Center, you only have to pay four or five dollars a month to be able to watch Wright State on TV every single game,” Neal said.

Neal is thankful for the athletic department at WSU for finding new ways to keep the media involved in these games. Though he and his fellow broadcasters have to wear masks and undergo temperature checks when broadcasting games, he is pleased that these games can still be broadcasted at this time.

One of the highlights of being able to broadcast sports during a pandemic for Neal is the interactions that he has, such as the parent of a player commenting that they enjoyed his call of

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a game. He believes this to be a big responsibility and is happy that he can impact people in that way.

“It’s cool that I can use what I love to do to give people almost like a mental break from the stresses of what’s going on right now,” said Neal. “If I can give you two hours where you can tune into my broadcast and listen to your daughter play volleyball or listen to your son play basketball or something like that, I think I’m doing something very good.”

How Reddit and GameStop Broke the Stock Market

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

February 13, 2021

The actions of a Reddit subgroup known as r/wallstreetbets have recently drawn in attention from Congress as Reddit members caused an entire hedge fund to go into bankruptcy over GameStop stocks.

Stock market

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The stock market is where investors can buy and share investments or stocks, which are ownership shares in a publicly traded company.

“When it goes down too much for you to bear, you sell. In theory, whether the value goes up or down depends on news surrounding the stock, which usually has to do with the underlying company. The underlying assumption is that the market as a whole generally goes up, so if you buy a diverse enough set of stocks, over time you are bound to make a profit,” said Washington Post writer Mikhail Klimentov in a recent article.

The stock value for GameStop had been decreasing over time due to the fact that the video game market is moving more digital with each passing day. The availability for gamers to purchase games digitally instead of visiting brick and mortar GameStop locations led to many store closures across the United States.

The GameStop stocks were being short-sold, which means they were selling a stock for a very high price and then purchasing it for a lower one, rather than buying the stock at a set price and then selling it for higher.

“But how can you sell a stock that you don’t own? You have to borrow the stock from your broker. When you buy the shares back at the end, then you return the shares to your broker, thus satisfying the loan,” said Wright State University (WSU) Assistant Finance Professor Kyre Lahtinen.

GameStop

In recent weeks, members of the Reddit subgroup r/wallstreetbets noticed a hedge fund (similar to an investment company) was short-selling GameStop stocks. As a response, the majority of the Reddit subgroup purchased as many GameStop stocks as they possibly could, causing the hedge fund to lose over \$13 billion and go into bankruptcy.

“GameStop shares would go from trading at around \$43 (already significantly more than it traded at at the beginning of the year) to as much as \$380, becoming one of the most traded stocks on the market along the way,” said NBC writers David Ingram and Lucy Bayly in a recent article.

GameStop is one of multiple stocks that have now been placed on a restricted trade list as the United States Congress considers investigating the situation to determine if stricter regulations need to be placed on the stock market.

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“The GameStop situation has raised concerns within several legislative and regulatory bodies. For example, there are people in the US House of Representatives, US Senate, US Department of the Treasury, state officials in New York and Texas, and others who have indicated that they will look into what occurred to see if any regulatory, legislative, or enforcement actions are necessary,” said Lahtinen.

Lahtinen also said that it is a waiting game to determine what steps Congress will take in response to the situation, if any.

SGA Student Internship Program Continues Despite Pandemic

Jamie Naylor

February 13, 2021

Wright State University’s (WSU) Student Government Association (SGA) announced the start of their annual Student Internship Program despite Coronavirus challenges.

Overview

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At the end of January, the SGA organization sent out an email announcing that they would start taking signups for their Spring Internship program.

This program is aimed at helping undergraduate WSU students gain leadership skills, help them get involved on campus and ultimately help them join the main body of SGA.

Program Details

This program normally takes place in person and holds numerous events throughout the semester, however, due to the continuance of the global pandemic and restrictions on social events, the program has moved to a virtual format.

“The goal was to have them do some more hands-on experience, have them job shadow within student government, for example, but, unfortunately, the pandemic hit, so we never really got to keep going with that.” Said Fatima Boumahchad, the director of the program.

Boumahchad is in her third year of directing the program and her fourth year of being involved.

Despite these challenges, Boumahchad is going to continue with the program and adapt it to a format in which online classes and events will be held for participants.

“One of my main goals is to keep them (participants) active,” said Boumahchad. “I also hope that in meetings, we can create a fun environment.”

Benefits

In the College Board article, “How to Find an Internship You’ll Value”, it was explained that those who participate in internships master career skills and get better real-world experience helping them with their majors and careers.

For Boumahchad, this program has not only helped with leadership and speaking skills but has helped her form long-lasting friendships.

“I’m actually talking to two of the people that were originally part of the group and our friends about how we got to meet up again soon so, it’s nice that personally, I have formed long-lasting friendships.” said Boumahchad

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